



# Wabash County REMC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

350 WEDCOR AVE.  
WABASH, IN 46992

## PHONE NUMBERS & HOURS

Local ..... (260) 563-2146  
Toll Free ..... (800) 563-2146  
Fax ..... (260) 563-1523  
E-mail ..... mail@wabashremc.com  
Call Before You Dig ..... (800) 382-5544

**Office hours: 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Monday-Friday**

## TO REPORT AN OUTAGE

- Check circuit breakers or fuses first.
- If possible, check to see if neighbors are also out.
- To report a power outage during business hours, call our office at 563-2146 or (800) 563-2146. After-hours, call our toll-free number at (866) 336-2492. Give the name under which the service is listed. If possible, give map location and account number from bill.
- Give us your phone number in case we need to call you back. State the problem, such as loss of power, partial power, dimming or flickering lights.
- Please be patient. Our crews will restore service as quickly as possible.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- District 1 — Claude Markstahler, president  
1123 E 700 N,  
North Manchester ..... (260) 774-8155
- District 2 — Robert Hippensteel  
2829 W. State Road 114, No. 2  
North Manchester ..... (260) 982-4707
- District 3 — James Keffaber  
2402 S 530 W, Wabash .... (260) 563-5436
- District 4 — Max R. Highley, vice president  
2047 E. Baumbauer Road  
Wabash ..... (260) 782-2341
- District 5 — D'Ann Stouffer  
4152 W 700 S, Wabash .... (260) 563-8500
- District 6 — Steven Byerly, assistant secretary  
2205 E 700 S, Wabash .... (765) 981-4549
- District 7 — Gene Bowman, secretary  
11930 S 700 W, Amboy .... (765) 395-7546

## CREDIT CARD BILL PAYMENT



Wabash County REMC offers our customers the option of paying their electric bills with Visa or MasterCard.

# co-opNews Information from your electric cooperative

## \$500 scholarships offered

Once again, Wabash County REMC is proud to offer a scholarship program to financially assist students of REMC members. There is no better way to support our community than to support and assist our young people in their pursuit of higher education. Since the start of the scholarship program, the number of students entering the drawing has increased. Last year almost 120 students entered their names in the drawing, and we are hoping even more will hear about the scholarship program and enter their names this year.

The selection of winning scholarships is from a random drawing at the annual meeting March 26. All of the students' names entering the drawing will be placed in a box, and during the meeting 10 names will be drawn. The winning students will each get a \$500 scholarship for next fall's classes at a college of their choice.

Qualifications for the applicant include:

- The student must attend college during the 2007 fall semester.
- Must be a full-time student.
- The student may attend any two-year, four-year, or technical school.
- The parents of the qualifying student must



be members of the REMC, and their residence must be served by the REMC.

- Students must submit their applications for the scholarship prior to March 1.
- Winners of prior years' scholarships are not eligible.
- Parents of students must be present at the annual meeting for the drawing.

Applications for the scholarship will be accepted until March 1. Names of the qualified applicants will be placed in a drawing box with the winners selected during the annual meeting on March 26. Since the qualifying student may be attending college, he/she need not be present for the drawing. However, the parents of the student applicants must be present at the annual meeting to accept the winning scholarship prize in the student's behalf.

Yes, I would like to apply for the REMC scholarship drawing at the annual meeting in March. I hereby confirm I will be attending college during the 2007 fall semester. Students must submit their applications for the scholarship prior to March 1.

Student applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

College name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Account number \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

## Need heat for your shop or garage?

If you have a shop or garage, or some other utility area that needs supplemental heat or simply needs a complete heating system, your REMC offers a heavy duty electric heater that is ideally suited. It can be used as a portable heater or mounted on the wall or ceiling.

In a well-insulated room this 5,600 watt Raywall heater will heat 500 to 600 square feet. It requires a separate 30-amp 240-volt circuit. The retail price is \$338. However, it's on sale for just \$220.

Come look at one in our lobby and if it fits your needs you can take one home. Let us show you a quiet, economical and safe way to heat your shop or garage.



# Be safe during ice storm recovery efforts

A heavy buildup of ice from winter storms can take a toll on trees and power lines, causing widespread outages. The damage could take a substantial amount of time to repair. Safe Electricity wants everyone to know how to stay safe and warm during the recovery effort.

“In a winter storm emergency, restoring power and heat to consumers is the highest priority, and electric utility crews work around the clock to restore service,” said Molly Hall, executive director of Safe Electricity.

