

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

www.myremc.coop
www.orangecountyfiber.coop

CONTACT US

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

EMAIL

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

- Eugene Roberts, 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, *Electric Operations Manager*
- Charlie Rollins, *Fiber Operations Manager*



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www.facebook.com/orangecountyremc

Giving back to our community



Over the years, you've probably heard or read about Orange County REMC's concern for our community. This is one of the core principles that sets cooperatives apart from other types

of utilities and businesses. We've always taken this mission and responsibility to heart. It's who we are as a co-op.

Over the past few months, like so many of you, we've risen to meet new challenges and strengthen the safety net for our community, particularly for those who are most vulnerable. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we've made numerous adjustments to programs and operations to maintain business continuity while staying focused on the bigger mission of helping our members during this turbulent time.

Now, with the holidays fast approaching, these recent events have made me pause and think about the role we play in our community. While our purpose is to provide safe and reliable energy to you, the members we serve, we have a greater mission — to be a catalyst for good.

You're probably aware of our Operation Round Up program, where we take donations from generous members like you who have "rounded up" the amount due on their electric bills to help fund worthwhile projects and programs in our community or our Youth Tour program, where we take our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C., for a week-long immersion to experience democracy in action. We also offer scholarships for local students who want to further their education in college or trade school.

We also have a strong commitment to safety — not just for our employees, but for our community as well. We host electrical safety demonstrations to teach children of all ages how to stay safe around electricity. We also provide safety demonstrations at community meetings and other gatherings.

Orange County REMC invests in the economic development of the community through an active role in our local chamber of commerce. And in recent years, our biggest investment in the community has been our dedication to bringing broadband internet service to the rural areas of our service territory.

You'll also see our employees serving on local boards, coaching youth sports, volunteering at charitable events and leading various youth groups. Because when you work at a co-op, you understand how important a strong community is — after all, without you, the co-op wouldn't exist.

We know that our core job is to keep the lights on; but our passion is our community. Because we live and work here too, and we want to make it a better place for all.

If there's anything we can do to help you — whether providing energy-saving advice to help lower your monthly bill or discuss payment plan options during these difficult times — please reach out to us. Our newly redesigned website at www.myremc.coop has a "contact us" section, as well as a wealth of information about numerous topics.

Concern for community is the heart and soul of who we are. And no matter what the future brings, you can count on your electric co-op to care about you.

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 October, November and December.

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 for these services:

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



NOTICE

TeamUp Lighting Store Rebate

UPDATES TO LIGHTING STORE IN 2021

Members can continue to order EnergyStar-qualified lighting with free shipping from the TeamUp online store, but there will be no rebate applied to a member's order after Dec. 31, 2020.

A link to the online store can be found at our website, www.myremc.coop, under the "REMC Store" menu.

INDUSTRY UPDATES

Orange County REMC is working in several areas across our service territory, performing system upgrades and maintenance. All REMC crews and contracted personnel carry identification, and their vehicles are marked with our logo. Please keep our crews safe and drive with caution as all this work means extra utility vehicles along roadways.

Meter change-out

We in the middle of our five-year plan to upgrade member meters to new digital meters. These new meters require less maintenance and report outages more accurately. Crews are currently working in the Livonia and Huron areas.

Please note that when your meter is changed out, it does cause a brief disruption in service. We appreciate your patience. Please feel free to contact the REMC office with any questions.

Pole testing

The pole testing program is complete for this cycle.

Brush control

The REMC crews are continuing vegetation management in the areas served by the Abydel and Valeene substation.

High speed internet service

Orange County Fiber continues to make progress in bringing fiber optic internet to our members. More access to this much-needed service is being added daily. Please visit our fiber website, www.orangecountyfiber.coop, to see where crews are currently working and when service will be available in your area.



REMC REBATE PROGRAM

Your co-op offers incentives and rebates for members who install energy efficient equipment in their homes or businesses. But you need to act fast, the deadline to apply for a Orange County REMC rebate for energy efficient HVAC and water heating equipment is Dec. 15. Get more info and an application at our website, www.myremc.coop.

GEOHERMAL TAX CREDIT

The federal tax credit for purchasing a geothermal HVAC unit has been extended until 2022, but is being stepped down each year as follows:

- 26% for systems placed in service after after Jan. 1 and before Dec. 31, 2020.
- 22% for systems placed in service after Jan. 1, 2021 and before Dec. 31, 2022.

