

# HOT LINES

July 2024

News about your community and cooperative



Midwest Electric, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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## IMPORTANT MEMBER INFO



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# WE HAVE PLANS TO SHUT OFF YOUR POWER



Even if you never miss a payment, electric utilities throughout our 13-state regional grid have plans to shut off your electricity. This will happen during the coldest hours of winter, or hottest days of summer. It's called a "load shed plan."

Midwest Electric has a load shed plan. We don't want to do this; we have to do this. This is happening because of government regulations forcing the premature shutdown of reliable and affordable carbon-based power plants.

Nobody knows for sure when the load shed blackouts will hit us. It might be this year, next year, or maybe not for a few years. But the course is irreversible at this point because so many reliable and affordable power plants have been shut down, replaced by unreliable wind and solar.

Nobody knows how long or how bad the load shed blackouts will be. We will do everything we can to limit your exposure by "rolling" the load shed from one area to another. So, for example, you might be out of power for 60 minutes when it's 20 below zero; then you'll have power for 60 minutes; then you'll be out of power for 60 minutes; etc. Or you might

get lucky and not have any blackouts while people a couple counties away are dealing with it. Many factors will determine where they occur, and for how long.

The latest farce from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is a set of rules that will end up shutting down what's left of America's coal and natural gas power plants. The rules would mandate the use of carbon capture and storage if you want to keep your coal power plant open. That sounds nice, except carbon capture and storage doesn't work. It has been tested on a small scale. The tests show that it is extremely expensive, very inefficient, and it's very limited geographically as to where it might work. The rules also say you have to co-fire a natural gas power plant with hydrogen. Again, it doesn't work, is very expensive, and it's very energy inefficient – the opposite of what we should be striving for.



America's Electric Cooperatives PAC

We will continue to do everything we can in our legislative efforts to fight back against these nonsensical rules. To learn more, we encourage you to attend our PAC legislative dinner Aug. 19 (details below).

## MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

### Political Action Dinner

Join us August 19, 5:30 p.m.  
Lincoln Ridge Farm in Convoy, OH

 This will be a joint event with neighboring Paulding Putnam Electric Co-op and their members

Join us at Lincoln Ridge Farm (6588 Pollock Rd, Convoy, OH) for our America's Electric Cooperatives PAC dinner. This new adults-only event will be held Monday, Aug. 19, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. This event replaces our October PAC breakfast event. Following the dinner at 6:30 p.m., elected officials will address the crowd, take questions, and discuss current industry topics. Guests have included congressmen Jim Jordan and Bob Latta.

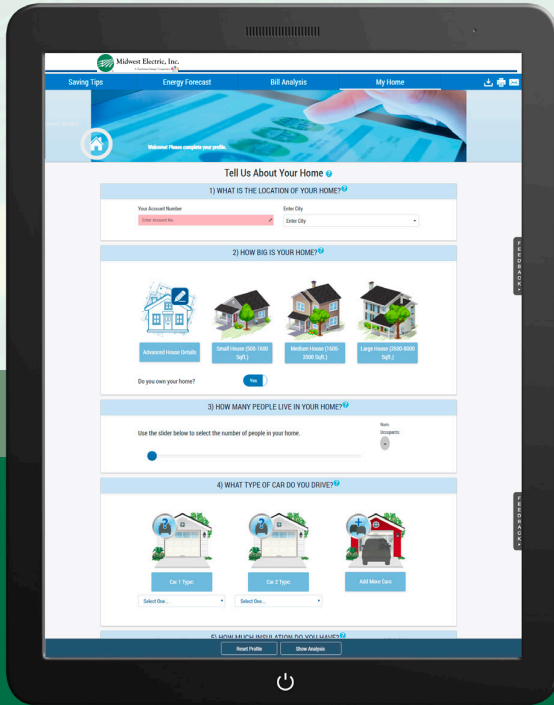
To attend the dinner, you must be a member of the PAC. If you aren't already a PAC member, you can enroll online at [www.midwestrec.com/PAC](http://www.midwestrec.com/PAC) or call us at 800-963-3830. Details and RSVP information will be sent to PAC members soon.

# SAVE ENERGY. SAVE MONEY.

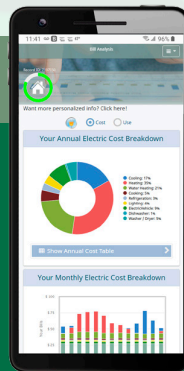
Learn how you can save energy and money with Midwest Electric's **free** Home Energy Calculator and Energy Resource Center.

## Home Energy Calculator is easy to use!

Just visit [www.midwestrec.com](http://www.midwestrec.com) and look for the Energy Calculator link. The Home Energy Calculator breaks down your energy use into dollars and provides recommendations on how to save.



1. Take a quick survey
2. Explore your energy use
3. Find easy ways to save
4. Receive an email alert when your monthly bill changes by \$25



Our Energy Resource Center includes energy reference libraries, cost calculators and more.

## Community Calendar

- ◆ July 3-4 **St. Joseph Church Festival**, Auglaize County Fairgrounds, Wapakoneta, [facebook.com/stjoe4th](https://facebook.com/stjoe4th)
- ◆ July 4 **Freedom 5K**, North Shore Drive & S. Woodlawn Ave, Lima, (419) 879-3492
- ◆ July 5 **SMART First Fridays St. Marys**, Downtown St. Marys, (419) 778-9353
- ◆ July 12-13 **Cridersville Fireman's Jamboree**, [villageofcridersville.com/firemans-jamboree](http://villageofcridersville.com/firemans-jamboree)
- ◆ July 16-21 **Summer Moon Festival**, Downtown Wapakoneta, [summermoonfestival.com/](http://summermoonfestival.com/)
- ◆ July 19 **Zion United Methodist Church Ice Cream Social**, Elida, 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
- ◆ July 19-20 **Boardwalk Fest**, Boardwalk Grill, Celina, [facebook.com/boardwalkcelinaohio/](https://facebook.com/boardwalkcelinaohio/)
- ◆ July 19-20 **The Moon Market**, Wapakoneta, Riverside Art Center, 419-738-2352
- ◆ July 26-27 **NTPA Tractor Pulls**, Ambassador Park, Ft. Recovery, OH, [fortpull.com](http://fortpull.com)
- ◆ July 26-28 **Celina Lake Festival**, Lake Shore Drive, Celina, (419) 586-0993, [celinalakefest.com/](http://celinalakefest.com/)
- ◆ July 28-August 3 **Auglaize County Fair**, Wapakoneta, [auglaizecountyfair.org/](http://auglaizecountyfair.org/)

## New license plate available to support fallen lineworkers

A newly designed Ohio license plate is available for drivers to purchase for \$20 when they're registering or renewing a vehicle in Ohio. Ohio's Electric Cooperatives designed the new plate for the state last year.

For each plate purchased, \$10 will be directed to The Community Foundation of Ohio's Electric Cooperatives and used to recognize and memorialize injured and fallen lineworkers and their families.

Midwest has donated over \$7,000 in funds to the foundation that supports local initiatives like the Blake Rodger's Memorial fund, honoring the memory of Blake, a co-op lineman from southern Ohio who tragically passed away during Winter Storm Elliot in 2022.



To purchase your plate, visit your local DMV office or online at [bit.ly/49Ze2t0](http://bit.ly/49Ze2t0) (under Organizational Plates > Fallen Lineworker).

