

**CONTACT US**  
Office: 800-933-7362

**24/7 PAYMENT BY PHONE**  
833-410-0497

**WEBSITE**  
www.nobleremc.com

**EMAIL**  
remc@nobleremc.com

**OFFICE HOURS**  
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

**STREET ADDRESS**  
300 Weber Road  
Albion, IN 46701

**MAILING ADDRESS**  
P.O. Box 137, Albion, IN 46701

**EMERGENCY POWER OUTAGES**  
To report a power outage, please call 800-933-7362. We are available to serve you 24 hours a day.

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# UNPLUG

## WITH MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



Most adults have a vague memory of a time when “checking for messages” meant listening to an answering machine. We carried on with our days without

relying on cell phones and managed just fine. But today, we are more connected than ever through our smartphones and other devices.

Our phones are so much more now — from cameras to calendars to social media connections — and truly disconnecting from them can be tough. But it’s even harder for our kids to unplug because they only know life with these tiny screens. It’s difficult for them to imagine life without computers, gaming devices, tablets or cell phones.

But there’s great value in unplugging for children and adults, even if it’s for just a short period of time. For kids, time away from the screen to be outside with other children allows them to connect with nature and others in a way that a virtual experience simply does not allow. They are able to experience life in the moment and allow their creativity and energy to break free.

Fortunately, we have access to great community programs and organizations through local libraries, community centers, 4-H and more that provide children with a safe place to play, learn and grow, while cultivating new skills and interests.

These types of clubs and programs offer kids an opportunity to explore activities and interests they might not otherwise have access to and discover new interests and passions. They often learn new skills and strengthen existing ones.

Community programs also foster important leadership development and public speaking skills. Through guided and informal play and activities, children learn problem-solving and interpersonal skills that enable them to resolve conflicts peacefully and improve interpersonal relationships.

Adults can also find meaningful opportunities to spend time with the kids when we all unplug. From board games to craft projects to playing in the park, there are many ways we can unplug for some family fun.

While you and your children are disconnecting, take a moment to identify potential energy savings. Unplug electronics that are not in use to avoid “vampire” energy loss. This is the energy that is drained from technology and electronics even when they are not in use. For example, although it is turned off, your TV is waiting to receive a signal from the remote and your DVR is waiting to record the next show or perform an update.

Let’s encourage youngsters to step away from the screens and join in to find new ways to connect with others and explore new activities and interests.

When you do plug back in, Noble REMC is here to help you save money and energy by connecting you with our energy saving programs and services. We’re just a call or click away.

**RON RAYPOLE**  
President/CEO

# We're *thankful* for our membership

November is the month of giving thanks and showing gratitude for the people and things that matter most to us. (Really, this should happen every day, but life gets busy...)

In celebration of our 85th anniversary, a few of our employees took time to highlight what makes the co-op so special: our members. They answered the question: "Why are you thankful for our community and our members?"

Here's what they said:

**AUDREY BOWSER, MEMBER SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE**

"I am thankful for our members because I appreciate the relationships we have formed over the years. I love seeing the same friendly faces coming in each month or giving us a call, whether it's to pay a bill, ask a question or even give us a hard time (in a fun way).



I'm grateful to be a part of this community, where you can talk to a stranger, and they will always know someone that you know. People are so quick to help each other."

**RON RAYPOLE, CEO**

"I am thankful to be part of this small but progressive community. We have strong economic development initiatives and many quality-of-life offerings.



I am thankful for our generous members who so graciously give back to the community both financially and through volunteerism. A prime example is the hundreds of people who spent countless hours helping to vaccinate our friends, neighbors and, oftentimes, complete strangers without expecting anything in return. Thank you again for your

caring nature and willingness to help those in need."

**KELLY LYNCH, COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST**

"I never saw myself working for an electric co-op or living in a 'small town,' but our members and mission are what made the difference and changed my mind. Being in the communications department, I'm fortunate to read about and record so many situations where the community comes together to help those in need or improve the quality of life of our members and other residents. From rallying around a neighbor battling cancer to collecting donations for the local fire department, it's just in their blood. You wouldn't find that support anywhere else."



## Interested in 4-H? Let us cover the cost

The first 200 youth who enroll in area county 4-H programs for 2022, and whose families are Noble REMC members, will have their 4-H program fee reimbursed by us.

When you enroll your child and pay the \$15 program fee, contact your county's Purdue Extension

office to ask for a credit voucher, which you can then mail or drop off at the REMC to receive a \$15 bill credit.

You get to enjoy the benefits of a wonderful organization, and we get to help our community. It's as simple as that.



## WELCOME, JARED!

Our right-of-way crew works tirelessly to maintain the stability of our system, and recently it welcomed another member to its team: **JARED BUCKLES**.



A Columbia City resident, Buckles knew of the co-op culture from our colleagues over at Northeastern REMC, and after serving as a groundman at Columbia City Electric Department, he wanted to venture out in search of new opportunities. He found it in an opening here at Noble REMC.

"I've always heard it's a really good place to work," Buckles said.

Working as a tree trimmer on our crew since July, he said the thing he enjoys the most is being outside and learning our service territory, a lot of it places he's never seen before.

