

## Merry Christmas from Northeastern REMC

The employees and board members would like to wish you and your family a safe and happy Christmas season and new year!

## Patronage capital checks to be mailed to qualifying members this month



**Keep an eye on your mail!** Northeastern REMC is a not for profit cooperative owned by its members. When revenues exceed expenses, the unused funds are considered margins.

Each year margins are allocated to members in the form of patronage capital. The amount a member receives is based on the dollar amount of electricity a member purchases in the given year. This patronage capital reflects a member's ownership in NREMC.

The cooperative uses this capital to fund operating activities and reduce borrowing, with the intent of later refunding that capital back to members. After reviewing the cooperative's finances each year, the board of directors determines whether a portion of patronage capital can be returned to members.

This year the board of directors has approved a patronage capital retirement representing the balance of 1994 and a partial refund of 1995. Checks to members receiving power these years will be mailed this month. With this mailing, NREMC has refunded approximately \$34 million to members over the years.

Receiving patronage refunds is just one of the real values of being a member of Northeastern REMC!

# Turn your spare change into positive change in our community



Thanks to the generosity of many of our members, several local organizations have received much-needed financial support this year. And to some it meant being able to expand or retain their services that help others in our community.

Northeastern REMC members participating in Northeastern's Operation Round Up program voluntarily round up their monthly electric bill to the nearest dollar. The "spare change" gathered from members, which averages approximately \$6 year, is distributed quarterly. All donations stay local. Funds awarded are meant to help meet needs not being met through other sources. Funding for political contributions and payment of utility bills will not be considered.

We need more members participating in Operation Round Up to make an even bigger impact in our community. Can we count on you?

If you would like to help your neighbors in need by rounding up your electric bill to the nearest dollar each month, or if you have questions about this charitable program, please call our member services department (888-413-6111) or visit our website at [nremc.com](http://nremc.com). Signing up is very easy and is greatly appreciated by so many in our community!

We are also seeking applications from organizations needing assistance from Operation Round Up. The next round of funding will occur in January. Funding requests are reviewed and distribution decisions are made by the Northeastern REMC Community Trust Board of Directors. This board is made up of volunteers from throughout our service area. To meet the next deadline, all materials must be submitted by Tuesday, December 31, 2019. Applications are available at [nremc.com](http://nremc.com).

## Northeastern REMC OPERATION ROUND UP

### How it works:

Once you opt-in to Operation Round Up, Northeastern "rounds up" your electric bills to the next highest dollar. For example, a bill for \$83.76 would be rounded to \$84.00 and .24¢ would be donated to the program from this bill. The program is strictly voluntary. Members must opt-in the program by contacting our member services department and requesting to participate in the program.

### Get started:

Contact member services at 1-888-413-6111 and tell them you want to round up your change for positive change in our community!

### 2019 Recipients:

Big Lake  
Church of God

Churubusco  
Community  
Child Care Center

Grace Lutheran  
Church  
Food Pantry

Homebound  
Meals Inc

Junior  
Achievement

RespectTeam

Big Brothers Big  
Sisters  
of NE Indiana

Churubusco  
United Methodist  
Nursery School

Hoosiers Feeding  
the Hungry

The Center for  
Whitley County Youth

Churubusco FFA  
Livestock Judging

TROY School

Keep family gatherings comfortable. Temperature wise, at least.

WATCH FOR SPECIAL PRICING TO BE ANNOUNCED ON FACEBOOK!

## Watch for special Nest thermostat pricing!

### Best prices of the season!

We're offering some great deals on Nest thermostats throughout December!

