



POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

GROW YOUR SUMMER ENERGY SAVINGS

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MAY DUE DATES

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



MARY JO THOMAS
CEO

One of my favorite things about summer is the opportunity for fresh, homegrown food, whether shopping at the local farmers market or sharing the abundance of garden tomatoes with a neighbor. It's amazing how just a few seeds, some fertilizer, and water can turn into a bounty.

When I think about energy efficiency, I think about that bounty of food and how, with just a few simple actions, you can use less electricity and reap the rewards of energy savings.

You don't need to be a farmer or botanist to know that plants need water — just like you don't have to be a lineworker or engineer to know that adjusting the thermostat or turning off lights can reduce your monthly electric bill. In fact, if you read our publications regularly and follow us on Facebook, you know there are many things you can do at home to save electricity and money.

Summer months bring some of the highest energy bills of the year. But why? Cooling your home accounts for a large portion of your monthly energy use, and the hotter it gets, the harder (and longer) your air conditioner works to keep you cool.

There are several ways you can manage energy use at home, and on page 3 we're providing a few tips that can help grow your summer energy savings.

I'd also like to share a few ways we're here to help you save — not only during the dog days of summer but throughout the year.

One of the great things about being part of our cooperative is that we're locally owned by you, our members. So, instead of making profits, we can focus on helping our community. That's why we've developed incentives and programs to help you keep your money in your wallet.

SAVE MONEY WITH THESE EASY INCENTIVES:

- **Rebates** — We provide several rebates to help you save money. The rebates available in 2024 are for electric outdoor equipment, water heaters, heat pumps, geothermal systems, and HVAC tune-ups. You can find a complete list of all our rebates and qualifications for the rebates at wwwremc.com/residential-incentives.
- **Take Control of Your Usage** — Our SmartHub app allows you to track your energy usage by month, day, or even hour. You can even tell SmartHub when and how to contact you by email or text. Some notifications even allow you to get specific, such as setting the number of days to remind you before your bill is due.
- **Ways to Pay** — If you're having difficulty paying the higher bills that come with increased usage in the summer, contact us to learn about our budget billing program.

Most people don't know everything about electricity, and that's why we're here to help you. There are no investors making profits here. Just knowledgeable people with local jobs, working for our neighbors to ensure there is electricity available when you need it. Contact us, and we can work with you to find more ways to save energy — and money.

2024 Annual Meeting Recap



ELECTION RESULTS

Prior to the WWVREMC 2024 annual meeting, 1,107 members voted by mail, online, or SmartHub, yielding a participation rate of 11.01%. The hidden account number is 1235501.

Incumbents Mark Miller, Jodie Creek, and Terry Hillman were re-elected for the board of director seats.

Incumbent Ellis McQueen and Todd Duke were re-elected to the nominating committee. They will serve along with newly elected committee member Patricia Barnard.

Directors and committee members each serve three-year terms. The full annual meeting video is available for viewing on our website, Facebook page and YouTube channel.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The cooperative's Scholarship Program awarded ten local students a \$750 scholarship. The winners were:

Riley Blevins	Anna Buckler
Ruthie Hilbert	Jonathan Snyder
Kori Craig	Chandler Terrell
Stone Wilhelm	Carly McCashland
Mia Cupp	Kayce May

The program was established to help members or dependents of members who wish to continue 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, as long as they are not older than 25 years of age. Parents or legal guardians of students may attend meetings and accept the award on behalf of the student.

PRIZE WINNERS

Several prizes were awarded during the evening, including the top prize of \$500 cash. Other cash prizes and bill credits were given away. Here are the winners.

\$500 Cash – Douglas P. Swafford

\$250 Cash – Craig Hale

\$100 Cash – Debbie Grimme

\$75 Cash – Dennis Hollingsworth

\$100 Bill Credit – James Rice

\$100 Bill Credit – Kimberly Young

\$100 Bill Credit – Emily Fisher

\$100 Bill Credit – James Alderson

\$100 Bill Credit – Gregory Weaver

\$50 Bill Credit – Charles McGill

\$50 Bill Credit – Larry Sintz

\$50 Bill Credit – Kathy Huffine

\$50 Bill Credit – Charles Glunt

\$50 Bill Credit – Robert Bowman

\$25 Bill Credit – Terry J. Dare

\$25 Bill Credit – Jesse Hilbert

\$25 Bill Credit – David L. Manning

\$25 Bill Credit – Kenneth R. Frame

\$25 Bill Credit – Janet Auville

BONUS DRAWINGS

\$50 Bill Credit for completing the survey – Larry E. Clark

Operation Round Up \$50 Amazon gift card – Jennifer Horning

Kid's Program Nintendo Switch Winner – Dougie Charlton

May is ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

At WWVREMC, we prioritize safety year-round. Our linemen work with electricity daily, and we know how dangerous it can be. That's why we enjoy hosting safety demonstrations in schools and community events to educate people about the dangers of electricity. We also provide practical electrical safety tips throughout the year on our social media platforms and in our Powerlines newsletter. Our top priority is providing an uninterrupted energy supply while keeping our community safe. Visit our Facebook page during May for additional electrical safety tips or to request a safety demonstration at your school by emailing Jennifer Scott at jscott@wwvremc.com.

PLUG
INTO
SAFETY



ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

Make electrical safety a priority this month, and every month.

5 WAYS TO SAVE THIS SUMMER

When summer temperatures rise, so do our energy bills. Here are a few ways you can reduce energy use and grow your summer savings.

- 1. Raise your thermostat.** The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temp, the more you'll save.
- 2. Install window coverings** like blinds or light-blocking curtains to prevent indoor heat gain during the day.

- 3. Seal leaks with caulk and weatherstripping** around windows and exterior doors. Air leaks force your air conditioner to work harder and run longer than necessary.
- 4. Run ceiling fans** for additional cooling but turn them off when you leave the room.
- 5. Lower your water heater thermostat** to 120 degrees to reduce standby heat loss.



Source: Dept. of Energy

HIDDEN ACCOUNT NUMBER

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

NO MARCH WINNER

Keep reading your Powerlines each month. The next hidden account number could be yours!

PAYMENT OPTIONS

U.S. Mail

Whitewater Valley REMC, P.O. Box 350
Liberty, IN 47353

SmartHub

Log on at wwwremc.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

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.
Log in to your SmartHub account and report your outage.

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.



BILL CREDIT WINNERS

This month begins our monthly drawing for five \$20 bill credits from all voting members of the 2024 annual meeting. Here are the winners.

MAY

Steven Stoller, Richmond

Larry Thornburg, Union City

Ronald Wewe, Cedar Grove

John Roll, Fountain City

Mark Witter, Union City

WWVREMC is sponsoring a student on the 2024 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.!

MONUMENTS. MUSEUMS. LEGISLATORS. FRIENDS. HISTORY. TRIP OF A LIFETIME.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Damiean McClain
Cambridge City



NEW FACILITY UPDATE

We are pleased to announce that our new location at 1201 S State Road 101, Liberty, IN 47353, is expected to open on Monday, June 24, 2024. Please note that our office will be closed on Friday, June 21, 2024, to prepare for the opening day.



APRIL 2024



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