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EMERGENCY POWER OUTAGES

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

CONTACTS

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*New Services, Account Information,
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Kenny Kill
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Ray Burns
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Beating the *peak*



Most of us don't think twice about electricity. We plug something in or switch something on and the current flowing through the wall does what we need.

However, obtaining power and delivering it to your home or business is not quite so simple. It becomes even more challenging during the warmest and most humid days of the year.

Noble REMC doesn't generate the electricity you, our members, use. We buy it from the wholesale power market through Wabash Valley Power Association, which works with many other local electric co-ops to obtain the best prices and most reliable supplies available. Throughout most of the year, that process works very well.

But when temperatures are high, getting that electricity to members becomes a bit more complicated. Members use more power on those days – for everything from cooling homes to powering pumps that supply water to lawns and gardens – and we, as well as other nearby cooperatives and utilities, have to deliver far more power than usual.

Those levels of power use are what we refer to as “peaks” and put tremendous pressure on the regional power grids. The higher demand quickly and dramatically increases the wholesale cost of that electricity, which then gets passed along to our members.

What might surprise you is there are simple steps you can take to protect the power grid and help us avoid buying expensive power on peak use days.

One such step is increasing the temperature on your home's thermostat by a degree or two. You would be amazed at how much a small change will reduce the power you use without having a big effect on your comfort.

Some of the biggest energy-wasters at peak times are swimming pools and water pumps for ponds and fountains. Fortunately, many swimming pools and pumps have timers which can be set to avoid the peak periods of the day – generally from 6-9 a.m. and 4-8 p.m. – and do its work when power is not in great demand.

Waiting to water your lawn or garden until after peak times is another way you can reduce peak use. By waiting until just before sunset, you will help us avoid buying extra power and less of what you put on the ground will evaporate.

By being aware of peak power requirements and taking steps such as these, you can play a personal part in protecting the reliability of the power grid and reducing the cost of electricity. After all, as a co-op, we pass both price increases and savings along to our members!

RON RAYPOLE
President/CEO



Noble REMC's in-house right-of-way crew works to clear overgrown limbs and brush.

Vegetation masters

When members see our right-of-way crew along the side of the road, some may see a picture of destruction rather than preservation as chainsaws cut through limbs and branches are thrown into the chipper.

What they may not understand is the hard work being done to maintain Noble REMC lines to keep our members safe and provide a reliable flow of electricity.

To better succeed in that mission and after contracting services for the past few months, the co-op recently welcomed two new tree trimmers – Trevor Harlan and Sonny Windhorst – to bring our services in-house. They will join veteran Right-of-Way Foreman Ray Burns to complete the crew.

“Bringing our right-of-way crew in-house allows the cooperative to maintain our personal touch,” Burns said. “Our crew cares about our members.”

It's not always easy to watch the team take down limbs in your yard, but the same trees that beautify your landscape and provide shade for your home can be responsible for serious danger to your family and potential problems with your electrical service. This includes momentary short circuits, flickering lights, and in the case of strong winds, snow or ice, an outage due to knocked out power lines from falling limbs.

When visiting your area, Burns' crew evaluates the power lines and public safety. If necessary, they'll identify trees that need to be trimmed at our cost. They will attempt to notify the property owner as a courtesy.

As a commitment to our members' safety and comfort, we need to keep trees and power lines away from each other. Windhorst and Harlan are here to do just that.

Windhorst comes to the position with experience after previously working for Mint City Tree Services, a vegetation management contractor for utilities. He's a graduate of LaVille Jr.-Sr. High School and earned a bachelor's degree from Defiance College.

Living in Fort Wayne with his wife Rachel, he was eager to begin his work at the cooperative.

“I wanted to join the REMC because every person I've met that works for the REMC loves it,” Windhorst said. “It's great working for a company with a great reputation.”

Harlan agreed, “I have heard really good things about the REMC, and I wanted to be a part of it. I thought I'd really enjoy the job – which I do – and love getting to be outside.”

An Albion resident, Harlan graduated from Central Noble High School, where he took vocational training through Impact Institute.

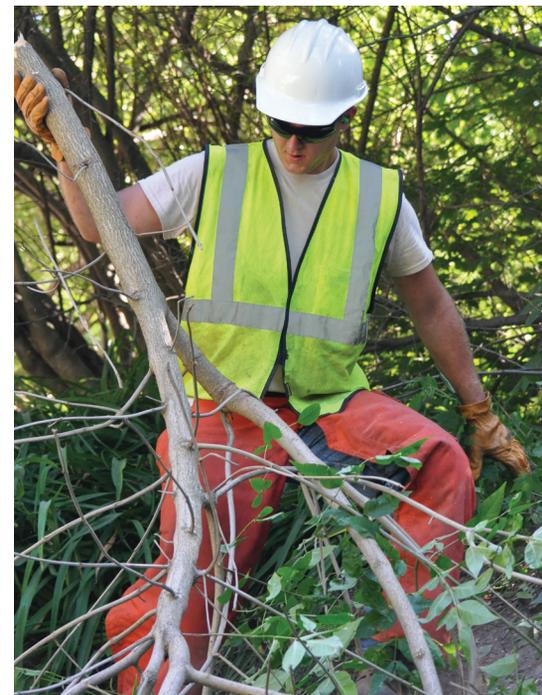
He recently married his wife, McKenzie, at Sweet Church Community Center near Skinner Lake.

