

HOT LINES



Midwest Electric, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

419.394.4110 | 1.800.962.3830
www.midwestrec.com

July 2022

News about your community and cooperative

IMPORTANT MEMBER INFO



POWER IS OUT: *What should I do?*

If power is lost to your home, first look to see if the power loss is due to a problem within the home. Start to troubleshoot the problem by checking for a blown fuse or tripped circuit breaker in the home's main fuse/breaker panel. Even if the breaker is in the on position, flip the breaker to the off position and then back on to reset it.

If the problem is determined to be a blown fuse or tripped circuit breaker, be sure to unplug all major appliances before replacing the fuse or flipping the breaker to reduce the electrical load on the breaker going into the home.

If you have a meter base mounted on an electric pole, check that breaker as well. To check this breaker below the meter base, first open the cover below the meter. Inside of this cover is the main disconnect breaker. Flip the breaker to the off position and then back on to reset it.

If power hasn't been restored to the home after taking these steps, call us to report the outage: 800-962-3830. Remember that the overhead or underground service from the point where the wires exit the pole-mounted breaker box are considered your wires and the responsibility of the member, not the co-op.

My neighbor has power but I don't. Why?

When this happens, it could mean the service line between your home and the transformer is damaged. Or, it could mean that a three-phase power line serves your neighborhood and you are served by a different line than your neighbor.

Stay in the know

Watch our Facebook and Twitter pages, as well as our outage map on our website. You can also enroll in outage notifications through your online SmartHub account (or mobile app), meaning we'll send you alerts via text or email.



Did you miss the 2022 Annual Meeting? Watch it live.

You can view the annual meeting livestream video on our website at Midwestrec.com, Facebook.com/MidwestElectric, or Youtube.com/MidwestElectric. If you have a question we didn't address, please email info@midwestrec.com or call our office.



CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE GOING SOLAR

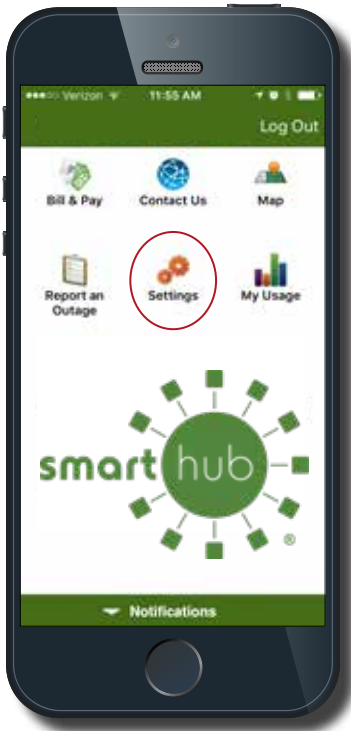
Making the costly investment of solar at your home is not a decision to be taken lightly, especially with so many variables to consider including your home's energy needs, the best orientation for panels, your roof condition, maintenance in the future, what to expect during outages, how billing works, and much more. Your trusted energy advisor can assist if you give our office a call early on in the process.

Avoid scams: contact us FIRST

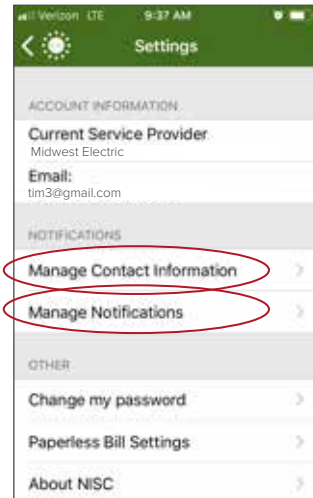
Solar contractors often work in several utility territories and may not be familiar with Midwest Electric's offerings, rate structures, and interconnection agreements. **Make sure what any vendor says doesn't sound too good to be true; there are scams out there taking advantage of people, so be cautious and always confirm with us before signing an agreement.** Make sure to get bids from three contractors to compare pricing.

Read more about renewables and find forms online at midwestrec.com/renewable-energy. Call us any time for help at 800-962-3830.

WANT OUTAGE UPDATES VIA TEXT? SIGN UP NOW TO STAY INFORMED!

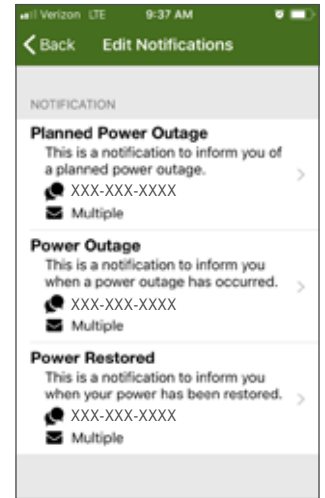


How to set up outage & peak alert notifications via SmartHub mobile app



Step 1: Tap “Manage Contact Information.” Tap “Add e-mail contact.” Add email address and click continue. Accept terms and conditions. Enter verification code and tap “save contact.” Your email will appear with “e-mail enrolled” directly below it. Tap the back button and add phone numbers in the same manner.

Step 2: Tap “Manage Notifications.” Tap “Service” to turn on notifications. Tap the toggle to turn on notifications for email or text messages, under each notification type. Tap the back button. Now your phone number and/or email address should show up below the notification type as shown at right.



Want more? Visit midwestrec.com/outage-notifications or call our office at 800-962-3830 for desktop instructions. Don't forget to sign up for text notifications so you'll be alerted wherever you are!



During peak times of 2-6 p.m. on very hot days, electricity costs more!

If you can delay or lower your family's electric use during these peak times, you can help keep our electric rates stable and save money. We have not changed our distribution rates since August 2010, partly because of our peak load management.

Whether you can put off laundry, wait to shower, or turn up the thermostat just a few degrees, it all helps! [Watch our Facebook page on extremely hot days to see if a peak alert is issued \(see graphic at right\).](#) [You could win a \\$25 bill credit for sharing our post!](#)



BEAT THE PEAK

Consider medical needs when prepping for outages



If you have special medical needs (such as oxygen, dialysis, etc.), you need a backup plan in case of a power outage. Consider getting a backup generator, make plans for a friend or relative to help care for you, and ensure your county EMA office knows your needs.

We can't restore power for certain members sooner than for others. We follow a restoration plan that gives priority to the greatest number of members first, then works down to individual outages.

For more outage tips, visit midwestrec.com.

Community Calendar

- ◆ July 1-3
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- ◆ July 4
- ◆ July 4
- ◆ July 4
- ◆ July 4
- ◆ July 9
- ◆ July 12-17
- ◆ July 16
- ◆ July 22-24
- ◆ July 23-24
- ◆ July 29-30
- ◆ July 31-Aug. 6

- Western Ohio Cluster All Breed Dog Show 2022**, 419-568-7773
- St. Henry Community Picnic**
- Delphos Kiwanis July 4th Celebration 2022**, 419-235-5710
- St Joe Festival**, Auglaize County Fair Grounds
- 4th of July Fireworks Show**, Van Wert High School
- Flat Track Motorcycle Racing**, Van Wert Co Fairgrounds
- Wapakoneta Summer Moon Festival**, summermoonfestival.com
- Bluffton Ride To Remember Bicycle Ride**, 419-659-2916
- Celina Lake Festival**, celinalakefest.com
- Train Show**, Van Wert Co Fairgrounds
- NTPA Tractor Pulls**, Ambassador Park Ft Recovery, fortpull.com
- Auglaize County Fair**, Auglaize Co Fairgrounds