And if he reaches his goal of staying here until he retires, he'll be seeing a lot more of it – and a lot more of you, our members – over the span of his career.

Welcome, Jared!

## COOK UP ENERGY SAVINGS THIS HOLIDAY

As we prepare for the upcoming holiday season, Noble REMC has some tips that will save you energy when cooking the holiday feast.

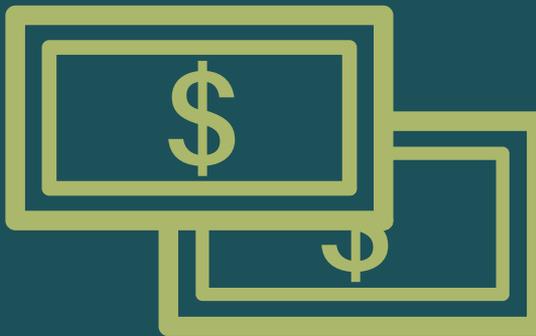
- Match the pan size to the burner you're using.
- Clean oven burners regularly.
- Use small appliances like slow cookers and toaster ovens when possible.
- Don't plug too many appliances into an outlet.
- Shut off rooms and turn down the thermostat in rooms that won't be in used by guests.

Noble REMC wishes you a Happy Thanksgiving with friends and family!



SIGN UP FOR  AND

# WIN A \$100 VISA GIFT CARD!



When you sign up for Noble REMC's SmartHub app by Dec. 15, you'll be entered into a drawing for the grand prize gift card!

In addition to the gift card, those who sign up benefit from the app's ability to help you manage your bill payments, energy usage and outage information.

And don't think that we forgot about our members who have been loyal to our SmartHub app from the beginning! To thank you for using the app, we will also be entering you into a separate drawing for another \$100 Visa gift card.

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
OR HELP SIGNING UP,  
CALL OUR OFFICE AT  
800-933-7362.

**Noble REMC**  
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

# Ductless provides efficiency, comfort

Ductless heat pumps, or mini-splits, are a proven technology that can offer long-term energy and financial savings. These heat pumps function the same way as traditional heat pumps, by absorbing energy in the form of heat from one location and moving it to another, but they distribute indoor air without the need for ducts.

The technology continues to grow in popularity as homeowners seek more energy-efficient products. Specifically, a ductless heating and cooling system can be a great option for homeowners who wish to heat or cool individual rooms.

Ductless heat pump benefits:

## MORE EFFICIENT

- Save more than 30% in annual heating and cooling costs
- No ducts and no duct leakage
- Long, quiet run times

## BETTER COMFORT

- Keep rooms at individual temperatures
- Integrated air filtration
- Efficient fans vary speed to keep a consistent temperature

The best part? Noble REMC provides cash back rebates for making the

investment in the installation of ductless heat pumps through our Power Moves energy efficiency program.

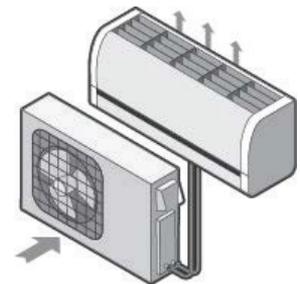
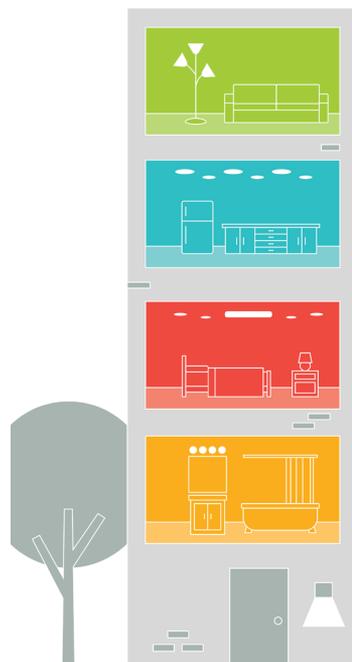


Illustration of a ductless mini-split heat pump.

To learn more about our Power Moves program, visit [nobleremc.com/rebates](http://nobleremc.com/rebates) or call our energy advisor, Brian Hawk, at 800-933-7362.

Sources: Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, Advanced Energy



## Shining Light on LED Savings

LED lights last up to 30 times longer than incandescents, reducing the need to replace bulbs in high or hard-to-reach places. Where can you use LEDs?

### Living Room Lamps

Table or floor three-way lamps using LED bulbs provide 620, 1,600 or 2,150 lumens of soft white light and deliver up to 25,000 hours of light.

### Kitchen

Dimmable recessed LED conversion lights add a warm glow of up to 1,200 lumens for kitchen workspaces and add far less heat. Each bulb could last 10 years.

### Bedrooms and Hallways

Long-life LEDs are ideal for ceiling fixtures. A 9-watt LED produces the same 800 lumens of light as a 60-watt incandescent, and uses about 80 percent less energy.

### Bathrooms

Omnidirectional LED globe bulbs provide a warm glow ideal for bathrooms. A 6-watt bulb produces 450 lumens and lasts up to 15,000 hours.

### Outdoors

A 6-watt, 500 lumen LED bulb can replace a 40-watt incandescent bulb. The LEDs last up to 30,000 hours, so it could be a one-time switch.