

Wabash County REMC

350 WEDCOR AVE.
WABASH, IN 46992

PHONE NUMBERS & HOURS

Local.....260-563-2146
Toll Free.....800-563-2146
Fax.....260-563-1523
E-mailmail@wabashremc.com
Call Before You Dig.....811
**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
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, Wabash260-563-5436

District 4 – Max R. Highley, assistant secretary
2047 E. Baumbauer Road
Wabash260-782-2341

District 5 – D’Ann Stouffer, vice president
4152 W 700 S, Wabash260-563-8500

District 6 – Steven Byerly, president
2205 E 700 S, Wabash765-981-4549

District 7 – Gene Bowman, secretary
11930 S 700 W, Amboy765-395-7546

CREDIT CARD BILL PAYMENT



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

CO-opNews

Information from your electric cooperative

Bills reflect weather patterns

Minimizing movement of conditioned air can cut costs

Electric bills vary with the seasons, driven by weather and consumer use patterns.

“Weather matters,” stressed Chad Reisenauer, key accounts/energy conservation coordinator at Basin Electric Power Cooperative, a generation and transmission cooperative headquartered in Bismarck, N.D. “When it’s cool outdoors, family members generally want the house warm. When it’s warm outside, air conditioners make living areas pleasant.”

How much weather affects your electric bills depends on many factors, including your home’s original construction materials, insulation, and air leaks. Personal comfort plays a role, too, as does the difference between the thermostat setting inside and temperatures outdoors.

“When a house stays at 68 F, but the outdoor temperature varies from -20 F in winter to more than 100 F on a muggy summer’s day, demand for heating and cooling can be significant,” Reisenauer noted. “Cooled air leaving a home essentially wastes the money spent to cool it. The same is true for air a homeowner has paid to warm.”

R-value offers a way of measuring insulation’s effectiveness. The higher the R-value, the more effective the insulation. For example, on a 28 F day, heat loss from a residence set at 68 F could hit 2,464 Btu per hour — even through an 80-foot-by-10-foot exterior wall packed with R-13 insulation. Reverse that situation on a scorching



Photo courtesy of Werner Ladder Co.

Keeping warm inside is critical during cold months. To manage utility bills, make sure your home has adequate insulation in the attic. Also consider installing energy-efficient windows, insulated draperies, weather stripping around doors and windows, and keeping fireplace flues closed.

property in summer and sunlight in winter.

Weather doesn’t have to play havoc with electricity bills. “There are a variety of tools, appliances, and resources available to solve all sorts of energy challenges,” Reisenauer stressed. “Some, such as new windows or a roof, require significant financing. But there are a lot of options that are inexpensive and simple to benefit from.”

Find more ways to save at www.TogetherWeSave.com.

For your information ...



Starting 1/1/12, you will notice a difference in your electric bill. Due to rising fuel costs and increasing regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), our wholesale power supplier, Wabash Valley Power Association (WVPA), is having to adjust its base price by 3.6 percent.

As a result, Wabash County REMC has made adjustments to your bill by setting the wholesale power cost adjustment back to zero and moving the current adjustment to the energy charge.

CO-OP NOTES

Security light rental

Monthly rental fee	175-watt.....	\$ 9.80
	400-watt.....	\$14.60
	400-watt flood.....	\$15.70

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

Heating incentives

For residential applications, an all-electric heating rebate incentive is available when certain qualifications are met. For more information, please contact the office at 260-563-2146 or toll free at 800-563-2146.

Electric water heater rebate

For residential applications, a water heater rebate is available — when certain conditions are met. For more information, please contact our office at 260-563-2146 or 800-563-2146.

Clothes washer rebate

For residential applications, an ENERGY STAR® clothes washer rebate is available, when certain qualifications are met. For more information, please contact our office at 260-563-2146 or 800-563-2146.

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.



**Forget to
mail in your
payment?**

**Pay your bill
online!**

Go to

**www.wabashremc.com
to sign up for e-bill and
avoid late fees.**



Twenty \$500 scholarships available

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 scholarship drawing has increased. Last year, more than 120 students entered their names in the drawing, and we are hoping even more will enter this year.

The selection of scholarship winners takes place during a random drawing at our annual meeting on March 30. All of the students' names entering the drawing will be placed in a box and, during the meeting, 20 names will be drawn. Each winning student will get a \$500 scholarship for next fall's classes at a college of his/her choice.