Watch for exclusive deals and announcements on our Facebook page: [facebook.com/nremc](https://facebook.com/nremc) or call our energy advisor at 888-413-6111 x 403

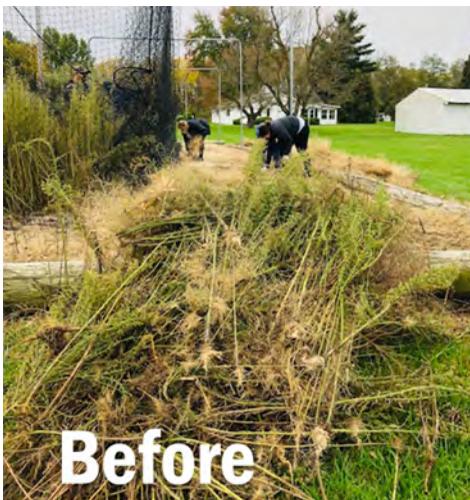
# COOPERATIVE COMMUNITY DAY



On Friday, October 25, thirteen employees of Northeastern REMC participated in Cooperative Community Day. We were one of 28 electric co-ops in Indiana that worked on projects within our communities. This is a day our employees look forward to each year. Demonstrating the "concern for community" principle is one of our favorite activities.

We spent the day at the baseball field in Larwill where we used our equipment, skills, and expertise to replace broken lights, install the new sign bearing our name, remove overgrown weeds from the batting cages, and touch-up paint on all the buildings. We also helped spread new dirt across the infield and in the batting cage, and tore down an old brick drinking fountain that had become a serious safety hazard.

We are honored that community leaders have renamed the field after us, Northeastern REMC Field. Rejuvenating and maintaining this park is a true testament of the love our employees have for their communities.



See more photos on Facebook: [facebook.com/nremc](https://facebook.com/nremc)

## Co-op Principle #7: Concern for Community

**Your electric cooperative is an integral part of the area it serves and has strong roots in the community.**

Supporting new jobs and industry through economic development efforts, your co-op stands as a driving force in your community.

But the benefits your community reaps from your co-op are more than just financial. For example, your co-op may open doors for young people with scholarship programs, the annual Electric Cooperative Youth Tour trip to Washington, D.C., and teaching about electric safety through programs in schools.

Your electric cooperative also supports local charities and helps members and neighbors in need by sponsoring food drives, charity fundraisers, and countless other events.

When it comes to your local, member-owned electric cooperative, community comes first. That's the cooperative difference.

**Learn more about the co-op principles:**  
[nremc.com/content/cooperative-principles](https://nremc.com/content/cooperative-principles)

# UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN/TEENS

## Apply now for Northeastern's annual college scholarships



Undoubtedly, going to college costs a lot of money. But Northeastern REMC would like to lighten the burden by awarding scholarships that can help offset some of the expense to two graduating high school students.

Two students will be selected from applicants to receive **\$1000 to apply toward the expenses of attending college**, full-time, during the 2020-21 school year. To be considered, students must complete and return their application and all requested materials by the posted deadline. Failure to do so will eliminate students from qualification. Application forms and details can be found on our website, [nremc.com](http://nremc.com).

Selection criteria will be based on scholastic achievement, school involvement, community involvement, and recommendations. Students must be a graduating senior, accepted to an accredited college or university, and be a full-time dependent of a current Northeastern REMC member.

Northeastern REMC feels that there is no better way to support our community than to encourage our local students in their pursuit of higher education. Good luck to all 2020 graduates.

## We want to send your teen to Washington D.C. this summer

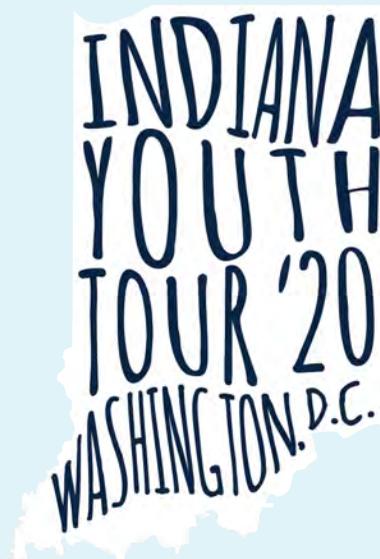
High school juniors have the opportunity to join other Indiana teens on a free trip of a lifetime to Washington DC in June! Applications are now available for the 2020 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour on our website. Northeastern REMC is pleased to again provide this opportunity to two 11th grade students who live in NREMC's service area.

