


A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

[www.myremc.coop](http://www.myremc.coop)  
[www.orangecountyfiber.coop](http://www.orangecountyfiber.coop)

**CONTACT US**

Office: 812-865-2229  
 Toll Free: 888-337-5900  
 Bill Payments: 833-890-7734

**EMAIL**

[orangecoremc@myremc.coop](mailto:orangecoremc@myremc.coop)

**OFFICE HOURS**

7 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday-Friday

**STREET ADDRESS**

7133 N. State Road 337  
 Orleans, IN 47452

**MAILING ADDRESS**

P.O. Box 208, Orleans, IN 47452

**TO REPORT SERVICE**

**INTERRUPTIONS, PLEASE CALL**

**855-865-2229, (OPTION 1) DAY OR NIGHT.**

Have the phone number associated with your account ready when reporting outages. Please limit after hours calls to emergencies and outage situations.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Daniel Houchin, District 1
- Randy Roberts, District 2
- Danny Easterday, District 3
- Rodney Hager, District 4
- Ben Lindsey, District 5
- Brian Hawkins, District 6
- George Key, District 7

**REMC SENIOR STAFF**

- Matthew C. Deaton, *General Manager/CEO*
- Marcy Bennett, *Office Manager*
- Misty Tincher, *Accountant*
- Mark Belcher, *Member Services Manager*
- Billy Chastain, *Operations Manager*
- Charlie Rollins, *Fiber Construction Manager*



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[www.facebook.com/orangecountyremc](http://www.facebook.com/orangecountyremc)

# We're ready for storm season... Are you?



Now that summer is in full swing, like many of you, I welcome more opportunities to be outdoors and enjoy the warmer weather. Summertime brings many of my favorite activities like cooking

out with family and friends, afternoons on the water and simply slowing down a bit to enjoy life.

But summer months also make conditions right for dangerous storms. These potential weather events can cause destruction to our electrical system, but I want you to know that REMC crews are ready and standing by to respond should power outages occur in our area.

When major storms knock out power, our line crews take all necessary precautions before they get to work on any downed lines. I would encourage you to also practice safety and preparedness to protect your family during major storms and outages.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends the items below as a starting point for storm and disaster preparedness, but you can visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for additional resources.

- Stock your pantry with a three-day supply of non-perishable food, such as canned goods, energy bars, peanut butter, powdered milk, instant coffee, water and other essentials (i.e., diapers and toiletries).
- Confirm that you have adequate sanitation and hygiene supplies including towelettes, soap and hand sanitizer.
- Ensure your first aid kit is stocked with pain relievers, bandages and other medical essentials, and make sure your prescriptions are current.

- Set aside basic household items you will need, including flashlights, batteries, alternate ways to charge your cell phone, a manual can opener and portable, battery-powered radio or TV.
- Organize emergency supplies so they are easily accessible in one location.

In the event of a prolonged power outage, unplug major appliances, TVs, computers and other sensitive electronics. This will help avert damage from a power surge, and will also help prevent overloading the circuits during power restoration. That said, do leave one light on so you will know when power is restored. If you plan to use a small generator, make sure it's rated to handle the amount of power you will need, and always review the manufacturer's instructions to operate it safely.

After the storm, avoid downed power lines and walking through flooded areas where power lines could be submerged. Allow ample room for utility crews to safely perform their jobs, including on your property. Check the Outage Viewer at [myremc.coop](http://myremc.coop) for updates.

Advance planning for severe storms or other emergencies can reduce stress and anxiety caused by the weather event and can lessen the impact of the storm's effects. Sign up for NOAA emergency alerts and warnings to stay abreast of power restoration efforts and other important co-op news and information.

I hope we don't experience severe storms this summer, but we can never predict Mother Nature's plans. At Orange County REMC, we recommend that you act today because there is power in planning. From our co-op family to yours, we hope you have a safe and wonderful summer.

**MATTHEW C. DEATON**

General Manager/CEO

# co-op news

## Rate Schedule

### How to compute your monthly electric bill:

Use this information to figure your bill for electric use in April, May and June.

#### Rate Schedule for Standard Service

Standard Service Consumer Charge.....	\$26
Standard Service Energy Charge.....	\$0.1124
Wholesale Power Cost Tracker ..	\$0.0032734
Total bill x Indiana sales tax .....	7%

#### Example for 1,200 kWh

Standard Service Consumer Charge.....	\$26
1,200 kWh @ \$0.1124 .....	\$134.88
Wholesale Power Cost Tracker	
1,200 kWh @ \$0.0032734.....	\$3.93
Total .....	\$164.81
Indiana sales tax .....	\$11.54
Total bill .....	\$176.34

#### Rate Schedule for Time-of-Use Service

Time-of-Use Consumer Charge.....	\$30.90
Energy Charge On-Peak .....	\$0.1671
<small>(On-Peak: 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., Monday–Friday, EST)</small>	
Energy Charge Off-Peak.....	\$0.0691
Wholesale Power Cost Tracker .	\$0.0032734
Total bill x Indiana sales tax, 7%	

