

CONTACT US
Office: 800-933-7362

24/7 PAYMENT BY PHONE
855-951-3596

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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**NOW'S THE TIME
TO GO PAPERLESS!**

Congratulations, **Lisa Kimmell!** She was our latest winner of a \$100 bill credit for choosing paperless billing.

You have two more months to make the switch to paperless billing and add your name to the list from which we randomly select one member each month to win a \$100 bill credit.

But that amount will be even bigger in December! Check out Page 8 for more information.

MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BE *happy and bright*

As November kicks off, it's hard to believe we will soon gather with family and friends to celebrate the holiday season. This festive time of year brings joy and warmth, but as the weather gets cooler and we spend more time indoors, the holidays can also bring increased energy use and a higher risk of electrical and fire hazards.

As your local electric cooperative, our team at Noble REMC cares about your well-being. This month, I'd like to share a few practical tips to help you stay safe and efficient during the holiday season.

SAFETY FIRST

My family enjoys decorating our home for the holidays. Before we deck the halls, I always check electrical cords and light strands to make sure they aren't frayed or damaged. Knowing our holiday lights are ready to safely brighten our home gives us peace of mind. I also double-check the lights we use outside to make sure they are rated for outdoor use.

Like many households, we also enjoy holiday-scented candles. While festive, candles can create fire hazards and should never be left unattended. One of the best and easiest ways to safeguard your home is to test smoke alarms often. I test mine on the first of each month, so it's easy to remember. Testing smoke alarms only takes a few seconds and could save lives, so make it a habit.

'TIS THE SEASON FOR SAVINGS

Spending more time indoors with a few more guests can really impact home energy use. By taking a few small steps to save energy during the holiday season, you can lower your bills.

I like to remind my family members to mind the thermostat. Since heating and cooling make up the majority of home energy consumption, the thermostat is one of the best places for savings. Lower it a few degrees, especially when family or friends stop by. Good company brings additional warmth to your home.

Your family can also save energy by decorating with LED holiday lights. LEDs are the most energy-efficient lighting options available, and they last much longer than traditional bulbs.

There's no denying one of the best parts of the holiday season is the food — not just the meals but the time we spend together in the kitchen. There are many ways to save in the heart of your home, but one of the best approaches is to cook with smaller countertop appliances, such as air fryers, slow cookers and toaster ovens. These handy appliances consume a fraction of the energy used to heat the oven, creating the perfect recipe for mealtime and energy savings.

I hope you will implement some of these energy-saving and safety tips into your holiday plans. For additional advice, visit **nobleremc.com**. We're here to help you with safety and savings year-round.

From your friends at Noble REMC, we hope your holiday season is merry and bright.



RON RAYPOLE
President/CEO

Journeyman Lineman Eli Stangland uses a bucket truck to clean second-story windows at Lighthouse Childcare and Learning Service in Ligonier.



GIVING BACK

Noble REMC participates in statewide Community Day

Noble REMC is committed to positively impacting our community every day. But when it comes to National Co-op Month in October, we take it one step further with our Community Day event.

Electric cooperatives throughout Indiana spent the month giving back through our statewide Community Day. It's a special time when we can all jointly volunteer in our communities to further improve the quality of life for our friends, neighbors and members.

In the past, Noble REMC employees have painted benches at local parks, helped renovate community centers, trimmed trees at animal sanctuaries, and much more.

This year, our efforts supported the youngest in our area by helping local daycare centers across our service territory with their needs. Teams of Noble REMC employees cleaned and provided overall maintenance at Lighthouse Childcare and Learning Service in Ligonier; reinforced and upgraded an outdoor shed, as well as prepped food for a fundraiser, at Trinity Daycare Ministry in Albion; and landscaped, constructed a playhouse and renovated the interior at Kendallville Day Care Center.

There's no better way to celebrate the cooperative spirit than by giving back to the community that built us!



Employees Cody Kirkpatrick, Zane Gray, Rob Hauck, and Luke Gillis cut and paint new trim for Trinity Daycare Ministry's renovated shed.



Right-of-Way Crew Members Jarrett Hawk, left, and Lane Norris work to place paneling at Kendallville Day Care Center.

