



[www.dmremc.com](http://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*

Travis Summers, *Secretary*

John Edwards, *Treasurer*

Amy Burriss

Terry Chapman

Josh Dove

Brandt Schuckman

**MONTHLY MEETING**

Tuesday, May 25, 7 p.m.,

Daviss-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."



**DON'T PLACE LAMPS AND TELEVISIONS NEAR THERMOSTATS**

The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause your air conditioner to run longer than necessary.

— U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK**

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# Tree trimming improves service for all



One of the things I love best about our community is the natural beauty that surrounds us. We are fortunate to have many trees that offer beauty,

shade and a habitat for all sorts of birds and other wildlife. We know that you appreciate our community for many of the same reasons.

At Daviss-Martin County REMC, we strive to balance maintaining beautiful surroundings and ensuring a reliable power supply by keeping power lines clear in rights-of-way (ROW).

While we recognize and appreciate the beauty of trees, there are three main benefits to tree trimming in ROW areas. A right-of-way is the land we use to construct, maintain, replace or repair underground and overhead power lines. Rights-of-way enable the co-op to provide clearance from trees and other obstructions that could hinder the power line installation, maintenance or operation. ROW areas are typically on public lands or located near a business or home. Regardless, Daviss-Martin County REMC must be able to maintain the power lines above and below the ROW. Proactive vegetation management benefits co-op members in three tangible ways.

## SAFETY

First and foremost, we care about our members and put their safety and

that of our lineworkers above all else. Overgrown vegetation and trees pose a risk to power lines. Electricity can arc, or jump, from a power line to a nearby conductor like a tree. For information about trimming responsibilities, please refer to the infographic "Who Owns What?" on the next page.

## RELIABILITY

Of course, one of the biggest benefits of a smart vegetation management program is reliability. Strategic tree trimming reduces the frequency of downed lines causing power outages. Proactive trimming and pruning keep lines clear to promote reliability.

## AFFORDABILITY

As you know, Daviss-Martin County REMC is a not-for-profit cooperative, and that means we strive to keep our costs in check in order to keep our rates affordable. If trees grow too close to power lines, the potential for expensive repairs also increases. Effective tree trimming and other vegetation management efforts keep costs down for everyone.

Our community is a special place. We appreciate the beauty trees offer, but we also know our community depends on us to provide reliable energy. Through vegetation management, we are better able to keep the power lines clear, prepare for future weather events and secure the reliability of the grid.

**JANE BAHLER-HURT**  
General Manager

# co-op news

## 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.

**JANUARY WINNER:** Ron and Pat Daugherty, Loogootee

**FEBRUARY WINNER:** Gary Hickman, Shoals

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

- Members who voted in the director election received a \$ \_\_\_\_\_ electric bill credit.
- Daviess-Martin County REMC strives to ensure a reliable power supply by keeping power lines clear in \_\_\_\_\_-of-\_\_\_\_\_.
- Operation Round Up awarded \_\_\_\_\_ local grants this quarter.

**NAME:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOUNT NO.:**

\_\_\_\_\_

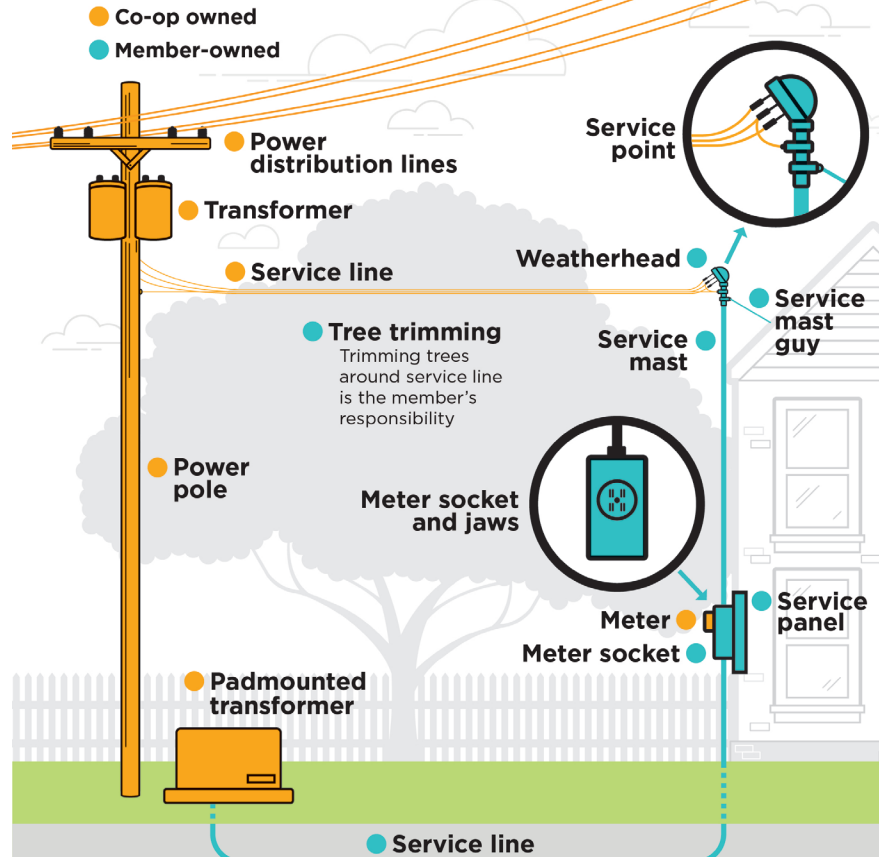
**PHONE NO.:**

\_\_\_\_\_

# Who Owns What?

## Electric Co-op Owned Equipment vs Member-Owned Equipment

This graphic depicts equipment owned by the co-op (in gold) and the member (in blue). If a storm damages any equipment owned by the co-op, we are responsible for repairs. If a storm damages any member-owned equipment, the member is responsible for repairs. Members should hire a licensed electrician when making any repairs to member-owned equipment.



