



## A different kind of front line

For decades, linemen have been working to keep electricity reliable under dangerous and often chaotic circumstances.

Dating back to the Civil War are the first reports of linemen risking their lives while repairing telegraph poles and stringing line while war rages beneath them.

In present day, you'll find linemen answering the call during thunderstorms, ice storms, and even during hurricanes. No matter the chaos around them, they will jump in without hesitation.

In this time of uncertainty, we want you to know that our crews are ready. **The last thing you need to worry about is your electricity.**

As they have for decades, our linemen will be on the front lines to keep the lights on.

**NORTHEASTERN REMC**  
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



**Important  
COVID-19  
Information**

Northeastern REMC is **pausing disconnects** for nonpayment in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, effectively immediately, and **the office is closed to the public.**

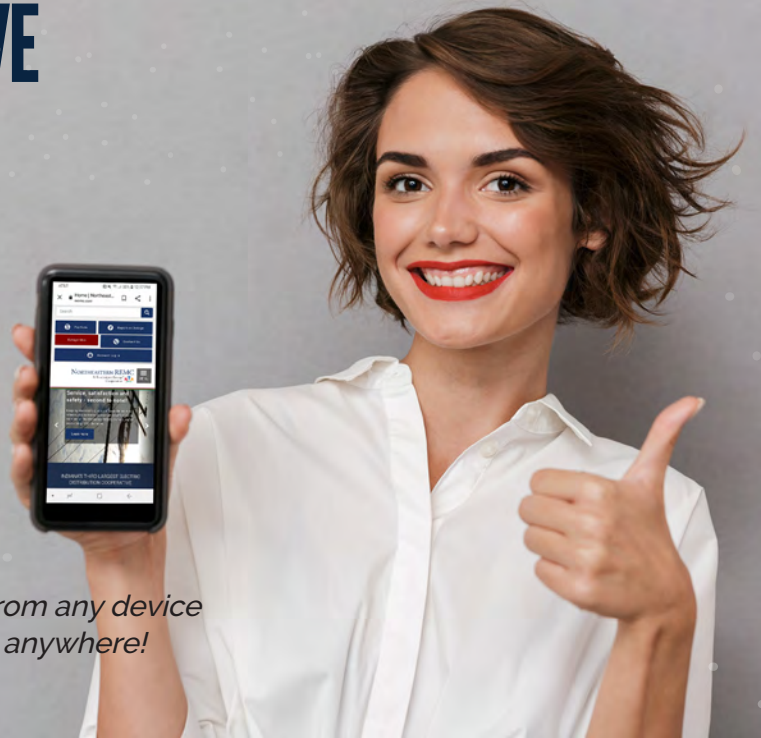
**For more information and FAQs, please visit  
[nremc.com/covid19](http://nremc.com/covid19)**

# The new NREMC.com is LIVE

- View on any device
- Easy to navigate
- Interactive
- You can access your account in only TWO CLICKS



*Access from any device  
from anywhere!*



## Browse the new site: [nremc.com](http://nremc.com)

**You spoke and we listened!** We recently launched a brand new website to help increase usability and provide content that you want to see. On the new site, you'll find an interactive overview of your bill. You'll see our rates explained in a way that's easy to understand. You can learn more about electrical safety and even schedule an energy consultation. But this is just the beginning! We look forward to adding even more of what you want to see as a member of Northeastern REMC.



**National Work Zone Awareness Week is April 20-24**

## Work Zone Awareness Week

National Work Zone Awareness Week is held at the start of construction season and encourages safe driving through highway work zones. It's important for everyone to be aware of their surroundings when driving.

When you see orange cones, road workers or linemen, please slow down and move over. We want everyone, regardless of where they work, to go home to their families safely.

You can show your support by wearing orange on April 22 on "Go Orange Day". Show us your pictures in orange by tagging Northeastern REMC and using **#Orange4Safety**



# Now accepting board candidates for Districts 1, 8 and 9

Make a difference by becoming a board member!

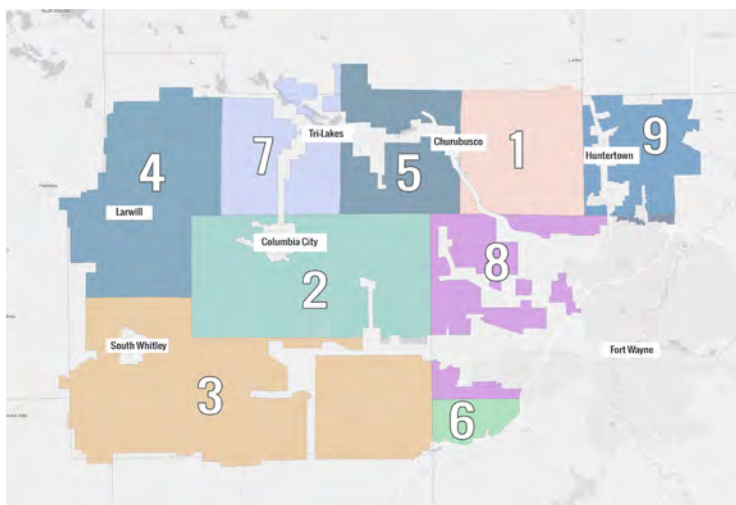
Every year, three board positions are up for grabs. If you feel passionately about Northeastern's mission and the community we serve and live in, this is a position for you!