If you must venture outside, be alert to the possibility of electrical hazards:

- Stay away from downed power lines and be alert to the possibility tree limbs or debris may hide an electrical hazard.
- Treat all downed or hanging power lines as if they are energized. Warn others to stay away and contact the electric utility.
- A power line does not need to be sparking or arcing to be energized, even if it’s sagging close to or on the ground.
- Other utility lines can also become energized by being in contact with an electrical line.
- Lines that appear to be “dead” can become energized as crews work to restore power, or sometimes from improper use of emergency generators.

Maintaining warmth is a priority during a winter emergency. Loss of body heat or hypothermia can be life threatening. To keep warm:

- Stay inside and dress in warm, layered clothing.
- Close off unneeded rooms.
- When using an alternative heat source, follow operating instructions, use fire safeguards and be sure to properly ventilate.
- Stuff towels and rags underneath doors to keep the heat in.
- Cover windows at night.
- Eat. Food provides the body with energy to for creating its own heat.
- Drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated.
- Move around to keep warm, but not enough to perspire.

“Never use a charcoal grill to cook or heat with inside the home,” Hall emphasized. “Charcoal grills give off deadly carbon monoxide gas. Grills should be used only outdoors.”

If you use a standby generator, make sure it has a transfer safety switch or the power is cut off at the breaker box before you operate it. This prevents electricity from traveling back through the power lines or what’s known as “back feed.” Back feed creates danger for anyone near lines, particularly crews working to restore power.

Remember, always keep the generator outside in a dry, protected area, away from windows or air intakes where deadly exhaust fumes can enter living spaces.

During an outage, Safe Electricity also recommends turning off electrical appliances and unplugging major equipment, including com-

puters and televisions. This will help protect equipment that could be damaged by electrical surges, and prevent circuit overloads when power is restored. Leave one light on to indicate that power has been restored, then turn on other appliances and equipment one at a time.

For more information and electrical safety tips, visit [www.SafeElectricity.org](http://www.SafeElectricity.org). Safe Electricity is a non-profit safety public awareness program sponsored by a coalition of electric utilities, educators and other organizations dedicated to promoting electrical safety.



Photo by Richard G. Biever

## Nominating committee meets

At each REMC annual meeting, directors are elected to govern the cooperative for their three-year term of office. The seven directors on the board are elected in staggering terms, so two are elected each of two years and three are elected the third year. Each director represents a specific district or territory.

The purpose of an annual meeting each year is to report to the membership on the financial condition of the cooperative and to elect directors to serve for the next three years.

This year, there are three districts up for election. District 2 includes the area north of Route 16 and west of Route 13. District 3 includes the area south of Route 16, west of Route 13 and north of the Wabash River. District 4 is south of Route 16, east of Route 13 and north of county road 250 S. Candidates for election must reside within the boundaries of their respective district.

The election process leading up to the March 26 annual meeting, starts with the selection of member names to be placed on the ballot. A committee of members (nominating committee) was appointed by the board of directors, and given the task of selecting or nominating director candidates from the membership within that district. This year the nominating committee included David Mills, Tom Bucher, Kraig Ahlfeld, Steve Rice, Ron Pries, Lisa Dale and Kevin Trimble. The nominating committee met Dec. 12 to select the names to be voted upon at the March 26 annual meeting.

From District 2, the nominating committee selected Robert Hippensteel. From District 3,

the candidates include James Keffaber and Steve Kirtlan. From District 4, the committee selected Max Highley and Joe Cook. The REMC bylaws also spell out the procedure for a member to submit a petition, listing his/her name as a director candidate.

During the annual meeting, the members will vote for the director candidate of their choice. The directors elected at the annual meeting will help guide the cooperative for many years in the future. We encourage you to exercise your right to vote, by attending the March 26 annual meeting.



The nominating committee meets to select director candidates



# FREE ... FREE ...FREE

## Water Heaters

• Wabash County REMC will provide a FREE 50-gallon electric water heater for your home when one or more of the following conditions are met:

1. Installed in new home construction
2. Replaces a gas water heater
3. Replaces an existing water heater that is leaking or non-repairable
4. Replaces an existing water heater that is over 20 years old, regardless of its working condition

- Note: Installation of a load management switch is required.
- For more details, call the office (563-2146 or 800-563-2146).



## Automatic bill payment plan available

When requested, Wabash County REMC can automatically draw money from your bank account to pay your monthly electric bill. Once you have signed up for the plan, you will receive a statement each month with "BANK DRAFT

DO NOT PAY" printed across it. The bank will automatically withdraw funds from your bank account approximately three days prior to the due date. To enroll, please contact our office.