Get more information about geothermal and other renewable energy tax credits at <https://www.waterfurnace.com/literature/collateral/br1507mw-tax-credit-residential.pdf>

HAPPY
VETERANS DAY
NOVEMBER 11TH
Honoring all who served





BILLY CHASTAIN
U.S. Marine Corps,
20 years



MICHAEL ROBERTS
United States Army, 5 years



ROBERT WHITE
United States Army and Reserve, 4 years

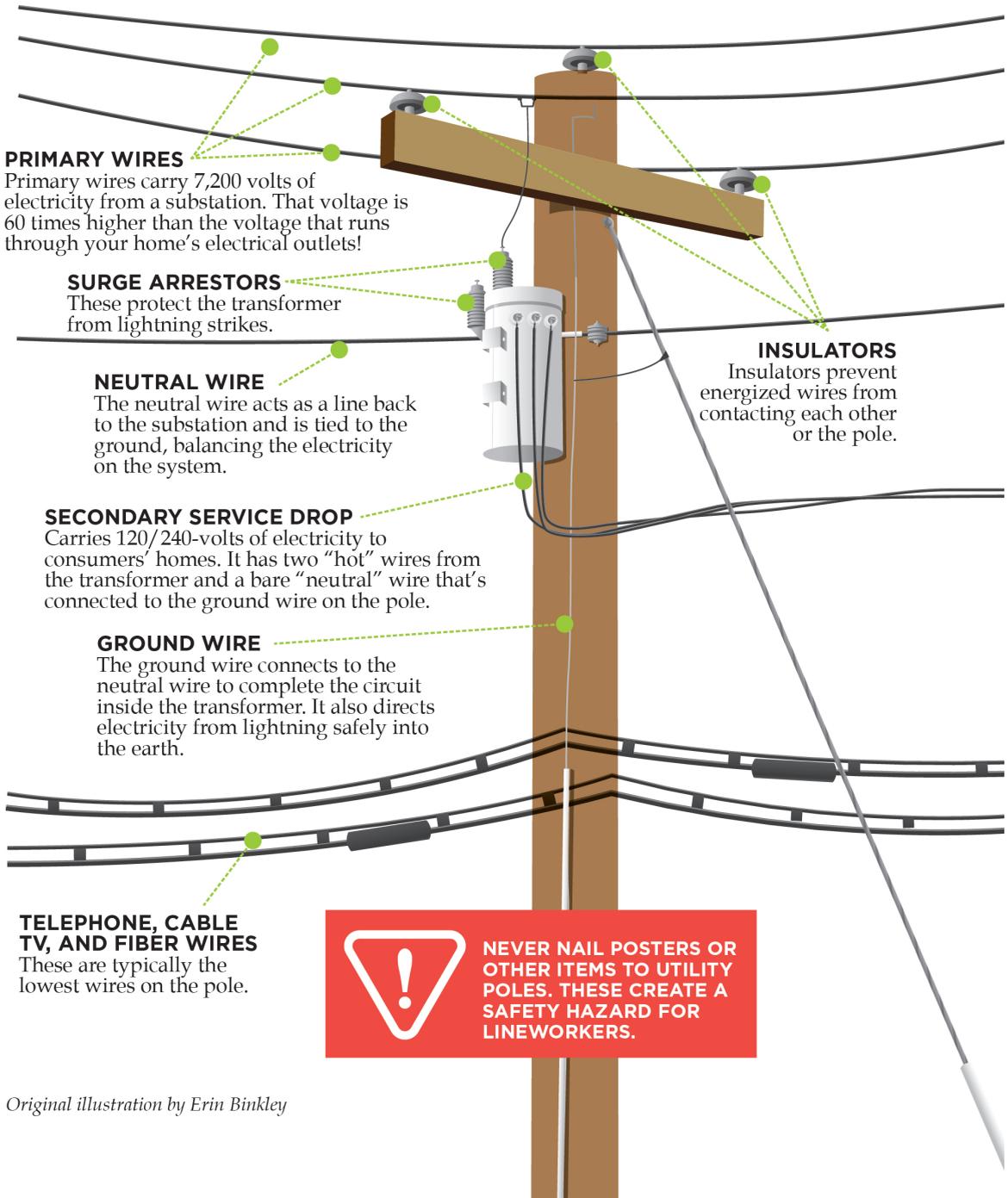
Happy Thanksgiving

The Orange County REMC office will be closed Nov. 26-27 as our employees celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday with their families.



WHAT'S ON THAT POLE?

This illustration shows the basic equipment found on electric utility poles. The equipment varies according to the location and the service they provide.



PRIMARY WIRES
Primary wires carry 7,200 volts of electricity from a substation. That voltage is 60 times higher than the voltage that runs through your home's electrical outlets!

SURGE ARRESTORS
These protect the transformer from lightning strikes.

NEUTRAL WIRE
The neutral wire acts as a line back to the substation and is tied to the ground, balancing the electricity on the system.

SECONDARY SERVICE DROP
Carries 120/240-volts of electricity to consumers' homes. It has two "hot" wires from the transformer and a bare "neutral" wire that's connected to the ground wire on the pole.

GROUND WIRE
The ground wire connects to the neutral wire to complete the circuit inside the transformer. It also directs electricity from lightning safely into the earth.

INSULATORS
Insulators prevent energized wires from contacting each other or the pole.

TELEPHONE, CABLE TV, AND FIBER WIRES
These are typically the lowest wires on the pole.

 **NEVER NAIL POSTERS OR OTHER ITEMS TO UTILITY POLES. THESE CREATE A SAFETY HAZARD FOR LINEMEN.**

Original illustration by Erin Binkley