



Midwest Electric, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

800.962.3830 | www.midwestrec.com

April 2020

News about your community and cooperative

# Your electric bill is getting a revamp!

We are breaking out charges and adding new features to make reading your bill easier

## NEW BILL SAMPLE (charges unbundled)

**MIDWEST ELECTRIC, INC**  
06029 COUNTY ROAD 33A  
SAINT MARYS OH 45885-9762  
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

**GO PAPERLESS** SIGN UP ON SMARTHUB  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM  
Phone: (419) 394-4110  
(800) 962-3830  
www.midwestrec.com

**Total Due**  
**\$153.00**  
Payment Due 02/10/2020

Account Number: 555551234  
Customer Name: John Doe  
Statement Date: 01/21/2020  
Email: johndoe@gmail.com  
Phone #: (555) 111-2222

Service Address: 11111 Midwest Rd  
Service Description: HOME

Account	Meter No.	Services	From	To	Days	Readings	Meter	kWh	Rate	Substation
555551234	89898989		12/15/19	01/15/20	31	Previous 2093 Present 3293	1.0	1200	01	LAKE

**Usage History**  
Previous Months Current Month Temp High Temp Low

**Activity Since Last Billing**

Previous Balance	136.00
Payments - Thank You	136.00 CR
Balance Forward	0.00
Current Charges	153.00
<b>Total Amount Due By 02/10/2020</b>	<b>153.00</b>

**Detail of Charges**

Energy Charge*	1,200 kWh @ 0.08280	99.36
Power Cost Adj	1,200 kWh @ 0.01500	18.00
Service Charge		35.00
Community Connection - Roundup		0.64
<b>Total Current Charges</b>		<b>153.00</b>

\*Ohio Kwh Electricity Tax Included \$5.58.

COMPARISONS	KWH	DAYS	AVG KWH	AVG TEMP
Current Month	1200	31	39	37
Previous Month	1010	30	34	37
Same Last Year	1009	31	33	35

### Messages from your co-op:

Look at this top section for important messages, heads up, alerts, and other key information or news.

### Energy Charge:

Shows the number of kilowatt-hours (kWh) you used during this billing period (around 30 days), times our electric rate. You can lower this charge through energy efficiency measures, including our energy audits.

### Power Cost Adjustment:

This is not directly a Midwest Electric charge, but reflects changes in the cost we have to pay for the generation and transmission of electricity.

### Service Charge:

Flat monthly fee shared equally by all members to pay fixed costs of our electric distribution system, like poles, wires, substations, tree trimming, interest, depreciation, and upgrades for service reliability.

### Community Connection

**"RoundUp":** Participating members round up their bill to the next dollar, with the spare change going to our Community Connection Fund. 88% of members participate. Donations are dispersed by a separate board of members to local charitable causes. No administrative fees are taken. Call us to sign up.

**Ohio kWh Tax:** Levied by the state and averaging \$0.004 per kWh. It's based on the amount of electricity you use. We must send this on to Columbus.

### Usage history:

A new tool you can use to compare your current electric usage to last month's and the prior year's. It also shows the high and low temperatures so you can see

how the weather impacts your bill. You can get more detailed electric use history, including daily and hourly use history, by logging into your SmartHub account or mobile app.

## OLD BILL SAMPLE (charges bundled together)

Account Number	Service Address	Status	Bill Type	Cycle		
555551234	11111 MIDWEST RD	1	RESIDENTIAL	REG 1		
Meter Number	Present Read	Previous Read	kWh Multiplier	kWh Used	Rate	Substation
89898989	3293	2093	1.0000	1200	01	LAKE
Activity Since Last Bill	\$ Amount	Current Bill Information		\$ Amount		
Previous Balance	136.00	PREVIOUS BILL AMOUNT		136.00		
Payments	-136.00	PAYMENT		-136.00		
Other Adjustments	0.00	ENERGY CHARGE		146.78		
Balance Prior to this Billing	0.00	OHIO KWH ELECTRICITY TAX		5.58		
		ROUNDUP AMT		0.64		
<b>For Service Period</b>		<b>Due Date</b>	02/10/2020	<b>Amount Due</b>	<b>153.00</b>	
12/15/2019 to 01/15/2020		<b>If Received After</b>	02/10/2020	<b>Amount Due</b>	162.18	

### Energy Charge (old bill format):

In our old electric bill, the Energy Charge includes the kWh energy charge, the Power Cost Adjustment, and the Service Charge all bundled together.