### Tired of your slow Internet connection?

Your REMC now offers wireless high-speed Internet service to a major portion of Wabash County.

- Now serving in and several miles around Lagro, Wabash, North Manchester, Roann, Richvalley and Lafontaine areas
- High-speed wireless Internet service available to all homes which can receive a signal.
- No phone line needed!

**\$29.95/month and onetime \$99-\$159 installation charge.**

**Call Omnicity, Inc.  
at (877) 477-SURF**



## CO-OP NOTES

### Security light rental

Monthly rental fee	175-watt .....	\$ 8.25
	400-watt .....	\$13.00

Includes all electrical use and maintenance. Extra cost for additional pole or wire required to serve light.

### Heating incentives

New or replacement Geothermal heating installation .....	\$600
New or replacement all-electric heat pump installation .....	\$600

### FREE water heater

For residential applications, a water heater will be furnished at no cost, when certain qualifications are met.

For non-residential applications, water heaters may be purchased @\$250 plus tax.

### Water heater rebate

If a water heater is purchased elsewhere or a new home is equipped with a new water heater, a \$100 rebate applies.

### Meter base surge arrestor

Monthly Rental Fee ..... \$4.95  
Wabash County REMC offers a complete surge protection program. Contact us to arrange an in-home review of your surge protection needs.

### Come out of the shadows

**A security light rental  
brightens your night  
by adding safety  
and security  
to your home  
and property for only**

**\$8.25 per month**

*This service includes:*

- No-cost maintenance
- Free lamp replacement
- No cost for electricity used



**For other lighting options  
Call 563-2146  
or (800) 563-2146**

Geothermal heating and cooling systems capture heat from your well water to heat your home in the winter. It's a heating and cooling system with no flames, flues or emissions. Well water passing through the Geothermal system contains the earth's heat. In the winter the Geothermal system captures or extracts heat from the water to heat the home. Working in reverse in the summer, the Geothermal system transfers the house heat to the water.

Using the earth as your heating and cooling source, a Geothermal system will reduce your heating cost over 65 percent, reduce your cooling cost over 50 percent, and reduce your water heating cost over 50 percent.

Want to learn more? Call 563-2146 or (800) 563-2146 for a consultation and information packet about Geothermal heating.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



## Pump up the savings with electricity



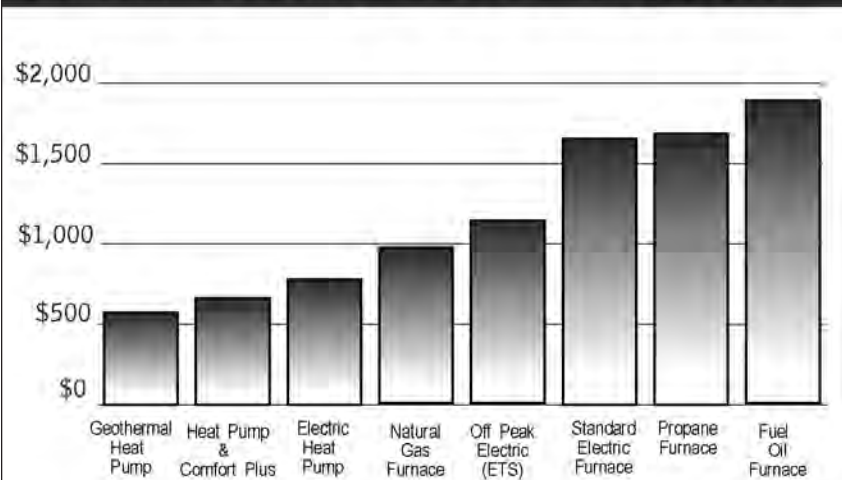
As winter heating bills arrive, it's time to point out there is a cheaper way to heat your home. A new high efficiency heat pump or geothermal heating system will dramatically reduce that heating cost.

The savings are dramatic. In fact, you can cut your heating costs by at least 50 percent. Regardless of the size of your home, a heat pump and geothermal heating system will heat your home for less than 50 percent of the present gas or oil heating system.

You can save even more when you take advantage of the rebates offered by Wabash County REMC to members who install a new all-electric heat pump or geothermal system.

Want to put cash back in your pocket each month? Call the Energy Advisor at your REMC to learn which electric system is best for your home.

### Annual Heating Cost Comparison



Analysis is based on an average home with a 50,000 BTUH heat loss and a 30,000 BTUH heat gain. Chart reflects a propane price of \$1.79 per gallon, natural gas price of \$1.10 per therm, and an electric rate of \$.072 per kilowatt-hour.