## co-op news



### www.dmremc.com

CONTACT US Toll Free: 800-762-7362

OFFICE HOURS 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday – Friday

STREET ADDRESS 12628 E 75 N, Loogootee, IN 47553

MAILING ADDRESS P.O. Box 430, Loogootee, IN 47553

#### SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS

To report an outage or emergency, call 812-295-4200 or 800-762-7362 day or night.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August Bauer, President Brandt Schuckman, Vice President Travis Summers, Secretary John Edwards, Treasurer Amy Burris Terry Chapman Josh Dove

#### MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m., Daviess-Martin County REMC office

#### **BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS**

SmartHub — online bill payment system Budget billing Auto bank draft

> Drive-through window Night depository

Credit card payment (VISA, Discover and MasterCard accepted) Pay-by-phone: 1-888-222-0624

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

"Our mission is to provide safe, reliable electricity and quality services for our members at a reasonable cost."

<sub>Caw</sub>ing Tip

### MAXIMIZE YOUR HEATING System's performance

Inspect, clean or replace air filters once a month or as needed to reduce energy costs and prevent potential damage to your system. Make sure radiators, baseboard heaters and warm-air registers aren't blocked so air can flow freely. — U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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# Are portable space heaters efficient for your home?



Small space heaters are meant to do exactly as their name says: heat a small space. But unfortunately, many people use portable space heaters to heat their entire home, which can really take

a toll on your energy bills. The truth is, whether you should use space heaters really depends on your home's efficiency and energy needs.

If you're using a space heater to compensate for problems in your home, like inadequate insulation, drafty windows and exterior doors, or an inefficient heating system, space heaters are not a practical solution. Your best bet is to improve the overall efficiency of your home. If you're on a tight budget, caulking and weather stripping around windows and exterior doors is a low-cost, easy way to save energy. Depending on the size of your home, adding insulation can be a great next step. Loose fill insulation typically costs \$1 to \$1.50 per square foot. Taking these proactive energy-saving measures rather than relying on space heaters for supplemental warmth can reduce your heating and cooling bills for years to come.

Perhaps your home is energy efficient but you're cold-natured and want a specific room to be cozier than the rest. In this case, a space heater may work for your needs. A good comparison is ceiling fans; we use ceiling fans in the summer to cool people, not rooms. A space heater can be used in a similar way during winter months. Only use a space heater in small spaces that you're occupying and, if possible, try to shut off other rooms to contain the warmth provided by the space heater. If you decide to use a space heater to heat a small area in your home, make sure the heater is properly sized for the space; most heaters include a general sizing table.

A word about safety: the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates more than 25,000 residential fires are associated with the use of space heaters every year, resulting in more than 300 deaths. If you must use a space heater, purchase a newer model that includes the most current safety features and make sure it carries the Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) label. Choose a thermostatically controlled heater to avoid energy waste and overheating, and place the heater on a level surface away from foot traffic when in use. Always keep children and pets away from space heaters.

Consider alternative ways to stay warm like extra layers of clothing or ULapproved electric blankets. If you have hardwood or tile floors, lay down area rugs to provide additional insulation (and appeal!) and maintain warmth.

We know it's cold out there, but remember in addition to safety concerns, space heaters can greatly increase your energy bills if used improperly.

If you're looking for alternative ways to save energy and increase comfort in your home, contact Daviess-Martin County REMC at 800-762-7362 or www.dmremc. com. We're here to help you manage your energy use.

## JANE BAHLER-HURT

**General Manager** 

Space heaters are energy hogs, and older models can be extremely dangerous. This winter, ditch the space heater and try alternative solutions to stay cozy.

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# ANNUAL MEETING & DIRECTOR NOMINATION PROCESS

Mark your calendar for Monday, April 4, for the Daviess-Martin County REMC Annual Meeting! Plans are being made to hold the meeting at the North Daviess High School gymnasium. Registration will run from 5:30 p.m. until the start of the 7 p.m. business meeting. Meeting arrangements may need to be altered depending on the status of Covid. Any necessary changes will be announced as soon as possible.

Business meeting action items will include:

- The election of two directors for the cooperative to serve terms of three years. Districts up for election include District 1 (Elmore, Madison, Steele and Bogard townships in Daviess County) and District 4 (Harrison and Reeve townships in Daviess County).
- Approval of reports for the previous fiscal year.
- Transacting such other business as may come before the meeting.

Incumbent directors whose terms expire but also plan to seek a seat on the board of directors include:

- District 1: Joshua Dove
- District 4: Terry Chapman

In accordance with DMREMC bylaws, nominations for members to become a director on the REMC board shall be made by petition. Valid nominating petitions must be submitted to the REMC no later than Feb. 18. Interested parties should contact the REMC office during normal business hours Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., for petition details and to request an informational packet.

In lieu of a petition, incumbent board members may file a written notice at the office of the cooperative not less than 45 days before the annual meeting of the members of the cooperative stating his or her intention to seek a seat on the board of directors.

The 2022 director election will be administered through Survey Ballot Systems (SBS). Every REMC member will receive a voting packet through the mail from SBS. REMC members can complete the ballot, and mail it to SBS. This may need to be tweaked with added dates of when these packets are mailed and when they need to be returned. Or, REMC members can vote electronically. Instructions on voting options will be provided in the voting packet by SBS. SBS has security in place to prevent more than one vote per member.

The official notice of the annual meeting will be provided in the mailing from Survey Ballot Systems along with director candidate information.



# Co-op celebrates a safety accomplishment

Daviess-Martin County REMC recently earned a Certificate of Safety Achievement through the Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program (RESAP). RESAP is administered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. It is a peer-review safety and loss control evaluation of electric utilities. It is an organized analysis of a system's safety and loss control program that measures overall effectiveness.

# **APPLY FOR** YOUTH PROGRAMS

# CAMP KILOWATT

A fun, powerful and unique camp experience designed for students entering

seventh grade in 2022. Horseback riding, canoeing, zip lining, trying out archery, swimming, learning about electrical safety and bucket truck rides.

APPLY: Apply by Feb. 23 at CampKilowatt.org.

# INDIANA YOUTH TOUR

Daviess-Martin County REMC wants to send you on a weeklong, all-inclusive trip of a lifetime to Washington, D.C. Monuments, museums, legislators, friends, history. Must be a high school junior to apply.

JUNE 16-23

JUNE

8-11

APPLY: Apply by Feb. 23 at IndianaYouthTour.org.

# CALENDAR ART CONTEST

Enter your best artwork and fill the pages of the 2023 Cooperative Calendar of Student Art. Indiana public, private or home school students in kindergarten through 12th grade during the 2021-22 school year are eligible to enter the contest. The deadline for entries is March 18.

LEARN MORE ON PAGE 33.

# **YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!**

In each magazine issue, Daviess-Martin County REMC asks our readers three questions. The answers can be found in the articles of Indiana Connection. Clip the coupon below along the dotted line. Fill it out and return it to our office with your monthly payment before the 20th of the month. (Delinquent members are not eligible.)

Each month, a winner will be drawn from the entries submitted. Make sure you bring or mail in your most recent coupon, as the coupons are dated monthly. Members with automatic payment accounts will be entered in the contest as well. Copies will not be accepted, and coupons are not available at the office! Winners will be notified and their names will be published in the following monthly issue of Indiana Connection.

NOVEMBER WINNER: Virginia L. Arvin, Loogootee

For bills dated the 5th of the month and paid by the 20th.

- 1. Camp is a fun experience for students entering seventh grade this fall.
- 2. Don't use heaters to compensate for inadequate insulation or drafty windows.
- 3. Your electric co-op offers rebates for water heaters, geothermal pumps, air source or dual fuel heat pumps and more.

### NAME:

### ADDRESS:

### ACCOUNT NO.:

PHONE NO.:

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### **About the Program**

Your electric cooperative is offering a 2022 residential rebate for qualifying equipment (water heaters, geothermal heat pumps and air source, ductless minisplit or dual fuel heat pumps). To qualify, you must occupy the home where the equipment is installed year-round (12 months) and unit must heat and cool the whole home, unless otherwise stated.

Please provide the following documents to your electric cooperative to apply for possible rebates\*:

- AHRI (Air conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute) certificate for validation of all SEER ratings. (This can be obtained from the installing heating and cooling contractor.)
- 2022 Residential Rebate Application
- Proof of purchase (invoice or receipt)

### Must apply by Dec. 15, 2022



12628 E 75 N PO Box 430 Loogootee, IN 47553 812.295.4200

\* Your electric cooperative reserves the right to approve, deny or select the appropriate incentive. Prior approval is required for electric resistance incentives.



Water Heater (Heat Pump or Hybrid) New construction or replacing gas or electric



### **Geothermal Heat Pump**

New construction or replacing electric resistance heat, gas, heat pump or geothermal



### Air Source or Dual Fuel Heat Pumps

Heat pump replacing gas, existing A/C or heat pump, new construction or replacing 100% electric resistance heat



### **Mini-Split Heat Pump**

Single room or whole home installations

# HVAC Tune-Up

Air source and geothermal heat pumps and central air conditioning systems

