



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**.



KEEPING THE LIGHTS BRIGHT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



KYLE JOBE
Director of Finance
& Accounting

As we gather with family and friends to celebrate the holiday season, all of us at Whitewater Valley REMC want to express our gratitude for the trust and support of our members. Your cooperative family is always working behind the scenes to keep your lights glowing safely, reliably, and at the

lowest possible cost — especially during this special time of year.

One of the essential tools that helps us do that is something called a Cost of Service Study (COSS). While it might not sound as festive as twinkling lights or holiday cookies, it plays a significant role in ensuring fairness and reliability for every member.

What is a Cost of Service Study?

A Cost of Service Study is a detailed look at what it truly costs our cooperative to deliver electricity to homes, farms, and businesses. It examines every part of our operation — maintaining poles and wires, increasing material costs, cost of restoring power after winter storms, and more.

As a member-owned cooperative, we have no outside shareholders to pay. Every dollar we collect is reinvested into operating and improving our electric system. The COSS helps ensure that the way we collect those dollars through rates aligns with the actual cost of serving each type of member.

Why We Do It

Just as the holidays remind us of the importance of fairness and community, those same values guide our cooperative year-round. We want to make sure that:

- Each group of members (residential, commercial, large power users, etc.) pays only their fair share.
- Rates remain stable and predictable — no surprises under the tree.
- The co-op remains financially strong so we can keep investing in reliability, safety, and future technologies.

How the Study Works

The Cost of Service Study looks at:

- Expenses — Everything it takes to deliver power, from maintenance to customer service.
- Usage Patterns — When and how members use electricity throughout the day and year.
- Cost Allocation — Dividing costs fairly among different types of members based on their impact on the system.

Once the study is complete, our board of directors reviews the results and uses them to guide future rate adjustments and system improvements.

What It Means for You

The COSS doesn't automatically mean rates will change, but it ensures that if they do, those changes are based on real data and fairness — not guesswork. This helps us keep your electricity safe, reliable, and affordable, no matter the season.

Our Commitment to You

Transparency, fairness, and community are at the heart of everything we do — especially during the holidays. We want you to know where your money goes and how your cooperative makes decisions. The Cost of Service Study is just one of the ways we're working to keep our system fair, balanced, and ready for the future.

From all of us at Whitewater Valley REMC, we wish you happy holidays and warm wishes for a bright New Year!

OPERATION ROUND UP® NEWS



Whitewater Valley REMC's Operation Round Up awarded \$11,932 to 16 community organizations in the second half of 2025.

Abington Township Volunteer Fire Department

\$2,000 | CPR/First Aid manakin set

College Corner Union Elementary School PTO

\$500 | Tutoring program

Communities in Schools of Wayne County

\$500 | Program expenses

Cope Environmental Center

\$250 | Instructor fees for educational workshops

Dublin Community Club

\$500 | Vape detectors

East Central Indiana Recycling and Reuse Hub

\$1,500 | Promotional materials and expenses, an office/volunteer room, website

Everton Volunteer Fire Department

\$1,000 | Custom covers for equipment on trucks

Friends of Union County Public Library

\$500 | Healthy snacks and food during school breaks

Love Makes Cent\$

\$500 | Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site

Richmond Adult Education

\$500 | Events to support GED programs

Scouting America Troop 45

\$1,000 | Summer camp

Union County Sheriff's Office

\$1,000 | New radios

Union County Soil and Water Conservation District

\$250 | Aluminum can crusher

VFW Auxiliary Post 2014

\$500 | Thanksgiving dinner for veterans of Franklin County

Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District

\$1,200 | Conservation days

Winter Wonderland, Town of Brookville

\$232 | Christmas lights

A few cents can really make a big difference. If you'd like to support local organizations in your community, you can now sign up directly on our website to participate. Our Operation Round Up Fall campaign is ongoing until the end of December. Sign up by Dec. 31 for a chance to win an electric snow blower! The hidden account number is 982200. Also, please note that the next deadline for ORU applications is Jan. 12, 2026. To enroll in our program or find an application, visit www.vwremc.com/operation-round-up.