*Note: This graphic depicts overhead and underground service. Please be aware of which type of service you receive at your home or business.*

## OUR LOBBY IS NOW OPEN.





**THE REMC BOARD:** From left, August Bauer (District 6), John Edwards (District 7), Josh Dove (District 1), Travis Summers (District 5), Brandt Schuckman (District 3), Terry Chapman (District 4) and Amy Burris (District 2).

# ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

The 2021 Daviess–Martin County REMC Annual Meeting on April 8 looked much different than past annual meetings. We missed seeing our REMC members as they were not allowed to attend the meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A new method for members to vote for directors was introduced which allowed either a mail-in or electronic voting option. Survey & Ballot Systems (SBS) administered the voting process.

There was a total of 1,793 voting members who each received a \$10 electric bill credit. Voting members could receive a small gift from the cooperative by presenting the top part of their ballot and visiting the REMC drive-through during regular business hours to claim the gift. In addition, there were drawings held each week during the director election from March 15 to April 2 for a number of electric bill credits. All members whose votes had been received by the time of each drawing were included in the weekly drawing.

**\$50 BILL CREDIT WINNERS:**

Valerie A. Messmann, Casey A. Armes, Troy D. Stuart, Ryan J. Knepp, Carl W.

Clark, Frederick T. Pavey, Matthew L. Waggoner, Dorothy L. Tedrow, Mark Dillon and Keith P. Greenwell

**\$75 BILL CREDIT WINNERS:**

Linda S. Parsons, Jonathon D. Gingerich, Ryan J. Armes, Randolph L. Dumond, Michael MSR Wininger, Scott Doane, Nicole M. Day, Terry L. Raber, Troy J. Cannon and James Goldsberry

**\$100 BILL CREDIT WINNERS:**

Thomas W. Dillon, Kenneth Lannan, Ryan E. Wehmeier, Kevin L. Pride and Laura Albertson

**\$250 BILL CREDIT WINNER:**

Tony L. Cook

The annual meeting – which was attended by only the board of directors, director candidates, co-op attorney and REMC staff – began at 7 p.m. at the headquarters facility. The business meeting was led by Board President August Bauer. Board Secretary Travis Summers gave the secretary’s report.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2019, annual meeting.

The legal report and director nomination process was given by Chris Goffinett, cooperative attorney. Goffinett reported the director seats up for re-election included Districts 2, 5 and 7. Incumbents for those Districts included Dean Harrawood, District 2 (Van Buren and Barr townships in Daviess County); Travis Summers, District 5 (Perry and Center townships in Martin County); and John Edwards, District 7 (Marion and Spice Valley townships in Lawrence County). The incumbents each timely filed a written notice at the office of the corporation stating their intention to seek a seat on the board of directors. In addition, three nominations were received by petition as follows: one for District 2 from Amy Burris; one for District 5 from Joshua Bauer; and one for District 7 from Joe Haworth. Director election results announced by Goffinett were as follows:

- **DISTRICT 2:** Amy Burris
- **DISTRICT 5:** Travis Summers
- **DISTRICT 7:** John Edwards



# Supporting our community

## 2021 FIRST QUARTER OPERATION ROUND UP GRANTS

**North Daviess Class of 2022 Post Prom** received a \$500 grant to help with the expenses of providing an evening of fun in a safe environment following prom.

Pictured from left: Jackie McGlin, REMC communications specialist; Ann Gainey, Post Prom committee member; Amy Remsburg, Post Prom president; and Theresa Showalter, REMC employee and Operation Round Up board member.



**Shoals Public Library** received a \$2,000 grant to help with the purchase and installation of an HRV air exchange system. This exchange would create continuous fresh air resulting in a more comfortable and healthier atmosphere for library staff and patrons.

Pictured from left: Mary E. Holt, library employee; Sylvia Albaugh, library director; Jackie McGlin, REMC communications specialist; and Theresa Showalter, REMC employee and Operation Round Up board member.



**Mustering Elm Park** received a \$500 grant to help with expenses to install a water system to feed a sink in the shelter house and toilets in the restrooms.

Pictured from left: Sarah Sexton, park treasurer, and Theresa Showalter, REMC employee and Operation Round Up board member.



## REALIGNING OUR RATES TO MEET YOUR NEEDS

Daviess-Martin County REMC is dedicated to providing electric services and energy-saving programs to our members in a safe, reliable and economic manner. The board of directors understands that this is a difficult time for our members. Unfortunately, we are not immune to market forces, economic uncertainty and cost increases. A recent study shows that our current customer charge does not sufficiently cover the fixed costs of providing the minimum amount of equipment necessary for a customer to access the electric grid.

As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, we structure our rates to reflect the costs of providing electric service to you – our members. The customer charge enables us to purchase and maintain our meters, poles, lines, transformers, and vegetation management. Everyone shares the costs of our facilities because the system operates as a whole and providing reliable service to everyone is what a cooperative is all about.

As of this month, the rate change will be approximately 5.5% and will be reflected on the June billing. This change will adequately and fairly recover costs through the correct components of your monthly bill including the customer charge, energy use (kWh) charge, and demand (kW) charge. This new rate design change will allow us to continue providing our members with quality, reliable and safe electric service, without harming the financial health of the cooperative. We are proud to provide you quality services. Thank you for being a valued member of Daviess-Martin County REMC.