Burns said the duo are exceeding expectations and are a great addition to the crew.

“I could not have asked for two better employees,” Burns said.



Sonny Windhorst smiles as he readies to cut limbs while in the bucket truck.



Trevor Harlan works to remove limbs along a roadway.



The Indiana Electric Cooperative Youth Tour delegation poses in front of the White House.

Youth Tour: Trip of a lifetime

The nation's capital brightened in June with the arrival of a delegation of students representing electric co-ops across the state.

Noble REMC sponsored two students, Isaac Coats from West Noble High School and Melissa Domer from East Noble High School, for the fun and educational experience June 7-14. The Youth Tour provided young Hoosiers the opportunity to visit the nation's capital to learn about government, experience American history and gain a

better understanding about their electric cooperative and our government.

A group of 100 students representing Indiana electric cooperatives went on the trip, joining more than 1,800 students from across the nation who traveled to Washington, D.C., for the weeklong program.

Students who participated in the trip visited the Flight 93 Memorial, Gettysburg Battlefield, Arlington National Cemetery,

Smithsonian museums and National Mall memorials. They also took a night cruise on the Potomac River and much more.

The Indiana Youth Tour students also participated in a youth rally, during which they shared their thoughts and opinions on a variety of timely issues. The youth rally prepared the students for a day on Capitol Hill, where they had an opportunity to meet with Indiana's congressional delegation.

MY YOUTH TOUR EXPERIENCE *by Isaac Coats*



Noble REMC Youth Tour delegates Melissa Domer and Isaac Coats.

My trip to Washington, D.C., was full of fun times with new friends. On my trip, I saw many monuments, locations important to American history, places where important decisions that affect the population were/are made and people who wanted change. I enjoyed the architecture of the buildings and

the history behind what happened in the buildings. What I found the most memorable about the trip were the somber and sad memorials that brought life to what happened in those places or events. This trip to D.C. showed me that there is a larger picture to the country than my community; instead, there is a larger collective

who should be working together. I learned the importance to being informed from protesters who were calling for change that had already happened.

During the trip, I met many new friends from all over the state and a few friends from across the country. The trip was an experience I will never forget.



From left, Noble REMC's Touchstone Energy campers Grant Lake, Austin Schuman and Bryce Millhouse.



Do we have your latest information?

It's important for Noble REMC to have the most up-to-date contact information for our members to maintain communication about their accounts and other cooperative business.

However, there are numerous accounts with outdated information.

Current phone numbers are essential when we send out phone notification messages regarding planned outages or other important issues.

In an effort to better communicate with you, we've provided a space at the bottom left of our newly redesigned bill for you to update your contact information if it has recently changed or if you've added another phone line. Simply fill out the information box provided and send it back with your payment.

One of the most important and relevant phone notifications is the warning of service disconnection for non-payment. If we do not have your updated number, you will not get the notification.

Please call the Noble REMC office at 800-933-7362 to update your information at any time.

Camp = education and fun

Bucket trucks, zip lines and rowboats are what students will remember from their time spent at Touchstone Energy Camp this summer.

Noble REMC sponsored three students — Bryce Millhouse and Austin Schuman, both from Avilla Elementary School, and Grant Lake from St. Mary's Catholic School — to travel to Camp Tecumseh in Brookston, Indiana, for four days of fun in June. The three joined more than 130 other students at the unique camp.

Students entering seventh grade this fall were eligible to attend, and applications were judged anonymously to select the participants.

Campers enjoyed traditional outdoor camp activities, such as horseback riding, swimming, campfires and rock climbing. In addition to these activities, campers learned about the environment, electrical safety practices and the cooperative business model.

"Touchstone Energy Camp provides immeasurable benefits to both our community and our cooperative," Noble REMC CEO Ron Raypole said. "We're glad to support our youth at this camp."

But don't take our word for it. Hear about the experience straight from the campers:

"Thank you for sending me to Touchstone Energy Camp. I had so much fun zip lining, riding horses, rock climbing and swimming. My favorite thing was to go up in the bucket truck. I have always wanted to go up in one, but I never got the chance before camp. My brother, Cole, is looking forward to applying next year. Thank you very much!" — Grant Lake

"What I liked about camp was meeting new friends and going out on the rowboat. I thought the counselor was very nice. Since I had hurt my foot three days before going to camp, he took me out in the rowboat so I could also enjoy the canoe outing. I also enjoyed learning new things like building a three-phase electrical pole." — Austin Schuman

"Touchstone Energy Camp was so much more fun than I could ever have imagined. I had my first experiences with zip lining and kayaking. I made some really good friends with kids and camp counselors. Each day was full of fun activities, and we learned a lot about electricity and safety. I even got to climb a utility pole! I hope that more people will get to have the same opportunity that I did in the years to come. Thank you, Noble REMC!" — Bryce Millhouse