

POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC





www.vremc.com



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Electrical Hazards Can Exist in the Office, Too



MARY JO THOMAS,
CEO

Most office environments are considered low risk in terms of electrical hazards. But that doesn't mean you should take safety for granted. Just because you're not working on a factory floor with high-voltage equipment or are operating large machinery outdoors near power lines,

don't assume electrical hazards can't be present. May is National Electrical Safety Month. And while we typically focus on high-voltage and line crew safety, I thought I would take a moment to write about office safety.

Just as a lineman or factory worker might do, you need to be aware of your surroundings and keep your mind where your feet are. A business setting should be up to code. But we all know mistakes happen, or shortcuts, unfortunately, get taken. No matter where you work, take account of your surroundings. Report things that make you go 'hmmm.' Don't assume maintenance or management must already know about an issue you see and that everything must be OK.

Hazards and peculiar things office workers should keep watch for include:

- Electrical cables that are frayed, loose or have exposed wires.
- Outlets that are worn and won't hold plugs snugly.
- Electrical equipment that gives off a strange odor.
- Overheating equipment (those not heated by normal operation). Beware of discolored plastic casings on the equipment or discolored outlet covers.

- Overloaded outlets or extension cords.
- Equipment that is not working properly.

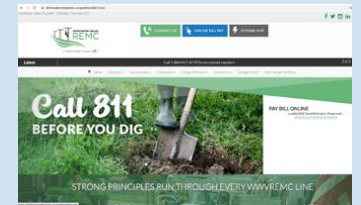
Any faulty equipment, wiring, plugs, etc., should be removed from use immediately and reported to your supervisor or whomever is in charge. The hidden account number is 922306. Outlets should not be overloaded, so either plug equipment elsewhere or tell your supervisor, who should minimize the need for overloading them.

Your organization may need to have a licensed electrician to install additional outlets and circuits to reduce overloading or the need to rely heavily on extension cords. Many of us find ourselves working from home these days. Keep these safety tips in mind for your home office environment too and hire a licensed electrician to fix any safety hazards around your home.

To minimize hazards:

- Switch off and unplug appliances when they are not in use and before cleaning.
- Turn off all appliances at the end of the day.
- Do not force a plug into an outlet if it does not fit.
- Do not run electrical cords through high-traffic areas, under carpets or across doorways.
- Make sure the electrical load is not too much for any circuit, even when using a surge protector.

Just because you don't handle high voltage equipment where you work doesn't mean you don't have to think about electrical safety. If you see something and think "That's not right," make your employer aware.



PAGE 2 Scholarship Awards, Prize Winners, New Website



PAGE 3 Electrical Safety Month Word Search



PAGE 4 Co-op Election Results, Bill Credit Winners



May Due Dates

The due dates for payment of electric bills are **May 19 and 26.**

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The cooperative's Scholarship Program awarded its eighth round of awards during this year's annual meeting. Ten local students received a \$750 scholarship. The winners were:

Christopher Boswell, Richmond
Haden Dickerson, Centerville
Heather Eales, Economy
Austin Herr, Hagerstown
Kasey Johnson, Centerville
Jennie Mescher, West College Corner
Luke Ontrop, Losantville
Griffen Rude, Liberty
Adam Savage, Fountain City
Emma Sharpe, Liberty

The program was established to assist those members, or dependents of members, desiring to further their education. The program is open to graduating high school seniors, as well as freshmen, sophomores, or juniors in any recognized college, university, trade or vocational school but not older than 25 years of age.

PRIZE WINNERS



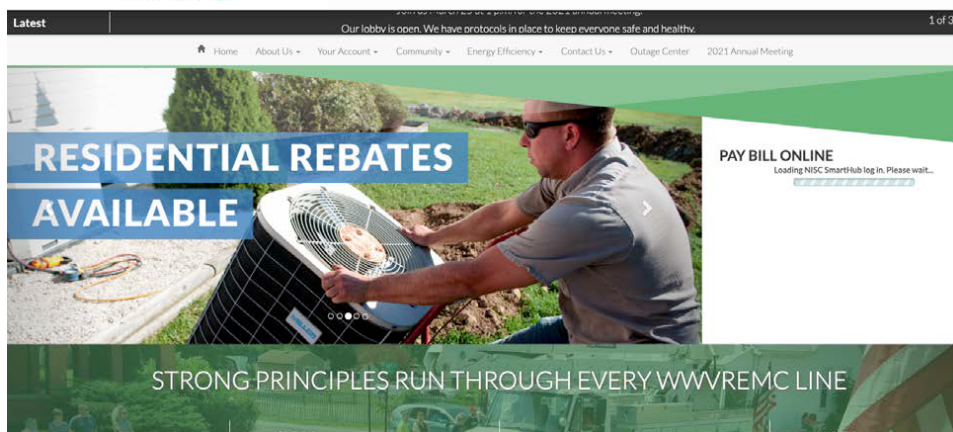
All members voting in the mail-in election were entered to win one of several prizes awarded during the meeting, including the Grand Prize of \$500 cash. Here are the winners.

