



# HOT LINES

August 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



Matt Berry, CEO  
mberry@midwestrec.com

# OUR POWER STRATEGY IS DELIVERING REAL SAVINGS FOR MEMBERS

While many electric utilities are raising rates, Midwest Electric members will see lower electric costs over the coming months.

The savings are possible because Midwest Electric receives its power from Buckeye Power, the generation cooperative owned by Ohio's electric cooperatives. Unlike many investor-owned utilities that purchase electricity on the open market, Buckeye Power owns and operates its own generation facilities. By selling excess electricity into the regional market when prices are high, Buckeye earned additional margins and is returning those savings to member cooperatives.

As a result, Midwest Electric members will receive approximately \$1.5 million in power cost savings through a lower Power Cost Adjustment (PCA). The average residential member using 1,500 kWh per month is expected to save about \$96 over the eight-month period.

This is one of the advantages of the cooperative business model. When margins are higher than expected, the savings are returned to members—not shareholders—helping keep electric bills as affordable as possible.



America's Electric  
Cooperatives | PAC

# MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD Political Action Dinner

Join us August 24, 5:30 p.m. at Wassenberg Art Center

This bi-annual adults only event will be held Monday, Aug. 24, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. Afterward, around 6:30 p.m., elected officials will address the crowd, take questions, and discuss current industry topics. Guests will include Reps Roy Klopfenstein, Tim Barhorst, Angie King, and Congressman Warren Davidson, as well as Sen. Susan Manchester and our

wholesale power provider, Buckeye Power.

☆ This event is only for PAC members.

☆ Seating is limited. RSVP today, email us at [info@midwestrec.com](mailto:info@midwestrec.com) or call 419-394-4110.



# Three lineworkers graduate from apprenticeship program



Midwest Electric Cooperative lineworkers Paul Pfenning, Clayton Duncan, and Zach Neuman recently graduated from the Central Ohio Lineworker Training (COLT) program, marking their advancement from apprentice to First Class Lineman.

Over the past four years, each completed more than 8,000 hours of on-the-job training through Midwest Electric's Lineworker Apprenticeship Program while also completing the COLT curriculum. The apprenticeship combines classroom instruction with hands-on experience, preparing lineworkers with the technical knowledge and safety skills needed to build and maintain the electric system.

Offered by Ohio's Electric Cooperatives, the COLT program provides advanced classroom and field training at its state-of-the-art facility in Mount Gilead. Completing both programs is a significant achievement that reflects the lineworkers' dedication to safety, professionalism, and providing reliable electric service to Midwest Electric members.

## WE NEED YOU TO JOIN THE CCF BOARD!

Help allocate charitable funding with only four meetings per year!



The Community Connection Fund is looking for three trustees (one from Auglaize/Shelby counties, one from Van Wert County, and one from Allen/Putnam counties) to serve on the CCF Board. Terms expire this fall for current trustees.

The CCF board meets four times per year to review grant applications (which are sent to trustees in advance) and decide where funds can make the most impact. No special background is necessary for this appointed position.

If you are interested, please contact Joel Johns for an application at [jjohns@midwestrec.com](mailto:jjohns@midwestrec.com) or call 419-394-4110.

**The deadline is Sept. 8, 2026.**

**This is your chance to make a difference — Only four meetings per year!**

## Community Calendar

- July 29 – Aug. 9 **Ohio State Fair**, [ohiostatefair.com](http://ohiostatefair.com)
- July 30 – Aug. 2 **Coldwater Community Picnic**, [coldwaterpicnic.com](http://coldwaterpicnic.com)
- Aug. 2-8 **Auglaize County Fair**, [auglaizecountyfair.org](http://auglaizecountyfair.org)
- Aug. 6-9 **127 Yard Sale**, [127yardsale.com](http://127yardsale.com)
- Aug. 6-9 **In Bloom Festival**, Schoolhouse Farms Rockford, [schoolhouse-farms.com](http://schoolhouse-farms.com)
- Aug. 13-16 **St. Marys SummerFest**, St. Marys, [stmaryssummerfest.com](http://stmaryssummerfest.com)
- Aug. 13-16 **Bremenfest**, New Bremen, [bremenfest.com](http://bremenfest.com)
- Aug. 13-19 **Mercer County Fair**, [mercercountyohiofair.com](http://mercercountyohiofair.com)
- Aug. 15 **Lakeside Market at Boardwalk Village**, Boardwalk Village Celina, [boardwalkvillage.com](http://boardwalkvillage.com)
- Aug. 21-29 **Allen County Fair**, [allencofair.com](http://allencofair.com)
- Aug. 21-29 **Darke County Fair**, [darkecountyfair.com](http://darkecountyfair.com)
- Aug. 24 **MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD Political Action Dinner**, Wassenberg Art Center
- Aug. 28-29 **Win on the Wabash**, [wowaffle.com](http://wowaffle.com)
- Sept. 1 **Blood Drive**, Midwest Electric Office, St. Marys

## Help us save lives

**YOU CAN BE A HERO TODAY**

One donation = 3 lives saved!

Join us at our office  
06029 County Road 33A, Saint Marys



SCAN ME

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 American Red Cross

