

HOT LINES

September 2020

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

Cost control efforts delay 2021 rate increase



MATT BERRY, CEO
mberry@midwestrec.com

I am pleased to report that we are able to delay the timing of our upcoming electric rate increase. Previously, we said the rate increase would start around February 2021. We are now able to delay the rate change until late summer 2021 (barring unforeseen circumstances), thanks to updated planning and our continued focus on efficiently running your cooperative. This would mark 11 years between rate increases, with our last one

in August 2010!

We are delaying the rate increase because we care about members, especially in the economic uncertainty caused by the lockdowns. We will continue to look for ways to further delay and minimize the increase, if possible. However, after 11 years without a rate change — while still investing \$30 million in electric reliability during that time — I hope you understand that eventually a rate increase is unavoidable. We will keep you updated throughout this process and appreciate your patience.



Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives

Visit whopowersyou.com
to nominate someone!

Who POWERS you?

Inspired by someone making a difference in your community?
Tell their story and they could win a cash prize.

Visit whopowersyou.com between 9/8/20 and 10/9/20 and submit a photo of your nominee. Then tell us why that person inspires you and how they make a difference in your co-op community.



\$5,000 GRAND PRIZE

\$2,000 SECOND PLACE

\$1,500 THIRD PLACE

\$500 HONORABLE MENTION

Let us help you pay for that!

Water heaters, refrigerators, heat pumps & more

midwestrec.com/rebates

Want to make a
difference
in your community?

Energy Tip 101

Clothes dryers make up a large portion of your appliance energy consumption. Clean the lint filter after each cycle and scrub the filter with a toothbrush once a month to increase air circulation.

This also reduces the chance of fire. Each year, firefighters across the U.S. respond to about 13,820 home fires caused by clothes dryers.



We are looking for trustees to serve on our Community Connection Fund board, which helps allocate grants every quarter. No experience is necessary. Please contact Dave at dwaltermire@midwestrec.com for details.

Make your life easier.

Try paperless billing

Make payments by phone, online via SmartHub, or sign up for auto-pay so you never have to remember a due date again.



A pandemic = changed priorities

Don't worry about dropping your payment off at our office or walking to your mailbox.

Call our office at 800-962-3830 or create a SmartHub account so you can pay online using a credit/debit card or bank withdraw. That's right — you don't have to leave your house.

Paperless billing is more than a way to "go green." It's convenience during a time when everything feels inconvenient. We are even offering a one-time bill credit when paperless billing is combined with automatic payment.

Have questions or need help? We care about our members and are here to make your life easier. Call our office at 800-962-3830.

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

September 22, 2020

Make your voice heard and vote. To learn more, visit www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org.

Community Calendar

PLEASE NOTE: Because of the coronavirus situation, many events may be canceled or postponed. Please seek updated information before traveling.

- ◆ Sept. 3-7 **Van Wert County Fair**, vanwertcountyfair.com
- ◆ Sept. 4-6 **Max's Trader Days & Water Dog Races**, Allen County Fairgrounds, Lima, maxstraderdays.com
- ◆ Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26 **Celina Farmers Market**, Mercer County Fairgrounds, Celina 9 am to noon, mercercountyohiofair.com/events
- ◆ Sept. 17-20 **Delphos Canal Days**, Main Street, Delphos, delphoscanaldays.com