

HOT LINES



Midwest Electric, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

OCTOBER 2024

News about your community and cooperative

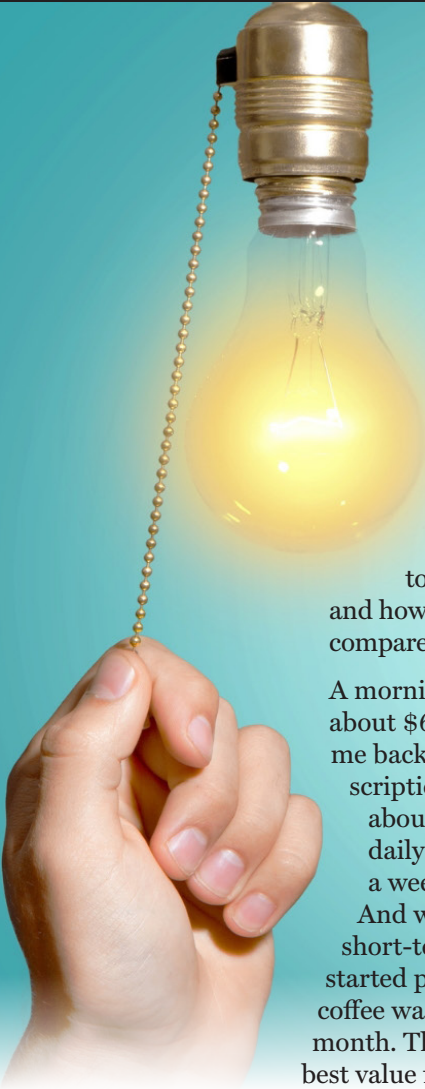
419.394.4110 | 1.800.962.3830
www.midwestrec.com

IMPORTANT MEMBER INFO

Electricity remains a good value



MATT BERRY, CEO
mberry@midwestrec.com



If you're like me, there are aspects of your life that become sort of a daily routine. As we all look for ways to save money in this age of increasing inflation, I began to think about my daily routine and how much value it provided me compared to the money I spent.

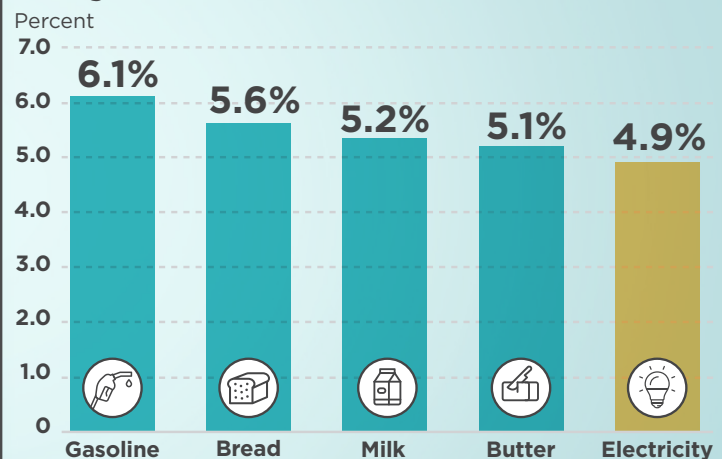
A morning coffee was costing me about \$6, a quick lunch was setting me back \$10, and my streaming subscription to catch a missed show is about \$16 each month. All these daily expenses totaled around \$85 a week, or about \$340 monthly. And what was the real value—short-term satisfaction? Even as I started packing my own lunch, my coffee was still costing me about \$120 a month. This got me thinking—is this the best value for my money?

The average daily cost of electricity is about \$7, and the average monthly electric bill for members of Midwest Electric is \$220. You could power your entire home every day for the price of a medium latte. I could brew my own coffee, cook my own meals, binge a series and run on a treadmill for less than the cost of that drink. Now to me, that's real value.

Electricity provides benefits that we often take for granted. It goes well beyond short-term satisfaction by allowing us to charge devices and have cold food and hot water, all in a comfortable indoor climate. Besides the privilege it affords, electricity has also remained relatively cost-stable even amidst rising inflation.

As a member-owned cooperative, Midwest does everything in our power to ensure your costs stay reasonable and that electricity remains a great value for our members. It's not always easy, as

Average Annual Price Increase 2018-2023



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Consumer Price Index

there are several factors beyond inflation that impact the price of electricity—some within our control but most beyond it.

The cost of electricity can fluctuate due to supply and demand, infrastructure investment, maintenance and operational expenses. Weather patterns also contribute, affecting both demand and generation capabilities, with extreme conditions leading to heightened energy use or disruptions. Government policies, such as subsidies for renewable energy or taxes and regulations on emissions, shape electricity costs as well. Your electric co-op considers all these aspects when adjusting rates, and because we're a cooperative, we consider the impact of those costs on our members as well.

As our community continues to rely on electricity for nearly everything in our homes, schools, hospitals and businesses, we need it to be reliable and affordable. You can be assured, we always puts you top of mind and work each day to ensure electricity remains the best value for your money.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL

CO-OP MONTH

Electric cooperatives are not-for-profit, community-led utilities. Because we are a co-op, we can adapt to our local members' needs, providing the programs and services you care about most.

That's the power of co-op membership.

TOP 5 TOUCHSTONE ENERGY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE MEMBER SATISFACTION SCORE

in the nation



RELIABILITY



PROFESSIONALISM



COMMUNITY IMPACT

Thank You!



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Midwest Electric was recognized by Touchstone Energy® as a member cooperative that received one of the top 5 American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI®) scores for energy utility services among all cooperatives participating in measurement for Touchstone Energy in the second quarter of 2024. There are more than 900 Touchstone Energy Cooperatives across the US.

Community Calendar

- ◆ **October 4 Yonder Mountain String Band**
Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert
www.vanwertlive.com
- ◆ **October 5 The Texas Tenors**
Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert,
- ◆ **October 5 Touch-A-Truck Event**
Mercer County Fairgrounds
www.mercercountyohiofair.com/event/touch-a-truck
- ◆ **October 4-6 Minster Oktoberfest.**
Minster Oktoberfest Park, 100 E 4th St, Minster
www.minsteroktoberfest.com
- ◆ **October 8 Wheel of Fortune LIVE!**
Crouse Performance Hall, 7 Town Square, Lima
www.limaciviccenter.com
- ◆ **October 18-20 Halloween Campout,**
Mercer County Fairgrounds
www.mercercountyohiofair.com/event/halloween-campout-5/
- ◆ **October 20 55th Ann. Walk with Nature Fall Fest**
Memorial Park/Mill Parks, St. Marys
www.htparks.org/walk-with-nature-fall-festival
- ◆ **October 24 Halloween Parade & Costume Contest,**
Auglaize St, Wapakoneta
www.wapakoneta.com/halloween_parade
- ◆ **October 26 Marsha Brady Band**
Celina Eagles, 1400 E Market St, Celina
- ◆ **October 26 Rocktoberfest**
Village of Rockford, 1-5pm, (trick or treat 5:30-6:30pm and 7pm costume judging at the fire hall)
www.rockfordalive.com



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