WELCOME, CODEY!

We're excited to welcome Codey Redd to the WWVREMC team! A native of Liberty, Indiana, Codey graduated from Union County High School and earned an Associate's Degree in Ag Diesel Mechanics from the University of Northwestern Ohio. He brings a strong mechanical background and a passion for the outdoors.

When he's not working, Codey enjoys hunting, fishing, and spending time with his wife — especially during his favorite season, fall. A



dedicated coffee drinker, Codey is most proud of the life he and his wife have built together. And if you're wondering about his biggest fear? It's missing a turkey or a really big buck! Be sure to say hello and give Codey a warm welcome when you see him around.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

On Friday, Oct. 17, Ryan Chappell and Abrem Losekamp were honored at their graduation from the Hoosier Energy Apprentice Training & Safety (HEATS) Program.

After completing an impressive 8,000 hours of on-the-job training and 144 classroom hours over a four-year period, they officially advanced to Lineman status in August. This achievement is a testament to their hard work, skill, and dedication.

Join us in congratulating Ryan and Abrem on reaching this incredible milestone!



Congratulations to the October Pumpkin Carving Winners!



1ST PLACE:

Briella, Hagerstown



2ND PLACE:

Emma, Liberty



3RD PLACE:

Oakley, Hagerstown

WWVREMC Announces \$491,115 in Capital Credit Retirement

As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, WWVREMC believes in giving credit where it is due — to the members who make our co-op strong. Because we operate at cost, any excess revenue is returned to you, not outside investors. This year, your Board of Directors is pleased to announce the retirement of \$491,000 in capital credits, which will be disbursed around Dec. 16.

Here's how it works: When you use electricity and pay your monthly bill, we track your usage with the co-op. After covering operating expenses, any remaining revenue is allocated as capital credits. When finances allow, the board votes to return those credits to members — either by check or as a bill credit if the amount is under \$10. Capital credits are just one of the many benefits of co-op membership and a key reason why cooperatives stand apart: we give back to our members, not outside parties.

A heartfelt tribute **IN OUR LOBBY**

We are honored to introduce a beautiful addition to our front lobby — a stunning lineman carving made from a utility pole and donated by Cynthia Spear from Richmond, Indiana, in loving memory of her significant other, Carl Weiss.

Carl dedicated 50 years to linework with IBEW, a career he truly loved. Cynthia and Carl spent 18 wonderful years together, working side by side during challenging times, including the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. To celebrate Carl's legacy and passion, Cynthia commissioned this remarkable carving as a tribute to his life and work.

This piece is more than art — it's a symbol of commitment, resilience, and love. We extend our deepest gratitude to Cynthia for this generous gift, which now stands proudly in our lobby for all to admire.



HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSINGS

Dec. 24 and 25 | Dec. 31 and Jan. 1

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.vremc.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

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 2025 annual meeting continues. Here are the winners.

DECEMBER

James W Miles, Brookville

Charles Owens, West Harrison

Kathleen Tincher, Centerville

Richard Geiling, Centerville

Elizabeth Dixon, West Harrison

DIRECTOR CANDIDATE APPLICATIONS

Are you interested in running for the WVVREMC Board of Directors?

Applications are open on our website for consideration for our 2026 election. For more information, please download the Director Candidate Information Sheet and complete an application at www.vremc.com/nominating-committee. The Nominating Committee Candidate Information Form is also available for download for those interested in serving on the Nominating Committee.

Further details about the 2026 district election will be included in upcoming issues of Powerlines. Please be aware that applications must be received by Jan. 12, 2026, to be considered at the upcoming nominating committee meeting.

We appreciate your interest in serving your cooperative. If you have any questions, please contact our office for more information.

slice of the co-op WINNER ANNOUNCED

Congratulations to **Diane Dudley**, the lucky winner of **FREE Pizza for a Year** from our WVVREMC Member Appreciation celebration!

A big THANK YOU to all our members who joined us in October, picked up their pizza cutters, and snapped selfies at our "Slice of the Co-op" station. Your participation made this event a success!



From left to right: Bekah (employee), Diane Dudley, and Molly (employee)



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