#### Example for 300 kWh (On-Peak) and 900 kWh (Off-Peak)

Time-of-Use Consumer Charge.....	\$30.90
Energy Charge On-Peak	
300 kWh @ \$0.1671 .....	\$50.13
Energy Charge Off-Peak	
900 kWh @ \$0.0691 .....	\$62.19
Wholesale Power Cost Tracker	
1,200 kWh @ \$0.0032734.....	\$3.93
Total .....	\$147.15
Indiana sales tax .....	\$10.30
Total bill .....	\$157.45

#### Rate Schedule for Security Lighting

Security Lighting: 100 W HPS .....	\$9.82
Security Lighting: 40 W LED.....	\$9.82

Visa, MasterCard and Discover cards accepted

Pay by phone at 833-890-7734.

Visit [www.myremc.coop](http://www.myremc.coop) for these services:

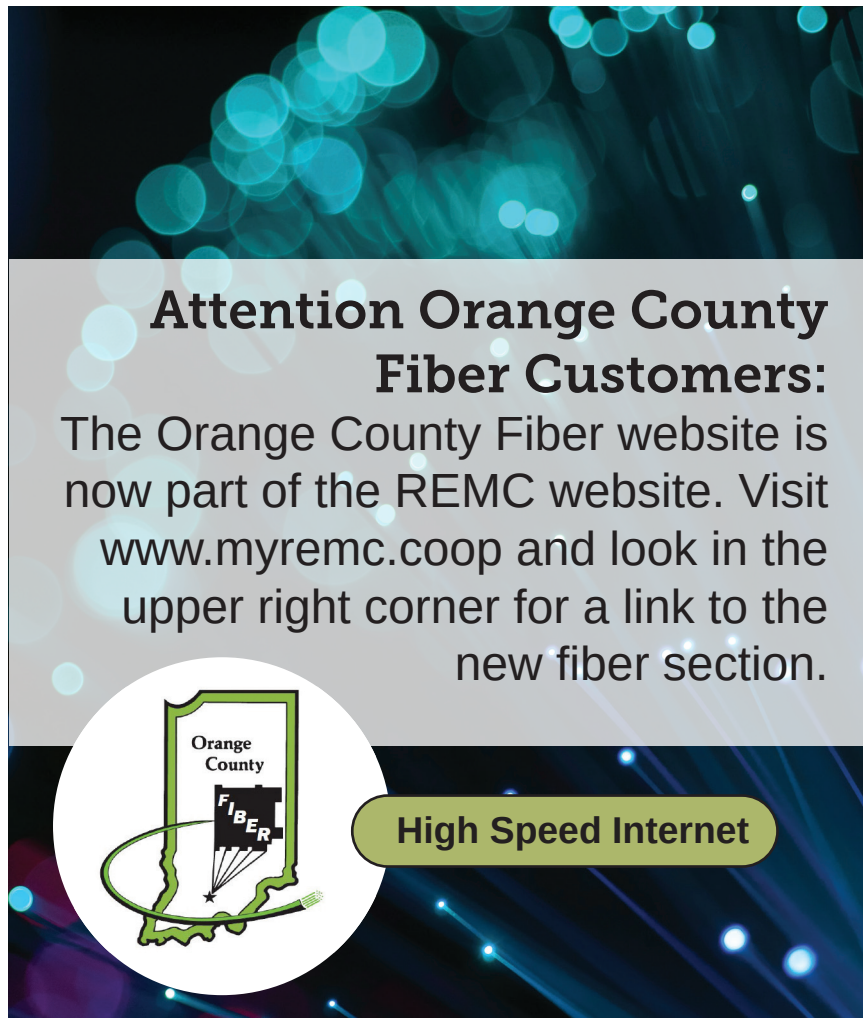
- Pay online
- Pre-pay your bill
- Sign up for recurring monthly payment



**FULL CIRCLE**  
ORANGE COUNTY REMC  
2021 ANNUAL MEETING

**FRIDAY, JUNE 4**  
8390 N. State Road 37  
Orleans, IN 47452

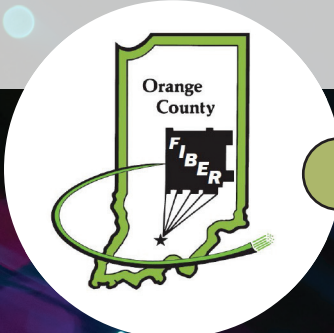
Watch next month's magazine for photos and updates from the annual meeting.



## Attention Orange County Fiber Customers:

The Orange County Fiber website is now part of the REMC website. Visit [www.myremc.coop](http://www.myremc.coop) and look in the upper right corner for a link to the new fiber section.

