

News from Your Co-op

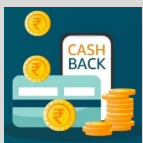
July/August 2022



Did You Know?

Members who sign up to receive electronic billing statements and opt-in for automatic payments from a checking or savings account can save money on their electric bill every month! Eligible accounts can receive a bill credit of \$2 per account every month.

For more information on this bill credit, please contact customer service Monday – Friday from 7:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. at 812-384-4446 or 800-489-7362, or email memberservice@udwiremc.com.



Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/udwiremc

Updates and Changes at UDWI REMC

As we head into the second half of 2022, UDWI REMC wants its members to be aware of changes and updates to the cooperative.

Effective this month, the power cost that the Utilities District of Western Indiana REMC pays to Hoosier Energy will increase six percent compared to the prior quarter. Record high energy prices, inflation, supply chain disruptions, and events in Europe are having a significant impact on the cost of electricity.

UDWI members will see this increase reflected in the bills they receive in August. The price UDWI pays to its Generation & Transmission (Hoosier Energy) is updated each quarter and decreases or increases to reflect changes in the actual cost of providing power.

The global nature of power supply costs is making it difficult to predict with certainty how long prices may remain elevated. However, we expect the challenging environment to continue into the foreseeable future, possibly the next few years as prices around us continue to rise.

UDWI is working behind the scenes to help reduce this increase as much as possible. UDWI has made it a co-op priority to cut costs through prudent management and operational efficiencies, and they will continue to do so whenever possible. As a result of the expenditure cuts made by UDWI, the average rate impact on members will be held down to approximately 1.8 percent. This increase will be seen in the billings members will receive in early August for the energy they consume in July.

Since 2018, Hoosier Energy has reduced its non-fuel costs by six percent and continues to look for further opportunities to reduce costs across the organization to help reduce energy costs.

UDWI will continue to actively seek lower power costs from Hoosier Energy.

To help further mitigate the increase, UDWI has put together tips for members to conserve power, especially during these warmer summer months. Members can find those tips and more by visiting our website.

In other cooperative news, UDWI is launching a NEW Outage Management System!

Members can now have faster access to more information regarding power outages and restoration timelines. The new OMS features an interactive map that allows members to search the UDWI service territory and identify outages. Additionally, it provides members with more options for notifications in the event of an outage. These texts and/or phone calls will alert members of the outage and other available information such as estimated restoration time and explanation for the outage, if available.

Members will want to make sure they save & bookmark the new outage map web address for quick access! Find the web address on our website, or visit: <https://outages.udwiremc.com:7576>. Check back often for new updates!

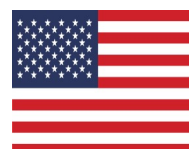
It is our mission to continue to increase transparency with members, especially during times of severe weather and emergency. We hope you love this new OMS as much as we do!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through these challenges and changes together!

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. Masks are encouraged. Visitors should continue to maintain proper social distancing. Let's continue to keep everyone safe & healthy!



Our office will be closed:
Monday, September 5th — Labor Day
Wishing you a safe & happy holiday!

Indiana Electric Cooperatives Managers' Association Scholarship Winners

The Indiana Electric Cooperatives Managers' Association Scholarship is a \$1,000 scholarship given to ten outstanding students each year. The purpose of this scholarship is to help further the education of the sons and daughters of Indiana electric co-op directors and employees, and to give them the chance to be more aware about energy industry careers.

TANNER DENHAM



Tanner is the son of UDWI REMC Warehouseman, Darren Denham.

Tanner is currently a student at Purdue University pursuing a bachelor's degree in Agribusiness Management with a minor in Crop and Soil Science. Tanner also serves as an officer for Agribusiness Club and is an active member in the Agronomy Club and Agriculture Future of America. He will be rejoining AgriGold this summer for his second year as a sales intern. In his spare time, Tanner enjoys hunting, fishing, and helping local crop and livestock farmers. Tanner is also a member of Faithway Bible Church in Worthington.

CHRISTOPHER ROYAL



Christopher is the son of UDWI REMC District 4 Director, John Royal

Christopher recently graduated as valedictorian from Bloomfield Jr./Sr. High School. He played many sports while in school, soccer, basketball, and track. In the fall, he will begin attending Wabash College where he will focus on track and field.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT — Cory Lutz

How long have you worked at UDWI REMC? 16 years

Current position: Metering Technician

What is your favorite part of working at the co-op? Meeting and working with UDWI REMC members

Memorable moment(s) at work: Hearing office windows & roof being destroyed during major thunderstorm

What are your hobbies? Fishing, hunting, golfing, and watching my kids grow!

What are your pet peeves? Loud eaters and laziness

Favorite Food & Drink: Pasta & Coffee

Random fact(s) about me: I am a twin!



Meet Cory



GROUND-MOUNTED UTILITY BOXES ARE NOT READING NOOKS

Ground-mounted transformers are necessary infrastructure for buried power lines and shouldn't be played on or tampered with.



Meter testing continues

UDWI REMC meter technicians continue with routine meter tests in our entire service territory and will do so 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.



Smithville & UDWI REMC Partnership Update

The Smithville Fiber Project continues to move forward as more members are provided with fiber to their homes. Members can take advantage of the early sign-up option for all future fiber locations by visiting www.smithville.com or calling (800) 742-4084 to pre-register for services. Below is the status for the various phases:

- ◊Phase 1, 2, 3 Actively installing fiber for customers.
- ◊Phase 4 Construction will wrap up in July and installation will begin shortly after.
- ◊Phase 5, 6 Construction will begin in July and should be completed in November.
- ◊Phase 7 (final) Construction should begin in Fall 2022 and be complete by the end of the year.



March 2022 Community Fund Recipients

- Bloomfield Eastern Greene County Public Library
- Bloomfield Elementary School
- Bloomfield Jr./Sr. High School NJROTC
- Citizens for a Better Worthington
- Clay City Fair Association, Inc.
- Friends of the Library
- Greene County Meals of Hope
- Greene County Showcase, Inc.
- Greene County Soccer Association
- Healthy Hearts WRV
- Knights of Columbus Council #1166
- Lawrence County Cancer Patient Services
- Music Makers of Monroe County
- Owen County Public Library
- Resurrecting Recovery Center
- Scotland Community Church Women's Ministries
- Wagler Education and Training Center

Applications are being accepted from non-profit businesses and organizations for the next round of Community Fund grants until September 14, 2022.

