

HOT LINES



Midwest Electric, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

December 2025

News about your community and cooperative

OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

419.394.4110
www.midwestrec.com

IMPORTANT MEMBER INFO



Matt Berry, CEO
mberry@midwestrec.com

Giving back is the co-op way

We are returning \$1.64 million to members

This month, your electric cooperative is returning \$1.64 million in patronage cash back to our members. That's money going right back into the hands of those who own the co-op — you!

This year's payments go to members who received service in 2010, with the average residential member getting \$142.

Payments will appear as a credit on your November bill or as a separate check mailed around Nov. 21.

Patronage cash back represents your ownership in the cooperative. Each dollar you spend helps maintain and improve our electric system, and when our finances allow, those margins are returned to you. **Since 1955, we've paid back more than \$45 million to members** — and Midwest Electric continues to lead the

nation by returning a higher percentage of patronage than most other co-ops.

Even better, our 10-year financial forecast shows no distribution rate increases for several years — possibly not until 2030. That's stability you can count on.

We also continue to work on your behalf beyond electricity. By engaging with local and national leaders, we help shape policies that keep your power reliable and affordable. If you'd like to strengthen those efforts, consider contributing \$25 a year (\$2.08/month) to the America's Electric Cooperatives Political Action Committee, joining more than 700 fellow members supporting lawmakers who stand up for co-ops.

Learn more or join online at midwestrec.com/PAC, or call us at 419-394-4110 with any questions.

Thank you for being part of what makes the cooperative difference possible!

Did you know? A day of power costs less than a dozen of these holiday goodies!

That's the cooperative value!

Stay Warm, Stay Safe.



As the temperatures drop, space heaters can help keep you cozy—but safety comes first!

- Keep heaters at least 3 feet from anything that can burn
- Plug directly into the wall (no extension cords!)
- Turn off and unplug when you leave the room or go to bed
- Choose models with automatic shut-off and tip-over protection

A few simple steps can help prevent fires and keep your home warm all winter long.

Learn the cost
of heating your
home with our
home energy
calculators.



2026 GRADS

Are your parents Midwest Electric members?
If so, you could win your share of more than

\$11,000

in scholarships!

Deadline to apply: February 13, 2026

CHILDREN OF MEMBERS SCHOLARSHIPS (\$9,500)

**TOUCHSTONE ENERGY TRADE/
TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,500)**

To obtain complete rules and applications, scan the QR code
or visit www.Midwestrec.com/scholarships.



Community Calendar

- ◆ Every Thur – Sun in Dec. **Holiday Light Show**, Van Wert County Fairgrounds, facebook.com/4HExchangeClubHolidayLightShow
- ◆ Every Thur – Sun in Dec. **Merry & Bright Christmas Lights**, Mercer County Fairgrounds, mercercountyohiofair.com/christmas-lights
- ◆ Dec. 4-7, 11-14 **One Christmas Eve at Evergreen Mall**, Van Wert Civic Theatre, vwct.org/2025-2026-season
- ◆ Dec. 5 **Midnight Gladness**, Downtown Celina, celinamercer.com/events
- ◆ Dec. 5-6 **Mendon's 25th Annual Tree Festival**, Town Hall, Mendon, 1-5:30 pm
- ◆ Dec. 5-7 **Children's Hometown Holiday**, Downtown Wapakoneta, facebook.com/ChildrensHometownHoliday
- ◆ Dec. 6 **Christmas in the Air**, Niswonger PAC, Van Wert, vanwertlive.com/events/detail/christmas-in-the-air
- ◆ Dec. 6-7 **Tri State Gun Show**, Allen County Fairgrounds, allencofair.com/events-calendar
- ◆ Dec. 7 **A Hometown Holiday**, Niswonger Theater, Van Wert, vanwertlive.com/events/detail/a-hometown-holiday
- ◆ Dec. 11 **A Christmas Carol**, Veterans Memorial Civic Center, Lima, limaciviccenter.com
- ◆ Dec. 13 **Pete Schlegel**, 33 Rhythm and Brews, Wapakoneta, rhythmandbrews.com/live-shows
- ◆ Dec. 13 **Dogs of Ohio**, Grand Opera House Live, St Marys, grandoperahouselive.com/events
- ◆ Dec. 13 **TSO Tribute Siberian Solstice**, Grand Opera House Live, St Marys, grandoperahouselive.com/events
- ◆ Dec. 13 **National Model Railroad Train Shows**, Allen County Fairgrounds, allencofair.com/events-calendar
- ◆ Dec. 13 **Bells, Brass & Bows**, Lima Symphony Orchestra, limasympphony.com/2025-2026-season
- ◆ Dec. 14 **Act of Congress**, James Dicke Auditorium, New Bremen, lockonearts.org/events-2
- ◆ Dec. 24 **Pancakes with the Grinch**, The Wapak Church, Wapakoneta, facebook.com/events/5315842145308468
- ◆ Dec. 31 **NYE Ball Drop**, Grand Opera House Live, St Marys, grandoperahouselive.com/events

We wish you a merry
Christmas
and a happy
New Year!

**Our office will be closed
December 24 & 25.
December 31 close at 11:30
and closed January 1.**
You can make payments and
report an outage by calling
419-394-4110 or via our
SmartHub App.