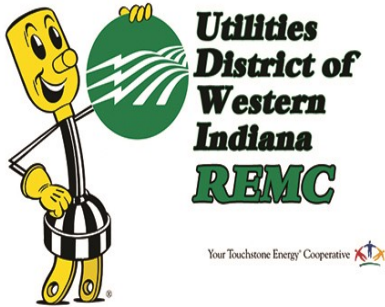


News from Your Co-op

September 2021



Did you know?

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

To submit a request, visit:

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



Utilities and Solar

UDWI REMC strives to provide safe and reliable energy, and understands there are options available to members for residential usage. The co-op is pro-renewable energy and supports its members in the choice to utilize solar systems. For those making the decision to pursue solar installation, our team wants to provide members with the necessary information and offer guidance throughout the process.

Solar power is more affordable, accessible, and prevalent in the United States than ever before. The price of installing solar has declined by 43 percent over the last five years.

As with all forms of renewable energy, members and utility companies alike face pros and cons when choosing solar. Advantages of the system include lower energy bills, no air pollution or carbon dioxide emissions. Potential barriers to consider include the large amount of space needed for equipment, high initial/up-front costs associated with installation, and solar power doesn't produce energy at night or on cloudy days, with less produced during the winter months as well. It is important to understand all these factors before making the decision to utilize solar systems.

UDWI does not sell solar panels or related solar equipment to its members. Instead, we will work with interested members to provide them with the information they need to determine if a solar system works for them.

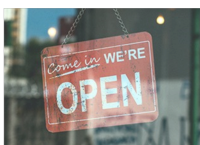
UDWI will assist members in the process of safely installing their solar system and getting it connected to the co-op distribution system.

Members interested in solar are encouraged to contact our office to start the process by filling out an interconnection application. As you work through the process, we want to remain in contact to follow the progress, offer support and ensure your safety as well as the safety of our linemen post-installation. Our application offers a complete list of requirements and follows industry standards.

If members choose to utilize a solar system at their residence or business, they are responsible for the installation and maintenance cost. However, if more solar energy is produced than used by the member, UDWI will buy the energy back at their avoided cost. This avoided cost rate is based on what UDWI would have paid to Hoosier Energy, our power supply provider, for an equivalent amount of energy.

If you are interested or have questions about solar, or want to start the installation process, please contact our office for more information.

OFFICE INFORMATION



The UDWI REMC office lobby is open for all business. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Visitors should follow the traffic pattern set in place. Let's help keep everyone safe & healthy!



Our office will be closed the following days:
Labor Day—Monday, September 6, 2021
Veterans Day—Thursday, November 11, 2021
We wish you safe and happy holidays!

UDWI REMC was founded to serve the electric energy needs of its members by adhering to the 7 Cooperative Principles. The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Members focused on these principles and how UDWI has prioritized them throughout the past year. Upcoming newsletters will highlight one of the principles and outline what the co-op is doing to serve its members.

Members' Economic Participation | Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital remains the common property of the cooperative. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative; setting up reserves; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

- Capital credits
 - UDWI began retiring capital credits in 2013
 - UDWI has retired \$2,000,000 of capital credits over the last eight years
- Investments in renewing our system and improving system reliability
 - UDWI replaced 34 miles of line last year – an all-time record for the coop
 - UDWI has invested \$800,000 in smart-grid technology over the last three years

Smithville & UDWI REMC Partnership Update

Construction for Phases 1 & 2 of the Smithville Fiber Project are complete and members in both of those areas are now able to create service orders and start to get connected.
Check out the project schedule below:

- Phase 1 – Connecting new customers to fiber connections in this area.
- Phase 2 - Scheduled new customer to fiber connections in this area.
- Phase 3 - Construction started and will thru the end of 2021.
- Phase 4 – Design in progress and will be ready for construction starting in January 2022.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT — Jessica Brown

- How long have you worked at UDWI REMC?** 6 years
- Current position:** Manager of Member Services
- What is your favorite part of working at the co-op?** Interacting with people from different areas
- Most memorable moment at work:** A member brought us ice cream cones in the drive-thru
- What are your hobbies?** Spending time with family
- Random fact about you:** Won 1st place in State competition for Researched Persuasive Speaking
- Guilty pleasure:** Oreos & milk— always eat too many!



LIFE LESSONS

Educate children on bus safety

SCHOOL DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN. Do you and your child know the electrical safety risks lurking between your house and their school?

Keep these safety tips in mind.

- Warn your child not to play near or around power lines** while waiting for the bus.
- Warn your child to stay away from pad-mount transformers** (the big, usually green boxes) or other electrical equipment in your neighborhood. 7,200 volts of electricity are usually coursing through them.



June 2021 Community Fund Grant Recipients

The following organizations were awarded grants from the UDWI REMC Community Fund. Thank you to those members who contributed to this worthwhile program!

- | | |
|--|---|
| ◊ Clay County Historical Society | ◊ Open Arms Family & Educational Services |
| ◊ Faithful Fitness | ◊ Pregnancy Choices |
| ◊ Healthy Hearts Program | ◊ Scotland Festival Committee |
| ◊ Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry | ◊ Shakamak Guidance Dept. |
| ◊ Knights of Columbus Council #1166 | ◊ Spencer Pride, Inc. |
| ◊ Linton Farmers Market | ◊ The Monroe County Civic Theater |
| ◊ Linton Police Dept.—National Night Out | |



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.