LIGHTING the Way

ALL RHOADES LED
TO THE CO-OP
FOR TYLER



Noble REMC
Journeyman Lineman
Tyler Rhoades

A Michigan native, Journeyman Lineman Tyler Rhoades is glad his journey landed him here in northeast Indiana at Noble REMC.

Initially, his plan was to go into aviation, attending college on an Air Force ROTC scholarship. But when he started getting restless in the classroom, he pulled a 180 and went to line school instead.

He started applying all over the U.S. soon after as a first-year apprentice lineman. He found a job in the area but sent an email to Noble REMC with his interest in the co-op. Years passed, and he tried again, sending another email with his resume to the co-op. Luckily, about two years ago – and six months after his second email – it was all worth it when he got a call back and secured his spot here.

Let's learn more about Rhoades:

WHAT WAS IT ABOUT THE CO-OP THAT ATTRACTED YOU HERE?

Everybody talked about the co-op when I first started working. Co-ops were the place to be. "When somebody's at a co-op, they never leave."

In this industry, there's not a ton of different options. You can go work for an IOU (investor-owned utility) like AEP, you can work for a municipal utility, a union contractor or an electric co-op. I've tried them all — this is my favorite by far.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PART OF YOUR JOB?

Camaraderie, which I'm sure is what everybody says. It really is an awesome place to work, and I'm super grateful. It sounds crazy, but I still have nightmares of working at previous jobs.

WHAT IS AN AVERAGE DAY LIKE?

I would say 90% of the time you walk in here in the morning, you get your cup of coffee, and you have no idea what you're going to do that day. You get a packet of paperwork each morning and you read it, and that's what you're doing for the day.

One day you'll be doing an underground; next day, we'll be in the substation working; and then maybe a whole line rebuild the next day.

WHAT'S SOMETHING PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE JOB?

This trade is unique. People don't understand what we actually do. They don't understand the time away from home, birthday parties missed, the dedication you have to put in to do the job.

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR TIME OUTSIDE OF THE CO-OP?

I try to be a big hunter. I'm time restricted — I have three kids who are very young — but I love hunting deer and duck.

We kind of have like, I wouldn't say a hobby farm — we don't have chickens or goats or anything like that — but we

have horses and kids. I don't think I'd call it a farm; I'd probably call it a zoo.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.

I'm from Howell, Michigan. When I came down here, I met Kasidy in Auburn. We live in Kendallville. We are now in our second house with our three kids.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF IN YOUR LIFE?

My kids, seeing them grow up. They're 6, 4 and 2.

WHAT MOVIE OR SHOW DO YOU THINK YOU'VE WATCHED THE MOST?

"Band of Brothers." I've seen it like 40 times.

WHAT WAS THE LAST BOOK YOU READ?

"American Buffalo" by Steven Rinella. It's a hunting book. He's a world-renowned hunter who is also from Michigan. I didn't start hunting until I was 12 or 13. It just continued from there.

WHAT'S SOMETHING THAT MAY SURPRISE PEOPLE TO LEARN ABOUT YOU?

I have a twin sister. We're polar opposites. She's into choir and drama — theater stuff. She's shorter, blonde hair, blue eyes. I'm dark and tall. I mean we used to have classes like in elementary school and our teachers didn't even know we were related until parent/teacher conferences.

A GIFT FOR YOU

in 4, 3, 2, 1...



We're counting down to the new year by gifting \$1,000 throughout December to our members who choose paperless billing!

Now's the time to sign up for paperless billing and ensure your name is included in our weekly drawing. Winners will be given the choice of a gift card, cash or bill credit for the amount being given away that week.

Go paperless through our SmartHub app or call our office at 800-933-7362 for assistance.



Week 1
\$400 prize

Week 2
\$300 prize

Week 3
\$200 prize

Week 4
\$100 bill credit

Signing up for 4-H? Let us cover the cost.



The first 150 youth who enroll in area county 4-H programs for 2025, 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 Purdue Extension office to ask for a credit voucher, which you can then mail to or drop off at the REMC office 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.