CELEBRATING 90 YEARS of service

HOT LINES

December 2026

Midwest Electric, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

OFFICE HOURS: Mon.–Fri. (Oct.-April) 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m.
Mon.–Thur. (May- Sept.) 6:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

419.394.4110 | midwestrec.com

IMPORTANT MEMBER INFO

$2.5M BEING RETURNED

UNWRAPPING THE VALUE OF YOUR CO-OP MEMBERSHIP



Midwest Electric is returning $2.5 million in patronage cash back to members this month. This payment goes to members who received electric service in 2011. The average residential member from that year will receive $216, with individual payments based on how much electricity was used. Eligible members will receive their refund as a credit on this electric bill or as a separate check.

Patronage capital represents your ownership in the cooperative. Margins are first invested in electric system improvements, such as building and replacing power lines, before being returned to the members who helped generate them. Since 1955, Midwest Electric has returned approximately $48.5 million in patronage cash back. We have returned 54% of our total patronage to members, compared to a national cooperative average of just under 30%.

Midwest Electric continues to stand out among the nation's electric cooperatives, returning two to three times more patronage, on average, as a percentage of total equity. This is another example of the cooperative difference: a business model built around the people we serve, with a commitment to providing reliable power while keeping costs as affordable as possible.

There's more good news for members! Our latest 10-year financial forecast shows no distribution rate increase for at least the next few years, potentially until 2030. If you have questions about your patronage payment, call us at 419-394-4110.

HOW PATRONAGE CASH BACK WORKS

1. We track your business with us (energy use and paid bills) each month.
2. We pay operating expenses throughout the year & set aside any leftover revenue.
3. When financial conditions allow, the board votes to retire (pay) capital credits to members.
4. We send your allocation (share) of capital credits as a bill credit or check.

MIDWEST ELECTRIC IS GIVING AWAY $11,000

in scholarships to children of members, including tech and trade students!



APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 12, 2027

Complete rules and eligibility details are available at www.midwestrec.com/scholarships.

NEW OPPORTUNITY

Youth Tour!

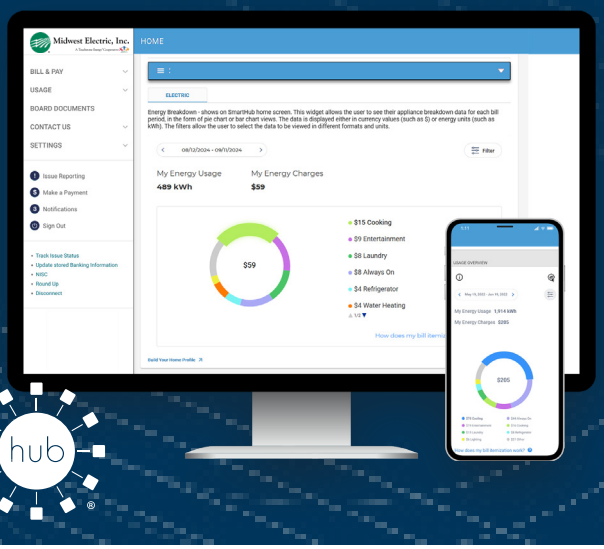
Youth Tour is a free, weeklong trip to Washington, D.C., sponsored by Midwest Electric for a local student. Explore our nation's history, learn about electric cooperatives, visit iconic landmarks and museums, and connect with students from across the country!



Visit midwestrec.com/youth-tour or scan this QR code to complete your application by February 12, 2027.

HOME ENERGY INSIGHTS HELP YOU SAVE





smart hub

APPLIANCE INSIGHTS
See exactly which appliances in your home consume the most energy.

INFORMED DECISIONS
Gain the knowledge and insights needed to manage your energy use effectively.

TAILORED ENERGY TIPS
Receive energy-saving tips designed for your household's energy consumption.

HOME PROFILE
Fine-tune the appliance itemization for a more precise breakdown of your energy use.

Learn more under the Usage tab in SmartHub

Community Calendar

- Dec 1-24 **Merry & Bright Drive-Thru Lights**, Mercer County Fairgrounds, Celina, www.mercercountyohiofair.com/christmas-lights
- Dec 2-6 **Annual Christmas Tree Festival**, Allen Co Historical Society & Museum, Lima, allencountymuseum.org/christmas-tree-festival
- Dec 4 **Midnight Gladness First Friday**, Downtown Celina www.facebook.com/share/1CDnvxX3kU
- Dec 4-6 **Christmas at Memorial Park** Opening Weekend, Coldwater Memorial Park www.k06503.site.kiwanis.org/what-we-do
- Dec 5 **Christmas at Apollo Craft Show**, Apollo Career Center, Lima, www.facebook.com/share/1C1tGYYhN7
- Dec 6 **A Christmas Carol**, Niswonger PAC, Van Wert, www.vanwertlive.com/events/
- Dec 10-13 & 17-20 **Every Christmas Story Ever Told**, Van Wert Civic Theatre, www.facebook.com/share/19wu56kEC9
- Dec 11-12 **Mini Holiday Mayberry Market**, Auglaize County Fairgrounds, Wapakoneta, www.themayberrymarket.com
- Dec 12 **Lima Symphony Orchestra: Bells, Brass and Bows**, Veterans Civic and Convention Center, Lima www.limasymphony.com
- Dec 12 **Walk with a Doc**, Grand Lake Rehab and Wellness Center, St Marys, www.walkwithadoc.org
- Dec 12 **Wizards of Winter**, Niswonger PAC, Van Wert, www.vanwertlive.com/events/
- Dec 12 **Holiday Arts & Crafts Market**, Wassenberg Art Center, Van Wert, wassenbergartcenter.org/events
- Dec 13 **David Phelps: One Wintry Night Tour**,Niswonger PAC, Van Wert, www.vanwertlive.com/events
- Dec 14 **ONU Free Mobile Clinic**, Auglaize County Council on Aging, St Marys, www.auglaizeseniorservices.com
- Dec 18-19 **Winter Wonderfest**, Downtown Lima, www.lfaaevents.com/winter-wonderfest
- Dec 19 **Holly Dolly Christmas Crawl**, Downtown Wapakoneta, www.facebook.com/share/1ATWjWdA7d
- Dec 19 **The Armory Christmas Market**, The Armory of St Marys, www.facebook.com/share/1CmH5S9KS4
- Dec 20 **O Christmas Tea: A British Comedy**, Veterans Civic and Convention Center, Lima www.limaciviccenter.com