

HOT LINES



Midwest Electric, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

May 2024

News about your community and cooperative

419.394.4110 | 1.800.962.3830
www.midwestrec.com

IMPORTANT MEMBER INFO

2024 ANNUAL MEETING

New Time and Day

St. Marys Memorial High School, 2250 State Route 66, St. Marys
THURSDAY, JUNE 6 | Dinner Buffet at 5:30 p.m. | Meeting 6:45 p.m.

Annual meeting

- \$2,000 in cash prizes
- Kids' games, bounce houses, Kona Ice, and activities.
- Free dinner buffet from Old Barn Catering & Grill
- Hot Air Balloon Tethered Rides
**weather dependent*
- \$1,000 scholarship drawing
- Business Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- Only last 45 minutes!
- Energy industry update; Q&A with co-op leaders
- America's Electric Cooperatives PAC: learn how you can influence legislation that affects your co-op
- Grand Lake Health System health fair



\$1,000 scholarship drawing

Any Midwest Electric member is eligible who will be a college or trade school student in the fall of 2024. Members, or children of members, must enter at the annual meeting, where the winner will be drawn and must physically be attending to win. More information can be found on our website.

Community Calendar

- ◆ May 3 – 4 **Mayberry Market**, Auglaize County Fairgrounds, themayberrymarket.com, 419-738-2515
- ◆ May 3 – 4 **6th Annual Spring Fest**, Van Wert County Fairgrounds, vanwertcountyfair.com, 419-238-9270
- ◆ May 4 **Grand Derby at Market Hall**, Mercer County Fairgrounds, mercercountyohiofair.com, 419-586-3239
- ◆ May 4 **Molly Hatchet**, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, vanwertlive.com, 419-238-6722
- ◆ May 4 **4th Annual Rockford Spring Fling & Car Show**, 151 Columbia St Rockford, rockfordalive.com, 419-363-3032
- ◆ May 4 – 5 **Tri State Gun Show**, Allen County Fairgrounds, allencofair.com, 419-228-7141
- ◆ May 10 **Dallas String Quartet**, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, vanwertlive.com, 419-238-6722
- ◆ May 16 – 18 **Wapak Tug Fest**, Auglaize County Fairgrounds, wapaklugfest.com, 419-231-1032
- ◆ May 17 **Chris Janson: One Night Only with special guest LANCO**, Allen County Fairgrounds, allencofair.com, 419-228-7141
- ◆ May 17 – 18 **1st Annual Boardwalk Boat & Bike Show**, Boardwalk Grill, 725 Westbank Rd. Celina, boardwalkvillage.com, 567-510-4333

In the mail ...

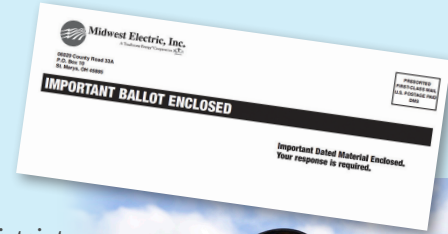
WATCH FOR YOUR BOARD ELECTION AND CODE CHANGE BALLOTS

Watch your mail around mid-May for your ballot for the 2024 Midwest Electric Board of Directors election and to vote on code changes. As a member, you're allowed to vote for all districts.

You may vote by mail with the ballot and return envelope that will be sent to you. Alternately, you may vote online at www.midwestrec.com. The ballot will include instructions for online voting.

Your ballot must be received by our voting firm by 8 a.m. on June 3 in order to be counted.

Do not include any payments with your ballot. Do not send your ballot to our St. Marys office.



GENERATOR SAFETY

USE BACKUP POWER SAFELY

When used properly, portable and standby generators are a great option to provide backup power during power outages.

Learn how to use generators safely with the following tips:

GENERATORS

Location

20ft



Always keep generators at least **20 feet away** from your home



Never operate a generator in an **enclosed space**



Make sure the generator has **3-4 feet** of clear space above and on all sides for proper ventilation



Keep generators **away** from doors, windows, and vents



Always **direct exhaust away** from your home

Use



Always use **grounded cords** and inspect cords for damage prior to use



Use the **proper cord** for the wattage being used



Always use **GFCI protection**



Make sure to start / stop generators when **no electrical loads** are connected



Keep generators dry, **do not operate when wet**, and refuel when cool

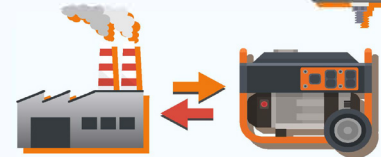


Do not overload generators



Do not plug a generator directly into your home, connect items being powered **directly to the generator**

TRANSFER SWITCHES



Transfer switches, whether manual or automatic, allow you to choose between **utility power** or **backup generator power**



Transfer switches are the only way to **safely power** your home's electrical system



Using a transfer switch **prevents backfeeding**. This occurs when your generator becomes a power source for the **surrounding area** and can damage your home, your neighbor's homes, and injure workers trying to restore power