

HOT LINES

August 2021

News about your community and cooperative



Midwest Electric, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

419.394.4110 | 1.800.962.3830
www.midwestrec.com

IMPORTANT MEMBER INFO



Do you know how YOUR power is generated?

RSVP for our Cardinal Plant Tour on Wednesday, Sept. 15.

Located on the Ohio River in Brilliant, Ohio, Cardinal Generating Station provides power to the 24 electric cooperatives serving Ohio, including Midwest Electric. The plant has invested more than \$1 billion into environmental upgrades — making it one of the cleanest coal-fired power plants in the world.

This scenic, one-day trip to see your power plant up close and personal costs \$35 per person and includes the bus trip, the plant tour, and lunch. We'll stop for supper on the way back (cost not included).

The bus will depart from Midwest's office headquarters at 7 a.m. and arrive home around 8 p.m. Members signed up to attend will receive a complete itinerary.

Tour participants must be at least 12 years old, unless specifically authorized. There will be a considerable amount of walking, several flights of stairs to climb, and travel through some hot and dusty areas. Members with health concerns, those who require assistance walking, or those who cannot walk more than a half mile without resting should not take the tour.

Space is limited to the first 50 who call. Please call 1-800-962-3830 to RSVP.



CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Community Connection Fund seeks trustees

The CCF is looking for two trustees from Mercer County and one from Auglaize County to serve on the board. You'll be reimbursed for related expenses; no background is necessary. Current trustees say serving gives them "a tremendous satisfaction" and teaches them about local needs. If interested, please contact Joel Johns by Sept. 10 for an application at jjohns@midwestrec.com or call 800-962-3830.

Death in the family?

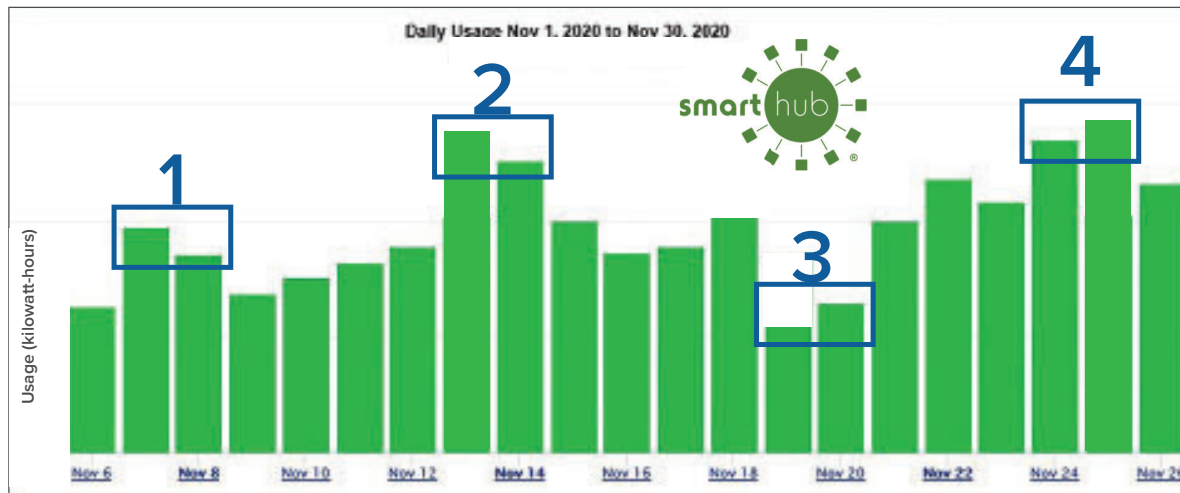
If an account holder passes away, please contact us at your earliest convenience so the patronage account can be paid out or transferred.

Energy tip: Keep your thermostat at 78 degrees

Experiencing high summer bills? Contact our office for advice. We offer home energy audits, rebates, and project resources! Learn more at midwestrec.com under the "My Energy" tab.

Track your energy use through SmartHub's Usage Explorer

Download the SmartHub app or sign up by clicking the red SmartHub button at midwestrec.com



SmartHub has many capabilities. In addition to being a source for making payments, members can also report outages, view our Outage Map, and track their daily or monthly usage through SmartHub on desktop or via their mobile app.

In the "My Usage" tab of SmartHub, members can:

- Access their home's energy use history.
- Monitor how changes in temperature impact energy use.
- Troubleshoot malfunctioning items that may be using more energy than normal.

Here is an example of how one member monitors their daily energy consumption using the Usage Explorer.

1. It was cold outside, but we kept the thermostat low.

If we had turned the thermostat up when it was cold, our electricity use would have been even higher. The greater the difference between the temperature outside and our thermostat inside, the harder our system has to work to keep the house warm.

2. Our kids were home for the weekend.

It's amazing how much energy we used these few days, but we did a lot of baking, took plenty of hot showers and baths, and used the dryer a lot. Ovens, hot water heaters, and dryers are appliances that use a lot of energy.

3. We went on a short vacation.

While we were away, we put the lights on timers and turned the heating system down so it would cycle less. It made a difference, but the fridge, water heater, and electronics still used energy.

4. There was a problem with our heating system.

It wasn't very cold outside, but our energy use was high. We found out our heating system wasn't working properly, which caused our bill to be higher than usual. I will sign up for Usage Alerts through SmartHub so I can catch problems like this sooner in the future.

Have questions about SmartHub? Give us a call!

Community Calendar

- ◆ Aug. 1 **Spring Hike**, Haver Ridge Metro Park, Lima. Registration required by calling 419-221-1232.
- ◆ Aug. 1-7 **Auglaize County Fair**, visit auglaizecountyfair.org. Call 419-738-2515 or email auglaizecofair@bright.net with questions.
- ◆ Aug. 3 **Health Through Nature Program**, McLean Teddy Bear Park, 5:30 pm, free admission. Experience the calm and peace that nature provides while you decrease your stress hormones. Lima. Call 419-221-1232 or visit jampd.com for details.
- ◆ Aug. 5-8 **127 Yard Sales**, World's longest yard sale running from Michigan to Alabama. Visit 127Sale.com to learn more.
- ◆ Aug. 5-8 **Coldwater Community Picnic**, Back to the 90s theme. Live music, shows, craft beer, movies, cruise-ins, races, petting zoo, and more. Fun for the whole family at Coldwater Memorial Park. See bands, schedule and events at coldwaterpicnic.com.
- ◆ Aug. 6 **St. Marys First Fridays in the Park**, after-hours shopping downtown. Movie in Memorial Park starts at 9 pm.
- ◆ Aug. 12-14 **Lincoln Highway Buy-Way Yard Sales**, "Rediscover our automotive past on America's first transcontinental road, built in 1913. Travel through small charming towns and see early relics of the road that your grandparents knew!" More at historicbyway.com.
- ◆ Aug. 12-15 **St Marys Summerfest**, rides, food, family fun; stmarysummerfest.com.
- ◆ Aug. 13-19 **Mercer County Fair**, visit mercercountyohiofair.com to learn more and see event schedules or contact info@mercercountyohiofair.com.
- ◆ Aug. 13-15 **Bremenfest**, New Bremen, activities for the whole family! Learn more at bremenfest.com.
- ◆ Aug. 20-28 **Allen County Fair**, visit allencountyfair.com for schedule of events, bands, activities, and more.
- ◆ Aug. 29 **"Clash of the Cultures,"** Author Frank Kuron, Fort Recovery State Museum. More at fortrecoverymuseum.com or 419-375-4649.