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

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

MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, Feb. 26, 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

- SAVINGS TIP -

Adding area rugs can add warmth to any room and keep your feet cozy on cold days. Choose rugs made from wool or other natural fibers and plush or high-pile textures for the most insulation, and place them in areas where you need additional warmth, like the foot of a bed.

- ENERGY.GOV

How extreme winter * * * weather *impacts reliability*

When outdoor temperatures drop, our electricity use increases. That's because we're doing more activities inside, and our heating systems are running more often to counteract colder outdoor temperatures. Factor in that we all tend to use electricity at the same times — in the morning and early evenings — and that equals a lot of strain on our electric grid.

At Daviess-Martin County REMC, we work closely with our local generation and transmission (G&T) cooperative in resource and infrastructure planning to ensure you have the power you need whenever you flip a switch. Still, the electric grid is much larger than your local co-op and G&T.

In winter, when even more electricity is being used simultaneously across the country, electricity demand can exceed supply, especially if an unexpected event like a sudden snow or ice storm or equipment malfunction occurs. If this happens, which is rare, the grid operator for our region of the country may call for rolling power outages to relieve pressure on the grid, and Daviess-Martin County REMC will inform you about the situation.

Daviess-Martin County REMC and our G&T take proactive steps to create a resilient portion of the grid and ensure electric reliability in extreme weather, including regular system maintenance, grid modernization efforts, and disaster response planning, but it takes everyone to keep the grid reliable.

To help keep the heat on for you, your family, and your neighbors, here are a few things you can do to relieve pressure on the grid and save a little money along the way:

 Select the lowest comfortable thermostat setting and turn it down several degrees whenever possible. Your heating system must run longer to make up the difference between the thermostat and outdoor temperatures. Seal air leaks around windows and exterior doors with caulk and weatherstripping. Air leaks and drafts force your heating system to work harder than necessary.

- Stagger your use of major appliances such as dishwashers, ovens, and dryers. Start the dishwasher before you go to bed, and use smaller countertop appliances like slow cookers and air fryers to save energy.
- Ensure that your heating system is optimized for efficiency with regular maintenance and proper insulation. Make sure your furnace filter isn't clogged and dirty. Replace it as needed.
- When possible, use cold water to reduce water heating costs. Setting your water heater thermostat to 120 degrees can help you save energy and minimize mineral buildup and corrosion in your water heater and pipes.
- Unplug devices when not in use to eliminate unnecessary energy use. Even when turned off, electronics in standby mode consume energy. Plug devices into a power strip so you can turn them all off at once with the push of a button.

As we face the challenges posed by winter weather, understanding its impact on energy demand is crucial for maintaining a reliable power supply. By adopting energy conservation practices during periods of extreme cold, you can save money on your electric bills and contribute to the power grid's resilience, keeping our local community warm and connected.



RYAN DANT Chief Executive Officer

co-op news

20 YEARS OF OPERATION ROUND UP

Daviess-Martin County REMC is dedicated to helping the communities we serve. One way we do that is through Operation Round Up, which we started in March of 2004. That's 20 years of giving back! Through Operation Round Up, we ask our members to voluntarily round up their monthly electric bill to the next whole dollar; on average, this comes out to about \$6 a year per member. Each quarter, we accept grant applications from local organizations, and the Operation Round Up board then meets to disburse grants to as many organizations as possible. Since March 2004, **\$605,456.05** has been granted to organizations right here in our community! In 2023 alone, **\$23,000** was granted.

Does it sound like a program you would like to participate in? To opt-in to Operation Round Up, go to **dmremc.com/operation-round-up-optin**. You can also call the office at 812-295-4200, and we will help you get signed up.

Fourth quarter OPERATION ROUND UP



MARTIN COUNTY CANCER PATIENT SERVICES was awarded a \$1,000 grant to assist in covering transportation costs for cancer patients to their doctor's visits, scans, procedures, and treatments.

