



# POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC

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## MAY DUE DATES

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

## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



# WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU SAVE



**MARY JO THOMAS**  
CEO

When summer heats up, electric bills tend to increase as air conditioners work overtime, driving up home energy consumption. WWVREMC is your local not-for-profit electricity provider, and we are committed to helping you beat the heat without breaking the bank. As the temperatures rise over the next few months, we want to inform you about a range of energy-saving offerings designed specifically for you. You can manage your summer energy consumption and costs by taking advantage of these programs and services.

### Time of Use Rate

Did you know WWVREMC offers a Time of Use (TOU) Rate? This rate allows you to lower your energy bills by shifting your electricity usage to times of lower demand, known as off-peak hours. By adjusting your electric usage to align with these off-peak times, WWVREMC can avoid peak demand charges and pass those savings on to you. While you can use your appliances at any time, it's advisable to avoid running large appliances during peak hours for maximum savings. With some planning, you can take advantage of the lower rates available during off-peak times. Contact our office for more information or to calculate your potential savings.

### Budget Billing

When you sign up for WWVREMC's budget billing plan, your energy bill is calculated by averaging your previous 12 months of usage. With this type of leveled billing, your monthly energy costs are easier to budget and manage, especially during seasonal fluctuations when bills tend to increase based on the weather. Budget billing is a great option for anyone with a fixed income or highly variable seasonal needs.

### Rebate Program

When you make upgrades or purchases to improve your home's energy efficiency, you should be rewarded for

those smart choices. WWVREMC offers rebates on various residential HVAC systems, including heat pumps, mini-split heat pumps, and geothermal systems. We also provide rebates for HVAC tune-ups, heat pump water heaters, Wi-Fi-enabled water heaters, and electric outdoor equipment. For information on receiving cash back for energy-efficient upgrades or to apply for a rebate, please visit our website at [www.vremc.com/residential-incentives](http://www.vremc.com/residential-incentives).

### You Have the Power

Small actions combined can have a big impact on summer energy bills. The best way to lower energy usage during summer months is to raise the thermostat to the highest setting that's comfortable. Ceiling fans can also help you feel cooler, but remember to turn them off when you leave the room. In the heat of the day, close the drapes on south and west-facing windows to block the heat coming through the glass. On warm summer nights, fire up the grill to keep additional heat out of the kitchen. Do you have a pool? Pool pumps use quite a bit of electricity. Once you have your pool open and the water clear, use a timer on the pump to control how many hours per day the pump runs. Remember to change air filters often so your cooling system doesn't have to work harder than necessary, and as mentioned earlier, this would be a way to receive a rebate from us by getting a tune-up on your system.

High energy bills shouldn't dampen your summer fun. At WWVREMC, we are committed to helping you manage your energy consumption effectively. The hidden account number is 91196602. One way to save money is by taking advantage of our various rebate programs throughout the year. We also recommend downloading our free SmartHub app, which lets you easily track your energy usage from your computer or smartphone. By identifying when your usage peaks, you can assess your consumption and determine what you can reduce during those times to help lower your bills. By implementing a few energy-saving strategies, you can cut costs and enjoy a wonderful summer without straining your budget.

# 2025 ELECTION

## *nominating committee*

Last month in the *Powerlines*, we introduced you to the candidates for the board of directors. This month, we are providing information about each candidate running for the 2025 WWVREMC Nominating Committee.

You can find complete details about all the candidates on our website at [www.vremc.com/annual-meeting](http://www.vremc.com/annual-meeting) and on our YouTube channel. Each member is allowed to vote for one candidate in each district.

## SOUTH DISTRICT



### JENNIFER HORNING, CONNERSVILLE (Incumbent)

**Number of years as a member of WWVREMC**  
19 years

**Education**  
Associate of Science of Medical Assisting, Health Care Specialist

#### Employment

I am a full-time student working on my BAS in Business Administration, and I also work as a part-time aide taking care of my mom.

#### Leadership and community activities

Soldiers in the Army of the Lord Outreach Ministry secretary, treasurer and community outreach, Board Member of Centerstone of Indiana, Vice President of the Fayette County Drug Coalition, Fayette County Food Council. I love helping and serving in my community.