Qualifications include:

- The student must attend college during the 2012 fall semester.
- The student may attend any two-year, four-year, or technical school.
- The parent/guardian of the qualifying student **must** have his/her primary residence on REMC lines and this **must** be the student's primary residence as well.
- Students must submit their applications for the scholarship prior to March 1.
- Winners of prior years' scholarships are not eligible.

Since the qualifying student may be attending college, he/she need not be present for the drawing. However, the parents/guardians of the student applicants **must be present** at the annual meeting to accept the winning scholarship prize on the student's behalf.

Yes, I would like to apply for the REMC scholarship drawing at the annual meeting on March 30. I hereby confirm I will be attending college during the 2012 fall semester.

Student Applicant: _____

College Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Representative's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____

Account Number: _____

Phone Number: _____

Mail to: Wabash County REMC, 350 Wedcor Ave., Wabash, IN 46992.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Switch to energy-saving halogen incandescent lightbulbs to cut lighting energy use by 25 percent. These bulbs last three times longer than traditional incandescent bulbs and can easily be dimmed. Want to save more? Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and light-emitting diodes (LEDs) cut lighting energy use by at least 75 percent. Learn more at energysavers.gov.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Surviving a winter storm

Snow and ice storms are an inevitable part of the winter season. However, they can lead to downed power lines and outages. Remember the following tips to stay safe and warm should you find yourself in the dark after a severe winter event:

Before the power goes out:

- Make sure you have flashlights with good batteries available.
- Keep a battery-operated radio available so you can listen for weather and outage updates from your local radio station.
- Make sure Wabash County REMC has a current phone number to reach you in case we need to contact you about your outage.
- Make sure you have an action plan for your household in the case power outage will be an extended outage lasting more than a day or two.
- Make sure you have the Wabash County REMC phone numbers easily available to report your outage, do not assume your neighbor has already reported it.

After the power goes out:

- Never touch a fallen power line. Assume all wires on the ground are electrically charged. Call your electric co-op at 260-563-2146 or after hours at 866-336-2492 to report it immediately. Avoid contact with overhead lines during cleanup and other activities.
- In the event of an outage, an alternate heating source – such as a fireplace, propane space heater, or wood stove – may be used. Extreme caution should be taken.
- Plan to stay in an area of the home where the alternate heat source is located.
- Keep your radio tuned to the local radio stations for updates from Wabash County REMC. If you have Internet access, check our website or Facebook page.
- Fuel- and wood-burning heating sources should be vented. Be sure to follow manufacturer's directions.
- Make sure carbon monoxide detectors and smoke detectors are working properly.







If you come across a downed power pole or line, assume that it is energized. Call Wabash County REMC and report the downed line or pole immediately.

- Do not use a gas-powered oven for heating. A gas oven may go out or burn inefficiently, leading to carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Do not use a gas or charcoal grill inside the home. Do not use charcoal briquettes in the fire place.
- If you use a portable generator to power a heating source, be sure the generator is located outside your house for proper ventilation. Do not use a generator in an attached garage. Follow manufacturer's directions for operating the generator.
- Take special care not to overload a generator. Use appropriately sized extension cords to carry the electric load. Make sure the cords have a grounded, three-pronged plug and are in good condition.
- Never run cords under rugs or carpets.
- Never connect generators to power lines. The reverse flow of electricity can electrocute an unsuspecting utility worker.

Wabash County REMC will work as quickly as possible to safely restore the power. Stay tuned to the local media for all updates regarding any extended outages. Wabash County REMC utilizes 95.9 KISS FM, 105.9 The Bash, local papers and our Facebook page for extended outage updates.

Want to stay up-to-date on all the Wabash County REMC news? Like us on Facebook!

How Electric Co-ops Energized Rural America

- 1844** Cooperative principles established in Rochdale, England.
- 1909** Country Life Commission recommends creation of electric cooperatives to power rural areas.
- 1935** President Franklin D. Roosevelt creates federal Rural Electrification Administration (REA) by executive order. 
- 1936** 2,000 miles of electric lines under construction by electric co-ops.
- 1937** 53,000 total miles of co-op lines constructed.
- 1940** 180,000 miles of rural lines built with another 80,000 under way.
- 1941** One million farms have power.
- 1942** National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) formed to represent co-op interests nationally.
- 1949** Roughly 184,000 miles of rural line constructed this year alone.
- 1950** Willie Wiredhand, a mascot for electric co-ops, debuts; named after the hired hand electricity gave to farmers. 
- 1962** Electric co-ops serve 5 million Americans; NRECA joins U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to bring electricity to developing nations.
- 1969** Apollo 11 mission; 500 million people around the world tune in to watch astronaut Neil Armstrong walk on the Moon. 
- 1994** REA renamed Rural Utilities Service.
- 1998** Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives debut, providing a co-op "brand ID" and marketing options. 
- 2009** NRECA/USAID partnership connects more than 100 million people to electricity in 42 nations.
- 2010** 75 years after creation of REA, 900-plus co-ops in 47 states serve 17 million homes and businesses.

