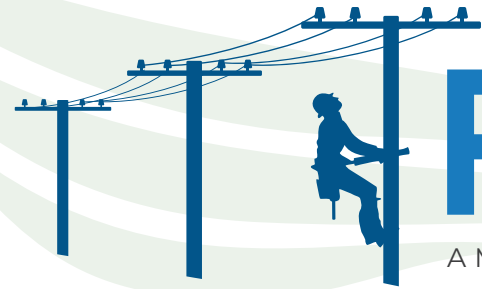


POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

ELECTRICITY PROVIDES POWERFUL VALUE



MARY JO THOMAS
CEO

If you're like me, there are aspects of your life that become sort of a daily routine. I get ready for work, get in my car and drive to the coffee shop on the way to the office. At lunchtime, I drive to the nearest fast-food location and get lunch.

Once I finally end the day at home, I stream an episode or two of my favorite show before bed.

As we all look for ways to save money in this age of increasing inflation, I began to think about my daily routine and how much value it provided me compared to the money I spent. A morning latte was costing me about \$6, a fast-food combo with a burger, fries and a drink was setting me back \$10, and my Netflix subscription is about \$16 each month. All these daily expenses totaled around \$85 a week, or about \$340 monthly. And what was the real value — short-term satisfaction and a larger waistline? Even as I started packing my own lunch, my latte was still costing me about \$120 a month. This got me thinking — is this the best value for my money?

The average daily cost of electricity is about \$6.00, and the average monthly electric bill for members of WWVREMC is \$180. You could power your entire

home every day for the price of a medium latte. I could brew my own coffee, cook my own meals, binge a series and run on a treadmill for less than the cost of that drink. Now to me, that's real value. The hidden account number is 960804.

Electricity provides benefits that we often take for granted. It goes well beyond short-term satisfaction by allowing us to charge devices and have refrigerated food and hot water, all in a comfortable indoor climate. Besides the privilege it affords, electricity has also remained relatively cost-stable even amidst rising inflation.

As a member-owned cooperative, WWVREMC does everything in our power to ensure your costs stay reasonable and that electricity remains a great value

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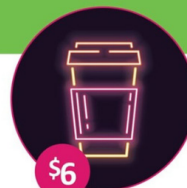
AUGUST DUE DATES

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

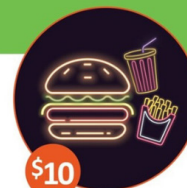
Where Do You Find Value?

Did you know the average daily electricity cost of a WWVREMC member is \$6.00, or about \$180 a month?

Electricity fuels our daily life essentials, from heating/cooling equipment to entertainment devices and appliances. Think of how vital power is compared to other everyday purchases. **That's real value.**



Morning To-Go Latte



Fast-Food Combo Lunch



All-Day Power

for our members. It's not always easy, as there are several factors beyond inflation that impact the price of electricity – some within our control but most beyond it.

The cost of electricity can fluctuate due to supply and demand, infrastructure investment, maintenance and operational expenses. Weather patterns also contribute, affecting both demand and generation capabilities, with extreme conditions leading to heightened energy use or disruptions. Government policies, such as subsidies for renewable energy or taxes and regulations on

emissions, shape electricity costs as well. Your electric co-op considers all these aspects when adjusting rates, and because we're a cooperative, we consider the impact of those costs on our members as well.

As our community continues to rely on electricity for nearly everything in our homes, schools, hospitals, and businesses, we need it to be reliable and affordable. You can be assured that WWVREMC always puts you top of mind and works every day to ensure electricity remains the best value for your money.

Final Facility Update

On June 24, we opened our doors to serve our members at our new location and celebrated our first day with a private ribbon-cutting ceremony. In less than a year from groundbreaking to ribbon cutting our “Field of Dreams” project is complete, and we are thrilled to welcome you here.

As we settle into our new home, we plan to host an open house for our members in October. October is the month we celebrate National Cooperative Month and National Customer Service Week, so what a perfect time to have you all celebrate our new home as we celebrate you, our members!

We will provide more information on the event in the upcoming Powerlines and our Facebook page.



GRAND OPENING



1201 S State Road 101, Liberty, IN JUNE 24, 2024

WHO'S IN CHARGE?

MEMBERS LIKE YOU CONTROL THE COOPERATIVE.

The second cooperative principle, “democratic member control,” addresses one of the most significant benefits of being a cooperative member.

Cooperative members own their cooperative and can help set policies and make decisions regarding the cooperative. One opportunity to do this happens each year at the cooperative’s annual meeting. The annual meeting typically includes fun activities like attendance incentives, prize drawings, and entertainment. Cooperatives also conduct important business at their annual meetings.

Unlike many businesses, a cooperative’s board of directors is composed of others who receive services from the cooperative, not of investors who may not even live in the community. That

means cooperative members — only cooperative members — can run for seats on the board. Board elections are held right before our cooperative’s annual meeting, and results are then announced at our annual meeting. During that time, members can exercise the principle of “democratic member control” by either voting for board candidates that they feel will best represent their interests or running for the board themselves.

Board members serve three-year terms and are committed to serving in the best interest of their fellow cooperative members. If members like you have any concerns, you are encouraged to contact your cooperative’s board of directors. Democratic member control is your right and responsibility.

If you want to run for a seat on the WWVREMC Board of Directors or Nominating Committee, please review the Candidate Information Sheets and fill out an application. You can download the information sheets and applications from our cooperative website. More details about the 2025 district election will be provided in upcoming issues of the Powerlines newsletter. However, members can already submit their applications for consideration at the Nominating Committee meeting(s), which will take place on November 7 to review applications for the next election.

Visit www.wwvremc.com/nominating-committee for more information.

DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

2

WHO'S IN CHARGE? MEMBERS LIKE *you* CONTROL THE COOPERATIVE

The second cooperative principle, “democratic member control,” states that co-op members like you control your cooperative. You play a role in setting policies and making decisions. Not only can you vote for your board representatives, you can run for the board yourself.



the
COOPERATIVE
PRINCIPLES

HIDDEN ACCOUNT NUMBER

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

NO JUNE 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.

Pay-by-Phone

Call 844-827-4759. 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.

AUGUST

Janet McClintock, Union City

Judith Kinder, Lynn

Melvin Maddock, Greens Fork

Paul Lackey, Liberty

David Rusk, Centerville

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

Placing heat sources, such as lamps, computers, or TVs, near your thermostat can result in false temperature readings, increased energy use, and inconsistent cooling/heating. Make sure your thermostat is installed in an area clear of obstructions, electronic devices, direct sunlight, and drafts. Ensuring your thermostat is free from these interferences optimizes energy efficiency, improves comfort, and reduces wear and tear on your cooling/heating system.



Office closing

Our office will be closed for Labor Day on Monday, September 2.



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

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