**High Speed Internet**



# Scholarship Winners Named

Orange County REMC awards up to six \$750 scholarships each year to recognize the academic and community achievements of outstanding local students. These scholarships are funded through the Operation Round Up program. Students who apply must be graduating the current year and accepted to attend an accredited college or trade school in Indiana. Listed below are the 2021 scholarship winners.



**JACIE SALMON**

Jacie Salmon of Orleans Jr./Sr. High School is the daughter of David and Shannon Salmon. She will attend Indiana University to study marketing.



**LAUREN UMPLEBY**

Lauren Umpleby of Paoli Jr./Sr. High School is the daughter of David and Susan Umpleby. She will attend Purdue University to study pre-pharmacy.



**MAGGIE VINCENT**

Maggie Vincent of Paoli Jr./Sr. High School is the daughter of Billy and Holly Vincent. She will attend Indiana University to study apparel merchandising.



**MOLLY GUETIG**

Molly Guetig of West Washington Jr./Sr. High School is the daughter of Paul & Donna Guetig. She will attend IUPUI to study business management or marketing.



**GABRIELLE STEMLE**

Gabrielle Stemle of Springs Valley Jr./Sr. High School is the daughter of Scott and Tiffani Stemle. She will attend University of Southern Indiana to study professional writing and rhetoric.



**GAVIN MORGAN**

Gavin Morgan of Orleans Jr./Sr. High School is the son of Justin and Christina Morgan. He will attend University of Southern Indiana to study electrical engineering.

# REMC members get the credit

Orange County REMC is an electric cooperative, which means the company adheres to the Seven Cooperative Principles as guidelines for how we do business.

Principle 3 refers to Members' Economic Participation. This means each member pays an equitable price to receive service, shares in the operational expenses, and also receives capital credits when they are retired, after all expenses are paid.

Orange County REMC has recently retired credits from the years 1963-1966.

There is a list on the REMC website of members who received service during these years but have not claimed their capital credits due to insufficient address on file with the co-op. Visit [www.myremc.coop/capital-credits](http://www.myremc.coop/capital-credits) to review this list or to download the form for heirs and or members to claim capital credits. You can also watch a short video that explains capital credits and access a list of Frequently Asked Questions about Capital Credits.



MEMBERS'  
ECONOMIC  
PARTICIPATION

3

## YOU SHARE IN THE *profit*

Electric cooperatives deliver service at cost. Consumers share the operational expenses and are credited for any revenues that exceed costs.

the  
COOPERATIVE  
PRINCIPLES

IEC Safety Page  
(Not for use by Co-ops)

# Tree trimming improves *service for all*

Here in Southern Indiana, we are fortunate to have a multitude of trees that offer beauty, shade and a habitat for all sorts of birds and other wildlife. At Orange County REMC, we strive to balance maintaining beautiful surroundings and ensuring a reliable power supply by keeping power lines clear in rights of way (ROW).

While we recognize and appreciate the beauty of trees, there are three main benefits to tree trimming in ROW areas. However, before touching on the main reasons, let's define what a "right of way" is and how it may impact you. A right of way is the land we use to construct, maintain, replace or repair underground and overhead power lines. Rights of way enable the co-op to provide clearance from trees and other obstructions that could hinder the power line installation, maintenance or operation. ROW areas are typically on public lands or located near a business or home.

Regardless, your REMC must be able to maintain the power lines above and below the ROW. The overall goal of our vegetation management program is to provide reliable power to our members while maintaining the beauty of our community. Proactive vegetation management benefits co-op members in three tangible ways.



## SAFETY

First and foremost, we care about our members and put their safety and that of our lineworkers above all else. Overgrown vegetation and trees pose a risk to power lines. For example, if trees are touching power lines in our members' yards, they can pose grave danger to families. If children can access those trees, they can potentially climb into a danger zone. Electricity can arc, or jump, from a power line to a nearby conductor like a tree. A proactive approach also diminishes the chances of fallen branches or trees during severe weather events that make it more complicated and dangerous for lineworkers to restore power.

## RELIABILITY

Of course, one of the biggest benefits of a smart vegetation management program is reliability. Strategic tree trimming reduces the frequency of downed lines causing power outages. Generally speaking, healthy trees don't fall on power lines, and clear lines don't cause problems. Proactive trim-

ming and pruning keeps lines clear to promote reliability.

We also use data and the technology to maximize the efficiency of our operation. This includes our vegetation management plan.

## AFFORDABILITY

As you know, Orange County REMC is a not-for-profit cooperative, and that means we strive to keep our costs low in order to keep our rates affordable. This extends to our approach to vegetation management. If trees grow too close to power lines, the potential for expensive repairs also increases. Effective tree trimming and other vegetation management efforts keep costs down for everyone.

We appreciate the beauty trees afford, but we also know our community depends on us to provide reliable energy. Through vegetation management, we are better able to keep the power lines clear, prepare for future weather events and secure the reliability of the grid.