

POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC

IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2

Electricity Brings
Everyday Value

The Impact of Operation
Round Up® in the First
Half of the Year

PAGE 3

Celebrating a Decade of
Impact and Giving Back

Farmers Must Consider
Power Line Safety
During Harvest Season

PAGE 4

Test Your Powerlines
Knowledge

Bill Credit Winners

Bright Kids, Safe Choices

A Note About the
Farmers' Almanac

SEPTEMBER DUE DATES

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






www.vremc.com



JOSHUA JOHNSON
CEO

When it comes to electricity, most of us rarely stop to think about how often we depend on it. We flip on a light switch, brew a pot of coffee, open the refrigerator, adjust the thermostat, charge our phones, run a load of laundry, or settle in for a quiet evening at home. We simply expect the power to be there when we need it — and that is exactly how it should be.

At WWVREMC, reliably powering your home, your work, and your daily life is our mission. Electricity is such a constant part of our routines that it can be easy to overlook just how much value it brings to our lives every single day.

We also know that many families across our local communities are feeling the impact of rising costs. Groceries, gasoline, insurance, household goods and other everyday necessities cost more than they did just a few years ago. Like you, we understand that every household is paying close attention to where each dollar goes. Budgets matter, and so does ensuring the services you depend on continue to deliver real value. That is why I believe it is important to occasionally step back and think about what electricity provides.

The average U.S. residential electric bill is about \$150 a month, which works out to roughly \$5 a day. When you think about it that way, it puts the

value of electricity into perspective. For about the cost of a specialty coffee, electricity powers hundreds of tasks that help keep your home comfortable, connected and functioning smoothly.

For around \$5 a day, your refrigerator keeps food fresh around the clock. Your heating and cooling system helps your family stay comfortable through Indiana's changing seasons. Lights illuminate your home after sunset, enabling your children to complete homework, your family to gather around the table, or your household to relax after a long day. Appliances make cooking, cleaning, and daily chores easier. Your devices stay charged so you can work, learn, communicate, and stay connected with friends and family.

Electricity also powers the little things we may not think about until they are unavailable — the garage door opening when you come home, the water heater providing warm showers, the microwave heating up a quick meal, the Wi-Fi keeping your household connected, and the medical or safety devices that help protect your family. When you consider everything electricity makes possible, it remains one of the greatest values in the average household budget.

Even with electricity's exceptional value, we know every dollar matters. That's why WWVREMC offers tools and resources to help members better understand and manage their energy use. One of the easiest ways to stay informed about your energy consumption is by

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downloading the SmartHub app. SmartHub gives members access to their account information and allows them to monitor their energy usage trends. By checking your usage regularly, you can spot changes and

identify unusual spikes before they result in an unexpectedly high monthly bill.

We also recently started offering our Prepaid Program, which provides another convenient

way to manage your electric account. With prepaid service, you can add funds to your account at your convenience, track your daily energy usage, and receive balance alerts to help you stay on top of your account. Many members appreciate the added control it provides, making it easier to budget for electricity, monitor energy consumption, and avoid unexpected monthly bills. It's a simple, flexible option that puts you in charge of how and when you pay for your electricity.

Our team is always here to help — whether you need energy-efficiency advice, information about co-op rebates and programs, or answers about your monthly bill. As a locally owned cooperative, WWVREMC is guided by the needs of the members and communities we serve, not outside shareholders, and our strong local connection shapes the way we do business every day.

Thank you for trusting WWVREMC to power your home and your life. We remain committed to providing everyday value through reliable, affordable electricity, so you and your family can make the most of every energy dollar.



**A Little Cost.
A Lot of Life.**

For about \$150 a month, electricity powers hundreds of tasks that keep your home comfortable, connected and running smoothly—from brewing your morning coffee to keeping your family cool, safe and entertained.

- **720** hours of refrigeration
- **20+** loads of clean clothes
- **15+** home-cooked meals
- **90+** hours of lighting
- **Numerous** devices charged
- **Hundreds** of hours of cooling/heating
- **Countless** connections to work, school and entertainment

30 days of comfort

The Impact of Operation Round Up® in the First Half of the Year



As we progress through 2026, we want to acknowledge the remarkable contributions of WWVREMC members through Operation Round Up® in the first half of the year.

Thanks to members who voluntarily round up their electric bills each month, the Operation Round Up Board of Trustees has awarded grants to the following local nonprofits in the first half of the year. These funds help support programs and projects that improve the quality of life in our communities.

First Quarter Recipients

Abington Township VFD: Training and training materials (\$1,000)

College Corner Union School PTO: Tutoring program (\$500)

East Central Indiana RE Hub: Educational mobile recycling trailer (\$1,000)

Franklin Co. Community Foundation: Wreaths for veterans' grave sites (\$500)

Hope Center: Parenting education (\$1,000)

Neighborhood Health Center: CPR/BLS Program (\$500)

New Mercies Community Services: Laundry detergent for needy (\$750)

Randolph Central School Corp.: Community garden/food backpacks/art program (\$2,500)

Servants at Work (SAWs): Ramp building project (\$2,500)

UCHS After Prom: 2026 UCHS After Prom (\$500)

Union County Ag Day: Agriculture Educational Event (\$1,000)

