

# HOT LINES



Midwest Electric, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

December 2019

News about your community and cooperative

419.394.4110 | 1.800.962.3830  
www.midwestrec.com

## IMPORTANT MEMBER INFO

### ANOTHER MILLION IS COMING BACK TO MEMBERS!



Patronage cash back shows the **VALUE** of your co-op membership

Midwest Electric will pay \$1,035,712 in patronage capital to 7,427 current and former members this month. It's noteworthy that once again, we're able to give this cash back without raising electric rates. We haven't had a rate increase since 2010, and over those nine years, we've returned \$13.6 million to members and invested \$18 million in electric system reliability upgrades.

Patronage is your equity ownership in your electric cooperative. It helps us pay for electric improvements;

then we pay it back to you! Customers of other utilities don't receive this perk. This month's cash back goes to those of you who used our service in 2003. A typical residential member will receive around \$102.

Since 1955, we have returned \$35 million. For this month's payment, eligible members will receive the refund as a credit on their electric bill or as a separate check.



Earn bragging rights in our

## GRISWOLD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS CONTEST

Send your best photo to [skuhn@ppec.coop](mailto:skuhn@ppec.coop) by Dec. 6 for your chance to win a \$50 bill credit.

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ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.  
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

**Laundry Tip:** Use cold water to wash clothes. Dry towels and heavier cottons separately from lighter clothing. You'll spend less time drying the lighter-weight items. Dryer balls are also a good option!



# WHERE TO GET HELP WITH UTILITY BILLS:

If you need help with your utility bills and are facing a possible shut-off of services, there are places you can go for help.

## HEAP

Columbus, OH  
1-800-282-0880  
www.energyhelp.ohio.gov

## ALLEN COUNTY

**West Ohio Community Action Partnership**  
540 S. Central Ave., Lima  
419-227-2586 | www.wocap.org  
Appointment hotline: 855-286-7559

## Allen Co. Job & Family Services

1501 S. Dixie Hwy., Lima  
419-228-2621 | acjfs.org

## AUGLAIZE COUNTY

**West Ohio Community Action Partnership**  
13093 Infirmery Road, Wapak  
419-227-2586 | www.wocap.org  
Appointment hotline: 855-286-7559

## Auglaize Co. Job & Family Services

12 N. Wood St., Wapakoneta  
567-242-2700  
www.auglaizecountydjfs.org

## Mercy Unlimited

38 E. Auglaize St., Wapakoneta  
419-738-3161 | www.mercyunlimited.org

## St. Vincent DePaul Center

107 W. Pearl St., Wapakoneta  
419-738-7456 | Wed-Fri, 9 am to noon

## MERCER COUNTY

**West Ohio Community Action Partnership**  
420 N. Brandon, Suite A, Celina  
419-227-2586 | www.wocap.org  
Appointment hotline: 855-286-7559

## OUR Home Family Resource Center

117 W. Fayette St., Celina  
419-586-4663 | www.ourhomefrc.com

## Mercer County Job & Family Services

220 W. Livingston St., Suite 10, Celina

419-586-5106  
www.mercercountyohio.org/jfs

## PUTNAM COUNTY

**Putnam County Job & Family Services**  
1225 E. Third St., Ottawa, OH  
567-376-3777

## Putnam County Community Action

Main office in Findlay: 1-800-423-4304  
Satellite office in Ottawa: 419-523-5345

## VAN WERT COUNTY

**Van Wert County Community Action**  
114 E. Main St., Suite 1, Van Wert  
419-238-4544

If you're getting behind in your electric bill, please call us. We might be able to work out payment arrangements for your past due amount, and we will help you with service agencies. Remember, we are on your side and want to help!



## APPLY FOR OUR SCHOLARSHIPS

We offer two different scholarships totaling \$11,000 for graduating high school seniors. **Applications are due Jan. 15.** Winners will be eligible to complete for additional statewide funds from Ohio's Electric Cooperatives in Columbus. Call us or email [kschmerge@midwestrec.com](mailto:kschmerge@midwestrec.com) for details. Applications are available at [www.midwestrec.com](http://www.midwestrec.com) > My Community > Scholarships.

## Ballot coming via mail

### Special vote to amend the Code of Regulations

The Midwest Electric Board of Directors asks for your "YES" vote to support the proposed amendment to the Cooperative's Code of Regulations. The proposed amendment is to remove the "at-large" position from the board of directors and reduce the size of the board by one director, which would save the co-op money.

Ballots will be mailed in late December; voting ends Jan. 21. Online voting will also be available. To learn more, see the December issue of *Ohio Cooperative Living*, call us, or visit [www.midwestrec.com](http://www.midwestrec.com).



LARRY VANDEMARK  
Board President

## Community Calendar

- ◆ Dec. 1-24 **Fort Festival of Trees**, Ft. Recovery Public Library, Celina, 419-375-2869
- ◆ Dec. 1 **Harrod Polar Express**, Harrod, 419-648-7032
- ◆ Dec. 1 **The Illusionists: Magic of the Holidays**, Lima Civic Center, 7:30 pm, 419-224-1552
- ◆ Dec. 4-8 **Christmas Tree Festival**, Allen County Museum, 419-222-9426
- ◆ Dec. 6 **Delphos Kiwanis Hometown Christmas**, 6-9 pm, 419-236-5314
- ◆ Dec. 6-7 **20th Annual Mendon Festival of Trees**, 419-795-4435
- ◆ Dec. 6-8 **ONU Holiday Spectacular**, Lima Civic Center, 419-224-1552
- ◆ Dec. 7 **30th Annual Apollo Christmas Craft Show**, Lima, 9 am-3 pm, 419-998-2917
- ◆ Dec. 8 **3 Redneck Tenors: "Spec-Tac-Yule-Ar,"** Lock One Community Art, New Bremen, 567-356-2048
- ◆ Dec. 14 **Christmas on Main St.**, Cridersville, 9 am, 419-645-4212
- ◆ Dec. 25 **Together at Christmas**, free meal, Rockford Community Building, 10:30 am - 1 pm, 419-363-3230
- ◆ Dec. 24-25 **Office closed for Christmas:** Enjoy the holiday with your family!
- ◆ Dec. 31 **Rockford Bicentennial Ball & Fireworks**, Rockford Community Building, 8 pm, 419-363-3032