**NOTE:**  
**It's the same total amount due.**  
Our rates haven't changed — just the look of the bill.



# MARCH BILL INCLUDES YOUR 2019 PATRONAGE

## How much of Midwest Electric's margins from last year will YOU receive?

Look for that amount on your enclosed electric bill.

Your electric bill this month lists the amount allocated to your patronage capital account based on last year's margins. The information will appear near the upper right corner of the bill, under the Message box.

As a Midwest Electric member, you have a share in the earnings of your not-for-profit electric cooperative. Your cooperative's electric rates are set to bring in enough money to pay operating costs, make payments on any loans and provide an emergency reserve. Revenues in excess of the cost of doing business are returned to members like you as "patronage capital."

Patronage capital payments typically occur in December, if the cooperative's financial standing is sufficient. Last December, the

cooperative returned more than \$1.4 million in patronage capital to members based on margins and kWh sales from 2003.

Our margins, or money left after all expenses have been paid, are allocated to each member based on the total amount each member paid for electricity for the year.

Patronage capital represents tangible proof of your equity ownership in your cooperative. A portion of your electric payments is used by the cooperative as working capital and invested in the cooperative's electric distribution system. After a period of time, the investment is returned to you.

The amount allocated to you from 2019 is payable at a future date.



**WORRIED ABOUT HIGH ELECTRIC BILLS? CONTACT US FOR INFORMATION ABOUT HOME ENERGY AUDITS.**



### You could run for the board of directors!

Do you want to give back to your community? Two of the eight seats on the Midwest Electric board of directors are up for election. Members will vote by mail and online, with results announced at the annual meeting June 6.

Any member residing in a district up for election may become a candidate by obtaining a petition form from the co-op office and obtaining at least 15 valid signatures of members from that district.

The following districts are up for election:

- **District 1 (three-year term): Auglaize and Shelby counties**
- **District 2 (three-year term): Allen and Putnam counties**

Official petition forms must be filed in the co-op's office by 8 a.m. on May 4. Call 800-962-3830 for more information, a petition form, or a copy of the Code of Regulations.

## MEMBER SATISFACTION SURVEY COMING!

Surveys will be conducted by both phone and email, so if you're contacted, please take a few minutes to give your honest opinions about us.

*Your information is confidential and will help us to improve service.*



## Community Calendar

- ◆ April 2-4 **Community Garage Sales, St. Henry**
- ◆ April 3 **Ottoville Lady Otts Designer Purse Bingo, Delphos Eagles, 7 pm (419-453-3946)**
- ◆ April 3 **The Underwater Bubble Show, Lima Civic Center, 7:30 pm (419-224-1552)**
- ◆ April 4 **Merchants Easter Egg Hunt, Fort Site Park, Fort Recovery, 10 am**
- ◆ April 4 **Lima Symphony – Young Artist Competition, Bluffton University, 7:30-9:30 pm (419-222-5701)**
- ◆ April 5 **Boy Scouts Breakfast, American Legion, Fort Recovery, 8 am to 12:30 pm**
- ◆ April 11 **Firefighters Helping Lima Annual Benefit Concert, UNOH Event Center, 8:30-11:30 pm**
- ◆ April 17-18 **Home Sweet Home Vintage Inspired Market, Allen County Fairgrounds, Friday from 5-9 pm, Saturday from 9 am to 6 pm (419-230-1756)**
- ◆ April 17-18 **Community Garage Sales, New Bremen**
- ◆ April 18 **Ladies Day Out Purse Bingo, Bath High School, 11 am (419-235-1212)**
- ◆ April 18 **Lake Litter Pick Up and Earth Day Celebration, Grand Lake St. Marys State Park, 9 am (419-394-3611)**
- ◆ April 19 **Jig Jam, Lock One Community Arts, New Bremen, 3 pm (567-356-2048)**
- ◆ April 23-25 **Community Garage Sales, Fort Recovery**
- ◆ April 24 **George Lopez at Lima Civic Center, 7:30 pm (419-224-1552)**
- ◆ April 25 **Comedy & Country Music at Moon City Music & Event Center, Wapakoneta 7-8:30 pm, mooncityevent@gmail.com**
- ◆ April 29 **The Color Purple, Lima Civic Center, 8 pm (419-224-1552)**