

POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC

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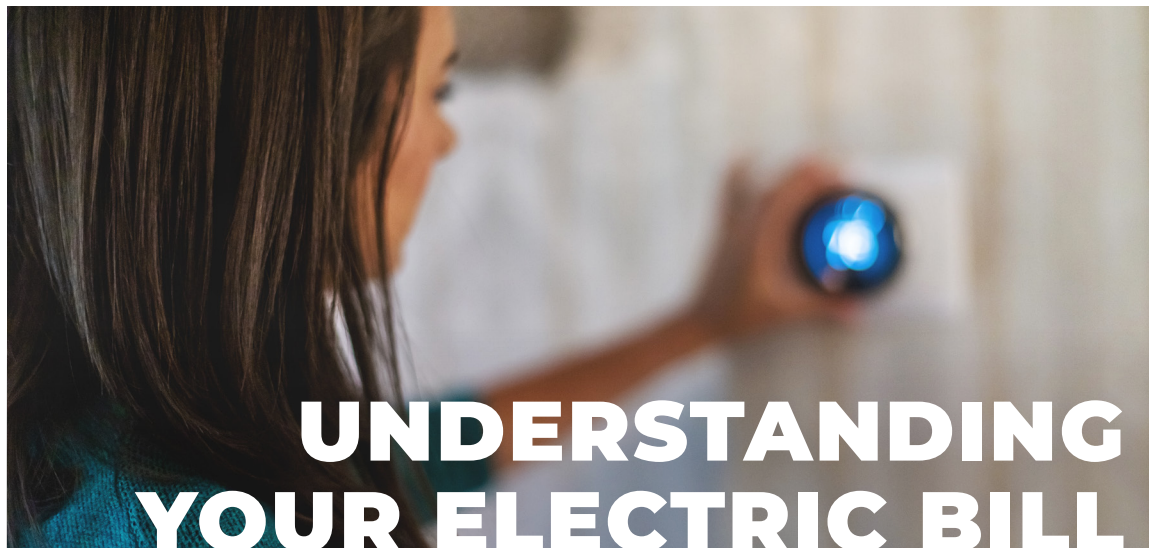
Office Closing

AUGUST DUE DATES

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



wwwremc.com



JOSHUA JOHNSON
CEO

August is typically one of the warmest months of the year, and that means air conditioners across our community are working overtime to keep homes comfortable. During periods of extreme heat, many members

may see an increase in their electric bill and wonder what factors contribute to the cost of electricity.

At WWVREMC, we believe understanding your electric bill is an important part of being an informed member. While the total amount due may seem like a single number, it actually reflects several different costs associated with delivering reliable electricity to your home or business.

The largest factor is often the amount of energy you use. Electricity is measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh), and the more energy your household consumes, the higher your bill will be. During the summer, air conditioning is typically the largest driver of increased energy use. When temperatures climb into the 90s or higher, our cooling systems run longer and more frequently, consuming significantly more electricity than they do during milder weather.

Another major factor is the cost of generating or purchasing electricity. Like many cooperatives, WWVREMC purchases power from Hoosier Energy. The cost of producing electricity fluctuates based on fuel prices, including natural gas, coal and other energy resources used to generate power. Changes in wholesale power costs influence the price of electricity delivered to members.

Transmission costs also play a role. Before electricity reaches your home, it must travel across a network of high-voltage transmission lines that connect power plants to local distribution systems. Transmission equipment requires ongoing maintenance and upgrades to ensure reliability, especially as electricity demand continues to grow.

Closer to home, WWVREMC maintains the local electric distribution system — utility poles, power lines, transformers and other essential equipment that safely delivers power to members. Maintaining this equipment is covered through the monthly service fee. This is a flat monthly fee all members pay, regardless of how much electricity they use. This fixed fee ensures all members pay a fair share of the basic, operational costs required to keep the power grid reliable and ready to serve your home or business. Whether a member

continued on next page

uses a little electricity or a lot, we must maintain infrastructure and have crews, equipment and resources available to provide electricity around the clock.

Summer temperatures can also influence costs in less obvious ways. When the demand for electricity is high across a region, wholesale power prices can increase. Utilities and grid operators must ensure enough generation is available to meet peak demand, and those costs can be reflected throughout the electric system.

The good news is that simple steps to lower energy use can make a meaningful difference. Setting your thermostat a few degrees higher when you're away, replacing dirty HVAC filters, using ceiling fans, sealing air leaks and avoiding the

use of major appliances during the hottest parts of the day can help reduce energy consumption, lower your bill and reduce strain on the local grid during peak demand.

WWVREMC is committed to delivering safe, reliable, and affordable electricity while maintaining transparency about the factors that influence energy costs. We recognize that every dollar matters, and we work diligently to make sound investments that ensure dependable service and strengthen the communities we proudly serve.

If you have questions about your electric bill or co-op programs designed to help you save, please reach out to our office. Our member support representatives are here to help. Thank you for allowing WWVREMC to serve you.