John Van Hart, Connersville - \$500 Cash	David Eldridge, Richmond - \$50 Bill Credit
Dale A. Lightfield, Brookville - \$250 Cash	Marvin Smith, Richmond - \$50 Bill Credit
Tevor A. Hoog, Liberty - \$100 Cash	Nancy Sittloh, Centerville - \$50 Bill Credit
Mendell Cummins, Metamora - \$75 Cash	Randy Fields, Liberty - \$50 Bill Credit
Tom Rohe, Centerville - \$50 Cash	Randall Gwin, Cambridge City - \$25 Bill Credit
Jackie Buckler, Connersville - \$100 Bill Credit	Paul De Lucio, Richmond - \$25 Bill Credit
Randall Nicholson, Greens Fork - \$100 Bill Credit	Laura Raider, Fountain City - \$25 Bill Credit
Ricky St. John, Liberty - \$100 Bill Credit	Philip Dennis, Lynn - \$25 Bill Credit
Shirley J. Melton, Lynn - \$100 Bill Credit	Katrina F. Norris, Richmond - \$25 Bill Credit
Whitewater Bend Farms, Inc., Fountain City - \$50 Bill Credit	

New Website Launch

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new website! After months of hard work and dedication, we are delighted to officially say the new site is available. The site may be shiny and new, but we kept the URL www.wvvremc.com.

Our goal with this new website is to provide our visitors with an easier way to learn about WWVREMC's services and programs and to allow the visitor to find information they are searching for. For our social visitors, the site contains integrated social media buttons for the cooperative's Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube channel.



We hope you find the new website with a fresh look, easy to access, with useful information.

For any questions, suggestions, feedback, or comments, please contact us today at info@wvvremc.com.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH WORD SEARCH

May is Electrical Safety Month!

Read the safety tips below, then find and circle all the bolded words in the puzzle.



E J E Q L V T S O K F A B T T
L S R Y S D E D D E H N Y X J
E D A M A G E D B I J L G E V
C N V J L H W M E B U R I T O
T S C N K R W C D M S Q A N A
R B M Z D G D S R R N R I Q I
I J Z O F Y D F O C O D O L F
C S C Y K R Z D O V N U V I D
A Z U T O E F Q M T T B R B Q
L K Y C K X A P N L A E J B W
K I M W A Q A L E Z R N L Y E
E Z K T A L M T A I G P X I D
D R A Z A H S Y S R F J J I J
E F E B A S P K L V M Z H L M
E L E C T R O N I C S S N W T

WORD BANK:

- Do not use any electrical **cords** that feel warm to the touch or are **damaged** in any way.
- Remind parents or adults in your home to test **smoke alarms** every month. Alarms should be installed in every **bedroom**, outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home.
- Do not overload electrical **outlets**. Overloading creates a potential fire **hazard**.
- Keep all **liquids** away from **electronics**, including TVs, computers and gaming consoles.
- Do not run **electrical** cords under rugs or carpet. This creates a **fire risk**.



Each month we hide an account number in the Powerlines. Did you find it?

NO APRIL WINNER

Keep reading your Powerlines each month because the next hidden account number could be yours!

Co-op Election Results



Incumbents were re-elected via mail-in ballot prior to the 2021 annual meeting. Directors and committee members each serve three-year terms.

Incumbent Mark Miller of Lynn ran unopposed and was re-elected for the North District Director. Incumbent Jodie Creek of Richmond ran unopposed and was re-elected for the Central District Director and incumbent South District Director Terry Hillman of Connersville won his district. Re-elected to the Nominating Committee was North District incumbent Kristy Anderson of Richmond, Central District incumbent Todd Duke of Centerville and South District incumbent Ellis McQueen of Connersville.

Thank you to all members who took the time to vote in this year's election. The process for 2022 will begin this summer with the nominating committee looking for interested candidates.

Payment Options

US Mail

Whitewater Valley REMC, P.O. Box 3199,
Martinsville, IN 46151-3168

SmartHub

Log-on at www.vremc.com.

Pay-by-Phone

Call 844-827-4759. Set up your PIN. Follow prompts.

Liberty Office

In person or in the drop box.

Automatic Withdrawal

Simply request a form and submit it to our office.

FCN or Franklin County National Bank

In person or in the drop box. (Bring payment stub.)

VanillaDirect

Visit vanilladirect.com for payment locations and details.



For more information about payment options, please call us:

765-458-5171 or 1-800-529-5557

Bill Credit Winners

Our monthly drawing for five \$20 bill credits from all voting members of the 2021 annual meeting begins this month. Here are the winners.

MAY

Sam L. Barnes, Brookville

Doris Glover, Centerville

Charles Owens, West Harrison

Alfred Shaffer, Lynn

Clyde Thomas, Williamsburg

Helpful Information

Liberty Office Hours

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

CLOSED SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.

To Report an Outage or Emergency

Call 1-800-776-0493, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Login to your SmartHub account or sign up for outage texting at www.vremc.com.

Be ready to provide the following information:

- The name and account number under which your electric service is listed.
- Map location number.
- Your phone number - needed to call back or confirm power restoration.
- The type of problem you are experiencing - flickering lights, complete power outage, etc.

Ready
for
more
info?

Visit www.vremc.com



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