This experience will provide students the chance to see historical sights, meet lawmakers in Washington, make new friends and learn how everyone, even teens, can be a leader and make a difference in the world!

This seven-day trip will take place June 18-25, 2020 and includes visits with your Hoosier U.S. Congressional leaders on Capitol Hill and a rally with over 1,800 student delegates from across the country.

**Applications available beginning December 1**

**Learn more: [nremc.com/content/youth-tour-washington-dc](http://nremc.com/content/youth-tour-washington-dc)**



HORSEBACK RIDING • CANOEING • ROCK CLIMBING • ZIP LINING • ARCHERY • SWIMMING



Are you an Indiana student entering seventh grade in 2020? Learn about electricity, try cool activities, and make new friends this summer at Touchstone Energy Camp!

**Apply Now: [TouchstoneEnergyCamp.org](http://TouchstoneEnergyCamp.org)**

Applications are due March 2, 2020

# Deck the halls with boughs of safety

In the rush of decorating, shopping, cooking, and entertaining, it might be tempting to short change safety measures you'd never think of doing any other time of year. But don't.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, one of every three home Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems.



## Here are some things to keep in mind when decorating your home for the holidays:

- Decorate your tree with new LED lights. Unlike traditional incandescent bulbs or tiny lights, LEDs do not get hot.
- Do not mount or string light strands in ways that might damage the cord's protective covering, such as with nails or staples.
- Make sure all decorations, especially those used outside, are plugged into an outlet protected with a ground-fault circuit interrupter.
- Always unplug your indoor holiday lights before leaving home or going to bed. Have your outdoor lights on a timer to save energy and reduce the risk of fire.

# Use your Co-op Connections Card while you shop!



As a valued member of our electric cooperative, you have access to a FREE exclusive membership that provides discounts and deals at stores you're already shopping at!

Getting a discount is simple - just show or mention your Co-op Connections Discount Card to participating merchants and receive their advertised special. The offers include discounts to over 325 businesses within 25 miles of Columbia City. These include gift shops, florists,

local restaurants and services such as automobile repair, carpet cleaning, car rental, hotels and more!

There are also plenty of offers for national chains around the country so keep it handy if you're traveling during the holidays.

Learn more about these deals and get your card by visiting our website and searching for "co-op connections card". You'll find a complete list of deals and offers. Plus you can easily download the app and have all of the offers right on your phone.

You can also stop by our office and grab a card!

# SPOTLIGHT

## Holiday office hours

Northeastern REMC will be closed to celebrate the holidays on:

**December 24**

**December 25**

**January 1**

Payments can be made online at [nremc.com](http://nremc.com) and by using the SmartHub App.

## Free calendars & almanacs

A limited number of **2020 wall calendars** featuring award-winning art from area children is available in our lobby at 4901 East Park 30 Drive in Columbia City and at the libraries in Columbia City and South Whitley.

**2020 Farmer's Almanacs** are also available in our office lobby, while supplies last.

## Thanks for attending!

Our latest "Power Hour" was again a huge hit with close to 100 RSVPs from members seeking information on home security and wanting to see the beautifully renovated venue - The Charles Event Center on Carroll Road. Thank you to all who shared their evening with us. Thanks also to The Charles for hosting us and providing the fabulous desserts and drinks.

## Our Vision

Service, Satisfaction and Safety -  
Second to None!

## Our Mission

To meet our members' on-going need for reliable energy service at a good value while meriting trust and confidence.



## In this issue:

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- Cooperative Community Day in Larwill (page 2)
- Camp, youth tour & scholarship opportunities (page 4)
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- Making a difference with Operation Round Up (page 6)

...and more!



Exclusive  
deals for  
members

(Go to page 5)

# LIGHTPOST

Questions? E-mail [memberservices@nremc.com](mailto:memberservices@nremc.com)

Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

1-888-413-6111

Line Locating: Please call 811 at least 2 full business days prior to digging.