Pictured above: Martin County Cancer Patient Services President Rheadawn Street, Treasurer Linda Knight, and DMREMC Communications Specialist Becca Holloaway



The WASHINGTON CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY was awarded a \$1,000 grant to purchase book carts, totes, and other supplies for the new Community Engagement Van named Joy.

Pictured above: Washington Carnegie Public Library Community Engagement Specialist Pearl Miller and Becca Hollaway



LOOGOOTEE POST PROM received a \$500 grant to purchase prizes at the after-prom celebration that promotes safe, substance-free activities to local high school students.

Pictured above: Kristi Ausbrooks and Becca Hollaway



The **SHOALS CLASS OF 2025 POST-PROM** received a \$500 dollar grant to purchase prizes at the 2023 post-prom.

Pictured above: Kellie Shaw and Lynette Harker, Post Prom Parents, and ORU Board Member and REMC employee Theresa Showalter



The **BARR-REEVE POST PROM INC.** was awarded a \$500 grant to help cover the cost of hosting the Barr-Reeve Post Prom.

Pictured above: Michele Craig, Treasurer; Tera Knepp, President; and Becca Hollaway

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

We wanted to take the time to thank each of the following employees for their time at DMREMC. Each one is key to providing you with the best service possible.



GRANT HORTON FEB. 1 2 YEARS



FARAN LOCKENOUR FEB. 22 3 YEARS

ANNUAL MEETING REMINDER



Daviess-Martin County REMC has decided to host a virtual Annual Meeting this year instead of an in-person meeting.

On April 11, we will host our virtual Annual Meeting and then post the recording from the meeting to our website, dmremc.com, and Facebook page, Daviess-Martin County REMC.

Even though the meeting will not be held in person, we still ask that members participate in the election by voting. In return, voting members will receive bill credits for their participation.

Feeding THE community

In December, we asked Daviess-Martin County REMC members to help us stock the shelves at our local food banks by bringing in five non-perishable food items. Members who donated food items were then entered into a drawing for four \$50 bill credits. Daviess-Martin County REMC members brought in over 200 food items. We donated these food items to the St. Vincent De Paul in Loogootee and

Feed My Sheep in Washington.

Our bill credit winners were:

- Carolyn and Benny Woodruff
- John Crays
- Carolyn Colglazier
- John Earl



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.

DECEMBER WINNER:

Enos Wagler from Cannelburg

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

- 1. Any member who resides in the districts up for election and is interested in becoming a director-candidate must complete and submit a petition for nomination by Feb. __, 2024.
- 2. The deadline to apply for the Indiana Youth Tour and Camp Kilowatt are both March___, 2024.
- 3. Members who vote in the 2024 Director Election will receive ______for their participation.

ELECTION TO OCCUR AT DMREMC

The Directors for the following three districts will be elected as a part of the 2024 "Virtual" Annual Meeting Agenda:

DISTRICT 2: Daviess County (Van Buren and Barr townships)

DISTRICT 5: Martin County (Perry and Center townships) DISTRICT 7: Lawrence County (Marion and Spice Valley townships)

Incumbent directors seeking reelection include Amy Burris from District 2, Travis Summers from District 5, and John Edwards from District 7. Directors will be elected for three-year terms. Any member who resides in these Districts and is interested in becoming a director-candidate must complete and submit a petition for nomination by Feb. 12, 2024. Please contact the REMC office if you have questions regarding the election process or need any information.

YOUTH PROGRAMS DEADLINE APPROACHING

Camp Kilowatt

JUNE 5-8

Visit dmremc.com/ camp-kilowatt to apply.

Deadline to apply: MARCH 1

Indiana Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

JUNE 16-23

Visit **dmremc.com/Indiana**youth-tour to apply.

Deadline to apply: MARCH 1

Cooperative Calendar of Student Art

Visit **dmremc.com/calendarart-contest** to learn more about the contest.

Artwork submission deadline: **MARCH 29**