You'll learn more about the economical operation of the cooperative while working in harmony with the whole board. Directors should have the self-confidence and communication skills to express their opinion or disagreement (when needed) with other directors.

For a full list of requirements, potential duties and explanation of the election process, please visit [nremc.com](http://nremc.com).



*The current Northeastern REMC board of directors*



*The Northeastern service area is divided into nine districts.*

## Board Member FAQs

**What is the primary responsibility of a board member?**

The board of directors is the governing body of the organization. The board helps set policies and gives valuable input to strategic direction.

**How are the nine districts divided?**

Northeastern's service area is divided into nine districts shown below on the map. Each board member will represent the members from their specific district.

**When are new board members elected?**

Each year, at the cooperative's annual meeting, three district director positions are filled.

**Who is eligible?**

Based on the Northeastern REMC bylaws, residential members are eligible to serve a three-year term on the board of directors if they are a member of Northeastern REMC and receive electrical services at their home.

**How long is a term?**

One term is three years.

**I am related to an employee or fellow director. Can I be a board member?**

Close relatives of an incumbent director or of an employee of the cooperative at the time of election to the board may not run for election. Also, employees or anyone who has been employed by the co-op in the last five years cannot run.

**Do board members get free or discounted electricity?**

No. Board members pay monthly electric bills like other Northeastern members. They do not receive discounted power and their bills are not subsidized.

# Mike DeFreeuw retires after 33 years at Northeastern REMC

Mike DeFreeuw, Director, Marketing and Communications, recently retired after more than three decades of service to Northeastern. Mike began his career in 1987, soon after Whitley County REMC became Northeastern REMC.

During Mike's tenure, he provided direction and strategic planning for all marketing plans, led the transition between print and digital marketing, oversaw a few rebrandings and contributed in countless other initiatives.

He also played a key role in the local community by serving on the board of directors at the Whitley County Chamber of Commerce. He also volunteered for many organizations including, most recently, Tim Tebow Foundation's A Night to Shine, H.O.P.E. for Animals, Suicide Prevention & Bullying Awareness Banquet, Allen County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), Passages, Junior Achievement, and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Mike was also a recipient of the 2018 Tom Taylor Award. This award is presented annually to an Indiana Electric Cooperative employee who has demonstrated excellence in leadership, attitude and commitment to the electric cooperative principles.

Mike and his wife, Patti, look forward to spending more time with their grandchildren and traveling in the near future.



*"Mike is an outstanding example of an engaged community member who is willing to roll up his sleeves to make an impact not only within our electric cooperative, but also for the betterment of our community. Mike will be greatly missed, but we wish him all of the best in his retirement."*

- Eric Jung, President and CEO of Northeastern REMC

## SPOTLIGHT

### How to pay your bill if you're unable to leave your home

There are several ways to pay your bill. Pay online, use the SmartHub app on your phone or call 1-888-413-6111 to use the automated system or talk to a member services representative. You can also pay by mail by following the instructions on your paper bill.

### Youth Tour and Camp Winners

We've selected James Langmaid to represent NREMC at Youth Tour in Washington DC. Emily Madinski and Amanda Heck will be going attending Touchstone Energy Camp!

### Save the Date

September's Member Appreciation event will be BRAND NEW this year! We're creating a family-fun event full of activities for any age group. We cannot wait to share the details with you! For now, mark your calendars for **Saturday, September 12 from 2:00 - 5:00 pm.**

### The passing of Jack Beckman

Jack Beckman, who retired in 2015 after 36 years of service to NREMC, recently passed away. We'd like to offer our condolences to the family and to everyone who knew him.

### 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.



[Learn more tips on our Facebook page](#)

## Energy saving tips while you're stuck at home

- Turn off lights and fans when leaving a room.
- Only run full loads of laundry and hang clothes to dry.
- Run the dishwasher only when full and skip the drying cycle.
- Lower the water heater temperature by 10 to 20 degrees.
- Set the thermostat a few degrees lower.

## Do you know how to pet-proof your home?

Keeping every member of your family safe around electricity is a priority and that includes the furry members of your family too.

Dogs, cats, rabbits and other small pets will chew on anything they can get into their mouths. To keep them safe, make sure all loose electrical wires and cords are tucked out of sight behind appliances or confined to areas where pets cannot get to them.

When cords cannot be hidden, you can use creative methods for covering cords. Simple PVC piping, found at hardware stores, can be used as a tube to run cables and cords through and around appliances and computers.

Check exposed cords, cables and wiring frequently for fraying and replace immediately.

Do not let your pet nap behind electrical appliances such as a computer, dryer, TV, etc.

Keep all electrical appliances away from kitchen sinks, bathtubs and bathroom counters. Cats, especially, like to leap up and can knock radios, curling irons, clocks or other items into the water, creating a dangerous situation for you and the pet.

If you have an aquarium, make sure all electrical cords coming from the tank have drip loops which cause any water from the tank or condensation running down the cord to fall on the floor instead of running into the outlet.

Do you have a pet-proofing tip to share with our members? Hop onto our Facebook page and start a conversation!





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You can save  
energy even while  
everyone is home!

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# LIGHTPOST

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

Hours of operation: 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.