#### Why are you interested in serving another term on the nominating committee?

I like learning how companies run and have enjoyed the past two years serving on the nominating committee.



### MIKE MURRAY, LIBERTY

**Number of years as a member of WWVREMC**  
11.5 years

**Education**  
1978 Graduate of Union County High School  
2009 Graduate of the Management Internship program from the National Rural Electric Cooperative

#### Employment

Retired in 2024 after working 36 years at Butler Rural Electric Cooperative in Oxford, OH

#### Leadership and community activities

Member of Oxford Presbyterian Church (on the leadership team at church); member of College Corner Community Club (past president); Union County College Corner School Board member from 1998-2018; and volunteer for Union County Athletic Department.

#### Why are you interested in serving on the nominating committee?

I have always tried to participate in organizations that I belong to. I have experience and knowledge with electric cooperatives through my working career. I hope to use that experience to assist the board of WWVREMC by becoming a member of the nominating committee.

## CENTRAL DISTRICT



### LISA HELTON, LIBERTY

**Number of years as a member of WWVREMC**  
1 year

**Education**  
Indiana Vocational Technical College, Richmond, Indiana

Associate in applied science degrees in Information Technology and Accounting

#### Employment

SR Product Owner - Total Quality Logistics. The past 15 years in information technology and 10 years in business ownership.

#### Leadership and community activities

Multiple leadership roles throughout employment, small business owner; Community activities include foster program and children's ministry at church.

#### Why are you interested in serving on the nominating committee?

I want to apply my leadership, problem-solving, and collaboration skills to serve the cooperative by helping to identify and select dedicated and qualified individuals who will champion the cooperative's mission. I'm also excited to serve this long-standing cooperative, whose members and employees actively support the community through scholarships, volunteerism, and other programs.

## Don't Forget: Voting Begins Next Month!

Please note that the election will begin on May 12, 2025, and ballots will be accepted until June 10, 2025. Members with an email address on file should expect to receive their electronic ballot. Mail-in ballots will be provided for those without an email address. Additionally, SmartHub users can vote directly through the SmartHub application.

Voting will not occur during the annual meeting. However, those elected will be announced at the end of the annual meeting on June 12. This gathering will be a member appreciation event that is family-friendly and open to all members.

We will be closed on May 26 for Memorial Day.

# OPERATION ROUND UP® ANNUAL REPORT



## ROUND UP GRANTS IN 2024

Operation Round Up has been supporting communities in the Whitewater Valley REMC's six-county service area since 2003. This program is entirely funded by cooperative members whose generous contributions allow the cooperative to give back to the community. In 2024, \$27,474 was awarded to 37 different non-profit organizations from the funds raised by the membership.

## WHO RECEIVES ROUND UP ASSISTANCE?

The Trust is grateful for the generosity of all donations made to the program. The mission of the WWVREMC Community Trust, Inc. is to make a positive impact in our community by gathering and distributing funds for charitable purposes within the WWVREMC service area. The goal of the program is to assist the local population.

## GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE!

To support the program, you can call 765-458-5171 to sign up and "round up" your bill to the nearest dollar amount. Alternatively, you can sign up on our website at [www.wvrenc.com/operation-round-up/](http://www.wvrenc.com/operation-round-up/). The average donation is about 50 cents per month, or \$6 per year, which is typically tax-deductible. Your contributions, along with those of other members who support this program, can significantly impact the lives of people in the WWVREMC service area.

## ROUND UP TRUST BOARD

The Round Up Trust Board consists of Gary Stokes (President), Sara Jane Moyer (Secretary), and Maya Hughes (Trustee).