Source: National Rural Electric Cooperative Association



**Congratulations to the
November 2011
\$10 off your
electric bill winner!**

**Russell Krom
Roann, Ind.**



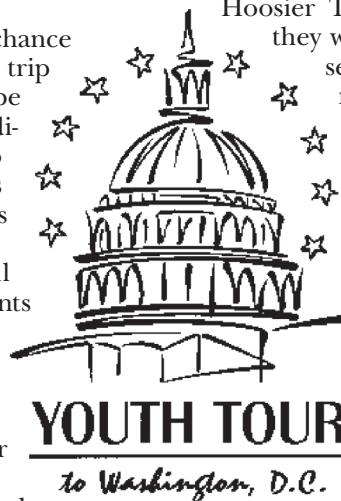
Join Indiana youth in Washington, D.C.!

High school juniors have a chance to join other Indiana youth on a trip of a lifetime. Applications will be available in January for the Indiana's Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. The trip begins on June 13 in Indianapolis and ends on June 21.

The Indiana delegation will include approximately 75 students from throughout the state, each selected by his/her local cooperative. In 2011, over 1,550 students from around the country were in Washington for the conference.

"Wabash County REMC is pleased to be able to provide this opportunity for local students," said CEO Rob Pearson. "It's a great trip and a wonderful chance to see the sights, make new friends and learn how everyone, even young people, can be a leader and make a difference in the world."

The Indiana delegation will meet in Indianapolis on Wednesday, June 13, to get acquainted and hear from Indiana legislative leaders during a kick-off dinner featuring Sen. Dan Coats and Indiana Speaker of the House Brian Bosma. Before heading east, students will visit the



Hoosier Training Center in Franklin where they will participate in hands-on learning sessions simulating an electric line-man's job, observe a pole-top rescue, learn about electric safety during a live wire demonstration presented by Kankakee Valley REMC, and much more.

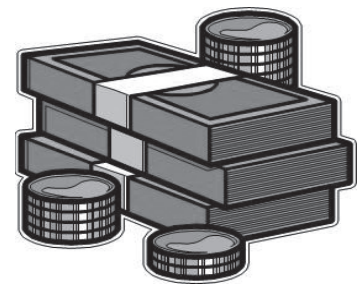
New for this year, students and chaperones will make a stop at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, Pa., on their way to Gettysburg where they will visit the battlefield and museum. The caravan will arrive in Washington, D.C., on Saturday afternoon to begin a full schedule of sightseeing, visits to national memorials—including the new Martin Luther King, Jr.

Memorial — a collection of museums, such as the Newseum and the National Archives, plus a night cruise on the Potomac River and a trip back in history at Medieval Times®. Students will also have an opportunity to compete for a \$1,000 scholarship and the Youth Leadership Council.

For more information about the Indiana's Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., or to receive an application, contact Rachel Cruz at 800-563-2146 or visit our website at www.wabashremc.com.

Take \$10 off your electric bill!

- By simply answering the following three questions and returning this coupon with an on-time, paid-in-full bill, you could win \$10 off your electric bill! All of the answers can be found in this month's *Electric Consumer*.
- When you return the coupon, it will be put into a monthly drawing to win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.
- If you are a member who pays by e-bill or bank draft, a copy of the coupon can be found on www.wabashremc.com. If you fill the coupon out online, your drawing entry will be e-mailed to Wabash County REMC.
- The monthly drawing will be held the first day of every month. All entries must be received by the last day of the preceding month. Good luck!



Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

1. How do you measure the effectiveness of insulation? _____

2. How many scholarships will Wabash County REMC be awarding? _____

3. How can you stay up-to-date on Wabash County REMC news? _____

**Return the completed entry to:
Wabash County REMC
350 Wedcor Ave.
Wabash, IN 46992**

Wabash County REMC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative