



Daviess-Martin County

REMC

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

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

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, April 30, 7 p.m.
Daviess-Martin County REMC office

BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS

SmartHub — online bill payment system
Budget billing
Auto bank draft
Drive-thru 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."



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/
daviessmartincountyremc

WHATEVER IT TAKES:

Powering life from a lineworker's perspective

By Jordan Kaiser

Lineworkers are ranked as one of the 10 most dangerous jobs in the country. The lineworkers at Daviess-Martin County REMC work rain or shine, often in challenging conditions, to ensure you have reliable electricity. Throughout April, we will celebrate our lineworkers and all they do. The following column was written by Jordan Kaiser, one of our many dedicated lineworkers.

My name is Jordan Kaiser, and I'm one of 10 lineworkers at Daviess-Martin County REMC who work every day in all weather conditions to make sure our community has the power to live their lives. I love my job. It's hard work, but it's very rewarding. I hope this will give you a better look into what we face and, more importantly, why we do it.

THE DANGER

Many people know linework is dangerous because we work near high-voltage electricity. Move just the wrong way or lose focus for a split second, and it could be deadly. You have to be aware of your surroundings and the safety of the person next to you. We often work on energized power lines, and you can't always tell they are energized by just looking at them. You're working with an element of danger that requires concentration, and there is no margin for error. The environment compounds the pressure, because when you need power most is usually when the weather is worst. I'm often working in storms with rain,



wind, extreme heat and cold, in the dark, or on the side of the road next to fast-moving traffic. Yes, it's dangerous, but that's what we're trained to do.

Many may not realize it, but we undergo years of training before we can officially be called a lineworker. We typically start as a groundperson, helping crews with tools and keeping job sites safe, then we transition to apprentice status, which typically spans four years. After an apprenticeship, with more than 7,000 hours of training under our belts, we transition to journeyman lineworker status — that's when we're considered officially trained in our field.

But the education is ongoing. Lineworkers continuously receive training to stay mindful of safety requirements and up-to-date on the latest equipment and procedures.

THE PHYSICAL DEMAND

The daily expectations of a lineworker are physically demanding, but you won't hear any of us complain about that. I know what I signed up for — loading heavy materials, climbing poles and in and out of buckets. We often go places the trucks can't, so I might be hiking through the woods loaded with 40 pounds of personal protective equipment. But that's the job. Most of us are just glad to be outside.

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Don't forget to pick up your copy of the 2024 Indiana Festival Guide at the DMREMC office!

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THE SACRIFICES

There are some sacrifices to being a lineworker. I'm often first on the scene of an emergency, seeing devastating things like car accidents, structure fires, and damage from severe storms. You don't know what type of situation you will face or when you will face it. We get calls all hours and in the middle of the night. I've missed a lot of family dinners and events, and I know there will be more with my newborn son, but my family is very supportive, and it pays off in the end. We make sure nothing is standing in the way of helping our friends and neighbors get back to normal life.

IT'S WORTH IT

One thing that makes this job worthwhile is the camaraderie. My co-op is my second family, and the line crews are a brotherhood. In this work, you have to depend on the person beside you in life-or-death circumstances. It's a culture of trust, teamwork, and service. It's all about keeping the teammate beside you safe and the lights on for everybody else.

I have a lot of pride in my work. Even when it's cold and wet, I know I'm working to keep people warm. There's a lot of satisfaction in hearing someone yell "thank you" from the window after the lights come back on or seeing people flipping the light switches on their porches after an outage is restored. No matter how tired I am or how long I've been working, that feeling always makes it worth it.

Daviess-Martin County REMC and its employees are members of this community. We live in the same neighborhoods. We shop at the same stores. Our kids go to the same schools. If your lights are off, there is a good chance ours are off, too. So, you can trust that we are doing our best to get the lights back on as quickly and safely as possible — so you can get back to everyday life.



Pictured left to right: John Heffernan, Mike Hosford, Shannon Dalton, Daniel Bertles, Erica Worland, Dennis Wilson, and Ryan Grammer

Cooperative Power Management Program

Grain Processing Corporation (GPC), part of the KENT® Corporation family of companies, is joining the Cooperative Power Management Program as a Load Modifying Resource (LMR). This new program, established by Hoosier Energy and its member cooperatives, including Daviess-Martin County REMC, aims to reduce electrical energy demand during grid emergencies.

In the case of a grid emergency, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) deploys LMRs as a last measure before firm load shedding. Under the program, participants will reduce their load to a predetermined level through load reduction, load shifting, or on-site generation.

To qualify, an LMR must reduce electrical load demand for four consecutive hours when called upon by MISO. Member

consumers enrolled in the program receive incentives based on available load reduction during MISO peak periods, and this must be verified with historical data.

GPC is the largest Daviess-Martin County REMC member. GPC's primary products include high-purity alcohols, corn starches, maltodextrins, and corn syrup solids. GPC sells to customers that use GPC ingredients for beverage alcohol, food products, nutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals, personal care, and industrial starch applications. By joining the Cooperative Power Management Program, GPC is helping ensure the reliability of the electric grid and supporting the local communities in which it operates. These efforts contribute to a more stable power grid, mitigating the risk of rolling blackouts.

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARY

We wanted to take the time to thank the following employee for their time at DMREMC. They are key to providing you with the best service possible.

LUKE EMBERTON

APRIL 11
13 YEARS



Welcome,
Logan!

Daviess-Martin County REMC is excited to welcome Logan Wheelock as a maintenance technician!

Wheelock joins us from Bloomfield, Indiana. He enjoys spending time with his family, working on the farm, caring for cattle, and repairing and upkeeping equipment. He was drawn to DMREMC because of the small-town family feeling that DMREMC radiates.



UPDATE YOUR



CONTACT INFORMATION

Have you recently changed your phone number, email address, or mailing address?

In certain situations, we may need to contact you regarding a planned outage or other events in your area. In order to do that, we need to have your current contact information. Call the office at 812-295-4200 or visit our website under "My Account" to update your information.

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN \$50!

In each issue of the magazine, 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 a subsequent issue of Indiana Connection.

JANUARY WINNER:

Terry Hasler from Loogootee

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

1. An apprentice transitions to a journeyman lineworker status after _____ hours of training.
2. If I have changed my contact information, I can use the DMREMC website under "_____" to update my information.
3. The Annual Meeting will be livestreamed on the Daviess-Martin County REMC _____ page at 6:30 on April 11.

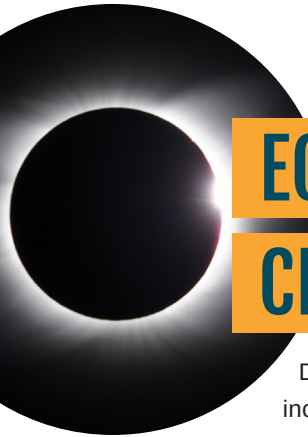
NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

ACCOUNT NO.: _____

PHONE NO.: _____

☐ I would like to round my monthly bill up to the next whole dollar for Operation Round Up.



ECLIPSE CLOSING

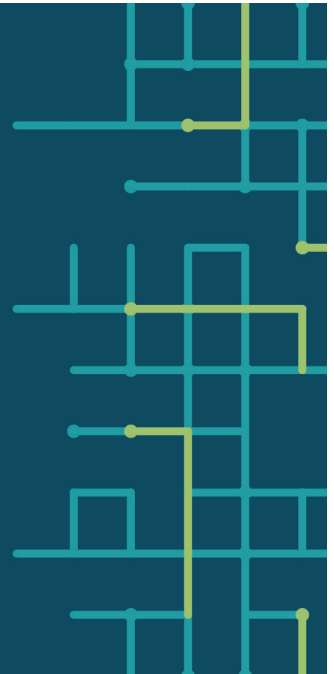
Due to the expected increase in traffic in our area, the Daviess-Martin County REMC office will be closed on Monday, April 8, for the Solar Eclipse.

If you experience an outage during this time, please report through SmartHub or by calling 800-762-7362.

Annual Meeting Reminder

The Daviess-Martin County REMC virtual Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be livestreamed on the Daviess-Martin County REMC Facebook page for members to view.

Any questions before, during, or after the meeting can be submitted to contact@dmremc.com.



GIVE CREWS LOTS OF ROOM IT'S THE LAW



**NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK IS APRIL 15-19.
BE MINDFUL OF LINEWORKERS ON THE JOB.**

Work zones also include utility crews who work along the roadsides to build, repair and maintain the highway of electric power lines.

When motorists see the orange diamond-shaped work zone warning signs and vehicles with flashing amber lights, **they should slow down and prepare for the zone ahead.**

Indiana law requires motorists to approach cautiously and change lanes away from the emergency vehicles if they can do so safely. If not, they should reduce their speed to 10 mph under the posted speed limit and proceed with caution.