**Amigos the Richmond Latino Center, Inc.**  
\$1,000 | Career Exploration Summer Camp

**Boy Scouts of America, Cambridge City, IN**  
\$750 | Summer Camp

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

**Business Professionals of America**  
\$325 | Registration fee for State Leadership Conference

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

**College Corner Union School**  
\$1,000 | Weekend food program for students

**Cope Environmental Center**  
\$500 | Educational tools

**Dublin Community Club**  
\$500 | Replace HVAC systems

**Dublin Community Club**  
\$3,000 | Replace flooring

**Eastview Elementary School**  
\$499 | 24 magnetic phonetics sets

**Every Child Can Read, Inc.**  
\$1,000 | The summer bookmobile

**Family Earth Day Celebration**  
\$800 | Environmental education fair

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

**Fayette Co. Soil and Water Conservation District**  
\$500 | Native plant seeds for John Conner Nature Preserve

**Friends of the Union County Library**  
\$750 | Imagination Library

**Gateway Hunger Relief Center**  
\$800 | Four hand carts

**Girl Scouts of Wayne & Union Counties**  
\$1,000 | Voter registration booths to promote Indiana voting

**Hagerstown Jr. Sr. High School Counseling Department.**  
\$500 | Prom dresses for "Prom Closet"

**Hope Center**  
\$500 | Sexual risk avoidance program

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

**LHS Class of 2025**  
\$500 | Lincoln High 2024 after prom

**Liberty Elementary Kindergarten**  
\$500 | Field trip to Boonshoft Museum

**Liberty Volunteer Fire Department**  
\$500 | Smoke detectors for community distribution

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

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

**Northeastern After Prom**  
\$500 | 2024 after prom

**Play in the Park**  
\$500 | Carnival Day at Play in the Park

**Randolph County Youth Leadership Council**  
\$500 | Scholarships

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

**Salt of the Earth, Inc.**  
\$500 | Addictive drug and lead test kits

**St. Michael School**  
\$1,000 | 3D printers and filament

**UCHS Parent After-Prom Committee**  
\$500 | After prom

**Union County 4-H Goat Club**  
\$500 | Gates and pens for goats

**Union Co. AG Day & Union Co. Soil & Water Conservation District**  
\$1,000 | Educational event for 3rd graders to experience agriculture

**Union County Rabbit Club**  
\$1,000 | Replace and increase number of cages

**Union County Youth League**  
\$500 | Build equipment shed

**Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation**  
\$700 | Conservation Days

**CONGRATULATIONS TO JULIA BRYANT**  
from West Harrison for being selected as our Camp Kilowatt Representative for WWVREMC!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL GRADUATES**

*We are so proud of you!*

WHITWATER VALLEY REMC

**BILL CREDIT WINNERS**

Since the 2024 annual meeting, all twelve months of bill credits have been distributed. More bill credit winners will be selected from all members who vote in the 2025 election from a random draw and will start in the August Powerlines.

## 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 [www.remc.com](http://www.remc.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](http://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.

## WIN AN ANNUAL FAMILY PASS TO THE ZOO!

Young WWVREMC members (ages 4-13) are invited to participate in our Spring Flower Vase coloring contest for a chance to win a family pass to the zoo!

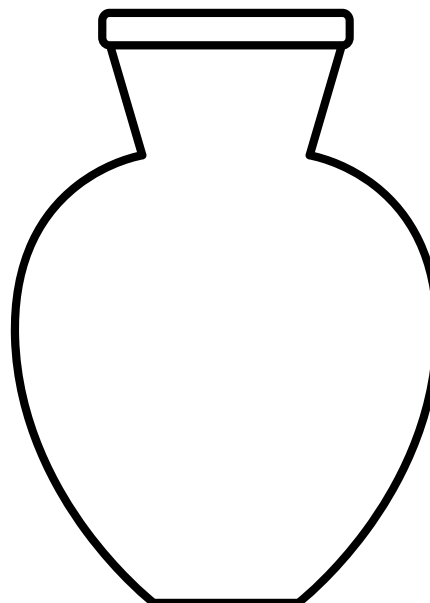
To enter, color the vase and create your bouquet of flowers to fill it. Once finished, send in your colored page by **June 13, 2025**.

Please include the following information along with your drawing: The REMC account holder's name, the child's name who colored the picture, and their age.

One winner will be randomly selected from all entries. Good luck!

### SEND TO:

Whitewater Valley REMC  
ATTN: Jennifer Scott  
P.O. Box 349  
Liberty, IN 47353



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