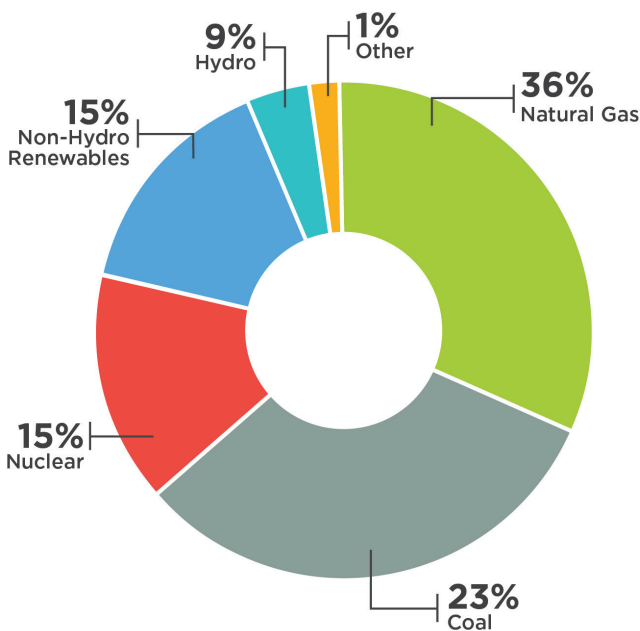


Co-op Energy Sources

Nationally, electric cooperatives use a variety of fuels to power consumer-members' homes and businesses.

This diverse fuel mix supplies co-op members with the safe, reliable and affordable power they depend on.

Source: National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (2024 data)



Last Month to Receive a \$10 Paperless Billing Credit!

There's still time to make the switch to Paperless Billing and receive a one-time \$10 bill credit. August is the last month to enroll and take advantage of this limited-time offer.

Paperless Billing is a convenient, secure way to receive your bill faster, reduce clutter, access your account anytime, and monitor your usage through SmartHub.

Enroll through SmartHub or call our office and we'll be happy to help you get signed up.



SHINING A LIGHT ON COMMUNITY SERVICE

Know a middle schooler who's making a difference?

The Youth Power and Hope Awards recognize young leaders who serve their community.

Up to five winners will each receive **\$500** and statewide recognition for sharing their service story.

Parents, please visit goiec.org/youthpowerandhope to apply and learn more.

QUESTIONS?

youth@indianaec.org
or 317-487-2235

Applicants must have a parent or guardian who is a member of an Indiana electric cooperative.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE FRIDAY, OCT. 2

IEC
INDIANA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

energy efficiency TIP OF THE MONTH

August heat can put your air conditioner to the test, making it a great time to check your system's air filter. A dirty, clogged filter restricts airflow, forcing your cooling system to work harder than necessary to keep your home comfortable. That extra strain can reduce efficiency, increase energy use and contribute to unnecessary wear and tear on equipment. Inspect your filter monthly during periods of heavy air conditioner use and replace it if it appears dirty. A clean filter supports efficient operation and can even enhance indoor air quality — helping you stay cool and comfortable during the hottest days of summer.

Powerlines Newsletter Going Digital



This month marks the official launch of the *Powerlines* newsletter in a digital format. Members with an email address on file will begin receiving the newsletter by email, making it easier to stay up to date on co-op news, safety tips, member programs, and more.

Members without an email address on file will continue to receive *Powerlines* by mail. **Please note that this change applies only to the *Powerlines* newsletter — your electric bill will still be mailed unless you have enrolled in paperless billing.**



PLUG INTO
SAFETY

Before starting outdoor projects, consider utility safety

CONTACT INDIANA 811 BEFORE DIGGING AND REMAIN AWARE OF OVERHEAD POWER LINES, UTILITY POLES, AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT WHEN PLANNING OUTDOOR IMPROVEMENTS

BEFORE DIGGING

Contact Indiana 811 online or by dialing 811 at least two full working days before excavation begins, excluding weekends and holidays, to have public underground utility lines marked.

Striking an underground utility line can cause injuries, outages, expensive repairs, or service disruptions for your neighborhood.

Private utility lines, such as those connected to outdoor lighting, irrigation systems, detached garages, or fire pits, may not be marked and could require a private locator.

LOOK ABOVE

Ladders, long-handled tools, tree limbs, and other materials can come dangerously close to overhead power lines.

Trees and landscaping should never be planted too close to overhead power lines or utility poles.

Trees growing into power lines or branches contacting power lines interrupt electric service and create dangerous conditions.

TEST YOUR POWERLINES KNOWLEDGE

How well do you read this month's Powerlines?

Take the quiz for a chance to be entered into a drawing for a **\$25 bill credit**.

You can find the direct quiz link in the digital Powerlines newsletter sent to your email, or visit our website, www.remcc.com, to test your knowledge.

Good luck!

PAYMENT OPTIONS

U.S. Mail

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

SmartHub

Log on at www.remcc.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

Sign up on SmartHub, over the phone, or in the 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

This month marks the start of five \$20 bill credits awarded to members who voted in the 2026 Annual Meeting. Here are the winners.

AUGUST

Tina M. Welborn, Liberty

Thomas J. Klenke, Brookville

John Rowe, Connersville

Roger B. Williams, Liberty

Allen Wiwi, West Harrison

BRIGHT KIDS | SAFE CHOICES

**NEVER CLIMB
UTILITY
POLES**



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