Second Quarter Recipients

Abington Township VFD: Two 800mhz handheld radios (\$2,000)

Bentonville VFD: Medical supplies on rescue truck (\$1,500)

Brighter Paths, Inc.: 12 new riding helmets for students (\$1,000)

Boys and Girls Club of Wayne County: Support and supplies for arts program (\$1,000)

East Central Indiana RE Hub: Educational workshops (\$1,000)

Every Child Can Read: Books for Summer Bookmobile (\$1,000)

Meridian Health Services: Flu-Lapalooza (\$500)

Milton Washington Township VFD: Power tools for rescue scenarios (\$2,500)

Play in the Park: Carnival games/tent rentals for 4th of July festival (\$250)

Randolph County Youth Leadership Council: Funds for scholarships (\$1,000)

Union County 4-H: Electrical repairs and structure upgrades (\$1,500)

Union County Foundation: Community Garden (\$450)

Total awards granted in the first half of the year: \$25,450.

Operation Round Up allows members to voluntarily round their monthly electric bill to the nearest dollar. These small donations collectively create a significant impact by supporting local nonprofits, emergency services, schools, youth programs, community projects, and more.

Thank you to our participating members for helping us spread the good throughout the Whitewater Valley. Your spare change is changing lives right here at home.

Interested in participating? Learn more about Operation Round Up at wwwremc.com/operation-round-up or contact our office.



CELEBRATING A DECADE OF IMPACT AND GIVING BACK

The 10th Annual Shedding Light on Hunger Charity Golf Outing was a tremendous success, and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who helped make this milestone event so special. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, golfers, volunteers, employees, and community supporters, we raised **\$9,500** this year to help local organizations combat hunger throughout our six-county service territory.

This year's event marked an important milestone as we celebrated **10 years of Shedding Light on Hunger**. Over the past decade, the outing has raised **more than \$89,500**, benefiting **37 organizations** dedicated to helping families and individuals facing food insecurity in our local communities.

We extend a special thank you to our Premier Sponsors, **United Utility Supply, Cooperative Building Solutions, and Butler Rural Electric Cooperative**, whose continued support helps make this event possible. We are also grateful to our dedicated employees and volunteers, including our linemen who prepared the delicious fish provided by Brownstown Electric Supply Company and enjoyed by participants throughout the day. From purchasing 50/50 and raffle tickets, sponsoring lunch bags and volunteering their time, every contribution played a role in the event's success.

The impact of the golf outing didn't stop when the final putt dropped.

Just days later, our team shifted gears to support another important community event. On **July 29**, we partnered with **Live in Liberty's Back to School Bash**, where employees prepared and distributed lunch bags filled with food to students and families attending the event. It was a wonderful opportunity to put the spirit of Shedding Light on Hunger into action by giving local children food in a reusable and insulated lunch bag as they prepared to head back to school.

The quick turnaround from hosting a successful golf outing to assembling and distributing lunch bags demonstrated the dedication of our employees, volunteers, and community partners. Their commitment to serving others continues to make a meaningful difference throughout the year and highlights our concern for the community, one of our principles of being a cooperative.

Whether supporting local food pantries, assisting families, or providing resources to children returning to school, the funds raised and the volunteer efforts contributed through Shedding Light on Hunger help strengthen our communities and bring hope to neighbors in need.

Thank you to all who have supported this mission over the past decade, and to The Liberty Country Club for always hosting our event. Together, we're creating a lasting impact and look forward to continuing our fight against hunger in the years ahead.



Farmers must consider power line safety during harvest season

PLUG INTO
SAFETY

FOLLOW THESE SAFETY GUIDELINES TO PREVENT DANGEROUS INCIDENTS

Observe your surroundings

Always check above and around before moving equipment. Maintain a minimum clearance of 10 feet from all power lines and poles.

Use a spotter

When navigating near power lines, having a spotter can enhance safety by providing an extra set of eyes.

Plan your route

Stay informed about where power lines and power poles are on the property. If there's any doubt that the equipment will not fit under a power line, opt for an alternative route.

Stay put in emergencies

If you're in equipment that touches power lines, assume the equipment and ground are energized.

Stay in the cab and call for help. Tell others to stay away and do not let anyone touch the equipment.

In the rare case of a fire and an emergency exit is necessary, jump clear without touching the ground and the equipment simultaneously, and land with your feet together. Then, shuffle with both feet together for at least 30 feet to avoid electrical shock.

TEST YOUR POWERLINES KNOWLEDGE

How well did 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

Our monthly drawing for five \$20 bill credits from all voting members of the 2026 annual meeting continues. Here are the winners:

SEPTEMBER

Brian G. Campbell, Brookville

Duane A. Marker, Liberty

Michael Starcher, Metamora

Lori Palomino, West Harrison

Kim Jenkins, Centerville

BRIGHT KIDS | SAFE CHOICES

**NEVER CLIMB
A TREE
AROUND
POWER LINES**



Brought to you by:



WATTson

A NOTE ABOUT THE *Farmers' Almanac*

For many years, we have enjoyed sharing copies of the *Farmers' Almanac* with our members. Unfortunately, the publisher has discontinued the almanac after its 2026 edition, meaning we will no longer receive copies to distribute.

We know this has been a popular item, and we appreciate our members' support and understanding as this tradition comes to an end.



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