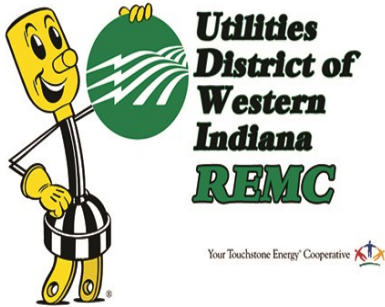


News from Your Co-op

March 2021



Did you know?

UDWI offer members the capability to request tree trimming service online!

To submit a request, visit:

<https://www.udwiremc.com/form/tree-trimming-service-request>



Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/udwiremc



Follow us on Twitter
www.twitter.com/udwiremc

Storms: Restoring Your Power

With spring approaching, UDWI REMC is preparing for an uptick in storms and weather-related outages that have a tendency to occur as the seasons change.

We feel that it's important for our members to understand the process of how we handle outages and the hard work demonstrated by our crews to restore power for our service territory. Our top priority when dealing with any outage is keeping our linemen safe.

The maximum number of crews we have working at any given time is eight. For longer, extended outages, UDWI has mutual aid agreements with other cooperatives who are available to support us. But for the average storm, we rely on our own crews to get members restored.

It's also important to know that UDWI cannot offer any estimated times of restoration until a crew arrives onsite and is able to assess the situation. Different outage causes have varying restoration times: replacing a fuse is a quick process; fixing fallen power lines requires more safety precautions, taking longer to complete; and a broken pole means crews have to head back to UDWI headquarters to get a new pole, return to the site, and complete the process of installation.

Additionally, storms that occur at night almost always take longer to restore, depending on the extent of the damage. Working at night presents an extended list of challenges to our crews due to the lack of visibility, increasing the importance of prioritizing the safety of themselves and others.

Our linemen and crews follow a predetermined order for restoring power, working to establish restoration for the greatest number of members at a time. The first thing our crews investigate is local distribution substations for problems that could be causing an outage. This is the most important step in the restoration process.

Distribution supply lines are inspected next if the issue cannot be isolated at the substation. These lines carry power away from the substation to members. When power is restored at this stage, all members served by this line should regain power, assuming there are no other complications down the line.

Lines can also be damaged between the service line on your house and the transformer on the nearby pole. These cause individual outages, meaning your power may be out but your neighbor's power is still on.

Our crews aim to get as many members back on as efficiently and safely as possible. Individual outages may receive preferred treatment if the loss of electricity poses an immediate danger. We stay in contact with local emergency services to quickly respond to these situations.

As always, stay away from any fallen line- it is highly dangerous. Please report your outages to UDWI to ensure that we are aware of any issues. Also, check our Facebook page for updates on outages and the most up-to-date information about the cooperative.



The UDWI REMC office lobby remains closed until further notice.
This measure helps to protect both our members and employees.

The drive-thru window is open for all business.

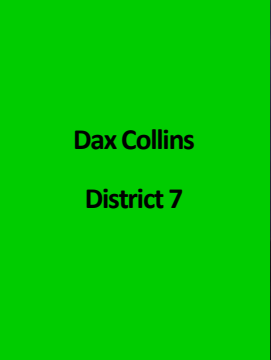
For updates and more info, please visit our website and Facebook pages regularly.

Meet your Board of Directors candidates!



Michael Williams

District 5



Dax Collins

District 7



Sophie Haywood

District 8



Annual Meeting of Members

April 20, 2021

UDWI Headquarters*

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

**Following local health & CDC guidelines for social distancing*

Voting will open soon for the UDWI REMC Board of Directors Election. Although this year's seats are uncontested, the cooperative bylaws require candidates receive a mandated number of votes from the membership in order to validate the election.

Online voting will open March 19 at 8:00 a.m. and remain open through April 16. Members will receive mail-in ballot materials in mid-March. Voting online is the easiest and most economical way for members to vote. UDWI encourages members to use this free service.

Every vote counts!

Smithville & UDWI REMC Partnership

UDWI REMC has partnered with Smithville Fiber to provide 280 homes in the UDWI/Smithville service area with access to high-speed fiber service. The first phase of construction began on January 27, with the entire project expected to be completed by 2022. There will be no increases to member rates for the funding of this project. The events of this past year have demonstrated the need for wide-spread access to high-speed internet connectivity, especially in our rural communities. This fiber project aligns with the rest of UDWI's 2021 capital improvement plans, working to update and enhance our infrastructure to provide the highest quality service to our customers.



Capital Credits Checks Issued for Years 1966 & 1967

As a not-for-profit cooperative, UDWI REMC is owned by its members. Every month you pay your bill for electric service and the cooperative pays the expenses of providing that service. Anything left over the operating costs, loan payments and other expenses is called a margin. Part of being a cooperative means UDWI does not earn profits; instead, any revenues above the cost of doing business are considered margins. Margins are then returned to members in the form of capital credits.

In November, the cooperative sent capital credit checks to those who were members of UDWI REMC in 1966 & 1967. You can find a complete list of current unclaimed capital credits at udwiremc.com. If you are not able to view the site on your own, please contact our office to speak to our capital credits clerk.

The cooperative difference

How your cooperative puts its annual earnings to use.

Earnings, or margins are calculated after operating costs have been paid.



Your cooperative uses this money to invest in the grid and prepare for emergencies such as natural disasters.



At the discretion of your co-op's board of directors, these margins can be paid back to consumer-members like you!



WATCH A VIDEO ABOUT CAPITAL CREDITS AT YOUTUBE.COM. SEARCH FOR "MY HOOSIER ENERGY" TO FIND THE VIDEO.

Our office will be closed

Friday, April 2, 2021

in observance of Good Friday.

Wishing you a happy holiday!

Good Friday

Meter testing continues...

UDWI REMC meter technicians will be performing routine meter tests in our entire service territory over the next few years.

Each employee will be driving a white utility van with our logo placard. Be sure to identify these items before approaching any vehicle that may be in your area. Report suspicious behavior to your local law enforcement office.

"Like" us on Facebook to stay up to date on current testing locations.

