

DECEMBER 2024

POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC

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DECEMBER DUE DATES

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

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wwwremc.com



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

GIVING BACK IS THE COOPERATIVE WAY



MARY JO THOMAS
CEO

The holiday season brings a spirit of generosity and compassion. It's a time to reflect on our many blessings and uplift those in need. While this is certainly a special time of year, cooperatives like WWVREMC are deeply rooted in giving back to their

local communities year-round.

Our mission is to provide reliable power, and our purpose is to serve our members — people in our community whom we proudly support. Over the past year, we've donated to local fire departments, LifeStream events, and community festivals. We sponsored youth baseball teams, golf events, Cope Environmental initiatives, participated in Junior Achievement, and donated to local school Basket Bash events.

This summer, we provided free lunches to students at Live in Liberty through our Shedding Light on Hunger program. We also helped fund the Fourth of July fireworks in College Corner, served food at the Union County Fair, engaged in multiple Youth Community Day events, and hosted a hotline demonstration for first responders. Additionally, we launched "Friday Night Lights" to connect with parents and students at the Union County High School football game this year.

You help us power purpose. WWVREMC's Operation Round Up® program is made possible through members' participation in "rounding up" electric bills to the nearest dollar. Your generous contributions help less fortunate families in our community and support local charitable organizations and community services. This

month marks the conclusion of our Operation Round Up (ORU) Fall Campaign. Anyone who signs up for ORU between October and the end of this month will be entered into a drawing to win a "Relax and Capture the Moment" gift basket. This basket includes a UGG blanket, Hatch Restore, candle, and digital camera. If you haven't signed up yet, a few weeks remain in the campaign to participate. Please note that entries must be completed by December 31st.

Another way WWVREMC gives back is by investing in tomorrow's leaders. We aim to empower students for a brighter future with many youth programs available for our young membership. We offer safety presentations at local schools, scholarship opportunities, a Cooperative Calendar Art Contest, Page Day, Youth Power and Hope Awards, Camp Kilowatt, and the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program. When we invest in our local youth, we strengthen the fabric of our community.

As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, we believe in giving credit where credit is due — to the members who shape our co-op. One way we do this is through capital credits. Because WWVREMC operates at cost, we give cash back to our members rather than outside investors or shareholders. Your WWVREMC Board of Directors has reviewed the cooperative's financial condition and is pleased to announce the retirement of \$870,000 in capital credits to be disbursed this month. Since 2011, WWVREMC has returned \$13,365,000 to our local members.

Here's how capital credits work:

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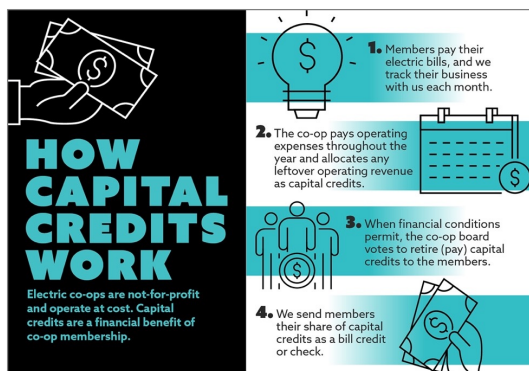
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When financial conditions permit, the co-op's board of directors votes to pay capital credits back to the members. WWVREMC sends you a check, or if the dollar amount is under \$10, it applies as a credit to your energy bill. The checks will begin going out in the mail this year around December 16th. Capital credits are just one of the many benefits of co-op membership. Giving back to our local members instead of outside parties is one aspect that sets cooperatives apart from other types of businesses.

Our members guide every decision we make and are why our co-op exists. To us, you're more than a customer, you're a member, and we hope you're proud to be part of a community-focused co-op that puts people before profits this holiday season.

From your friends at WWVREMC, we hope you have a bright, blessed holiday season.

To learn more about capital credits, visit our website at wwwremc.com/capital-credits.



HOW CAPITAL CREDITS WORK

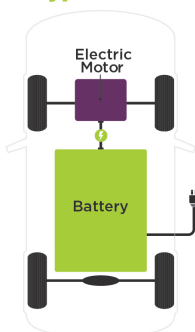
Electric co-ops are not-for-profit and operate at cost. Capital credits are a financial benefit of co-op membership.

1. Members pay their electric bills, and we track their business with us each month.
2. The co-op pays operating expenses throughout the year and allocates any leftover operating revenue as capital credits.
3. When financial conditions permit, the co-op board votes to retire (pay) capital credits to the members.
4. We send members their share of capital credits as a bill credit or check.

EV BUYER'S GUIDE

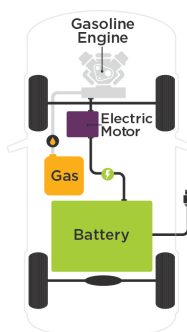
Considering an electric vehicle? Use this guide as you consider vehicle options.

Types of EVs



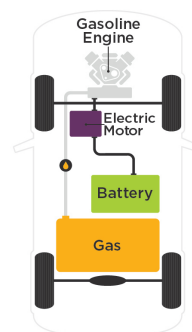
Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV):

Fully powered by an electric battery; no gas-powered components.



Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV):

Contains an engine, electric motor and large battery; can operate in electric-only mode, engine-only mode or hybrid mode (battery and gas).



Hybrid Electric Vehicle (HEV):

Low-emission vehicles; electric motor assists gas-powered engine. Fully powered by gasoline (no charging).

Average Battery Range



BEV: 110-300 miles *full battery

PHEV: 15-60 miles on battery power *full battery
(PHEVs can run on battery and/or gas power.)

Home Charging Options

Level 1:

- 110-volt service
- 2-5 miles of range per hour of charging
- Typically does not require electrical upgrades

Level 2:

- 240-volt service
- 10-30 miles of range per hour of charging
- Faster than level 1
- May require electrical upgrades



Considerations Before Buying

- Public charging options near you
- Federal, state and local financial incentives
- Battery warranties
- Potential changes to auto insurance

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to Noah Williams on graduating from the HEATS (Hoosier Energy Apprentice Training & Safety) Program on Friday, October 18th. The hidden account number is 900001. After completing his required on-the-job training hours, Noah advanced from an apprentice to a lineman in July. Participants must complete 8,000 hours of on-the-job training within four years, along with 144 classroom hours.

Pictured Left to Right: Melody Lynch, COO, Mary Jo Thomas, CEO, Noah Williams, Derrick Mullins, Operations Manager and Sam Woeste, Line Superintendent



ANNUAL COOPERATIVE COMMUNITY DAY 2024



Indiana's Electric Cooperative Community Day took place on Friday, October 11th. Our employees and directors volunteered at the Brookville Lake-Whitewater Memorial State Park Complex this year. Our linemen assisted by installing security lights at the boat ramps and parking lots while other WWVREMC employees painted the Poplar Grove shelter and surrounding posts to enhance the area. This day is significant to our cooperative, as we take great pride in volunteering our time to help improve the quality of life in the community.



Indiana's Electric Cooperative



OPERATION ROUND UP® NEWS



Whitewater Valley REMC's Operation Round Up awarded \$11,349 to 13 community organizations in the second half of 2024.

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVED GRANTS:

Boys and Girls Club of Wayne County
\$1,100 | Food for nutrition education

Christian Community Cooperative Closet
\$1,100 | Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner baskets

Cope Environmental Center
\$500 | Educational tools

Dublin Community Club
\$3,000 | Replace flooring

Eastview Elementary School
\$499 | 24 Magnetic Phonetics sets

Fayette Co. Community Voices Outdoor Education
\$750 | Nature program for school-age children

Hope Center
\$500 | Sexual risk avoidance program

Indiana University East
\$500 | Podcast equipment for BOSS program

Love Makes Cents, Inc.
\$700 | Free community help services

Model T Ford Club of America
\$500 | Educational youth activities

Richmond Farmer's Market
\$1,000 | Holiday market festival

Union Co. 4-H Goat Club
\$500 | Gates and pens for goats

Wayne Co. Soil and Water Conservation
\$700 | Conservation Days

When you participate in our ORU program by rounding your bill up to the next dollar, you can make a significant impact in the communities we serve. If you would like to contribute to this program, you can sign up directly on our website. As a reminder, our Fall ORU campaign ends this month, so now is the perfect time to enroll for a chance to win our "Relax and Capture the Moment" basket. For those interested in applying for a grant, the next deadline for ORU applications is January 13, 2025. To enroll in our program or to find the application, please visit: wwwvremc.com/operation-round-up.

HIDDEN ACCOUNT NUMBER

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

NO OCTOBER 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 www.remccom.com.

Pay-by-Phone

Call 855-940-3859. 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.

Franklin County National Bank (FCN)

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

New location is 1201 S. State Road 101,
Liberty, IN 47353

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

Our monthly drawing for five \$20 bill credits from all voting members of the 2024 annual meeting continues. Here are the winners.

DECEMBER

Blair Canady, Cambridge City

W. David Ramsey, Cambridge City

Kevin Tillinghast, Losantville

Dennis Schneider, Hagerstown

Randy Fields, Liberty

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSINGS

CHRISTMAS

Dec. 24-25

NEW YEAR'S

Dec. 31 and Jan. 1



INTERESTED IN SERVING THE CO-OP?

Are you passionate about making a difference and eager to contribute to the growth and direction of our cooperative? We have an exciting opportunity for you!

After the November nominating committee meeting, we are still seeking candidates to run for the 2025 Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee. We specifically need a board member in the north district and a board member in the south district. Additionally, we are seeking candidates to serve on the Nominating Committee from the north and central districts.

If you've ever considered getting more involved and believe you can support our cooperative's leadership, now is your chance!

Do you want more information or need to know what district you are in? Visit our website at www.remccom.com/nominating-committee or call our office to speak with Jennifer Scott at 765-458-5171.



1201 S. State Rd. 101, P.O. Box 349, Liberty, IN 47353

765-458-5171 • 1-800-529-5557 • www.remccom.com • info@www.remccom.com

President & CEO - Mary Jo Thomas • Powerlines Editor - Jennifer Scott