

Savings, comfort are advantages of purchasing Nest

Northeastern REMC has partnered with the makers of Nest to offer REMC members two of Nest's most popular WIFI thermostats. The result is that REMC members can realize up to \$200 in instant savings. Plus a lifetime of rewards.

Nest learns what temperature you like and builds a schedule around yours. Since 2011, the Nest Thermostat has saved billions of kWh of energy in millions of homes worldwide. And independent studies showed that it saved people an average of 10% to 12% on heating bills and 15% on cooling bills. So in under two years, it can pay for itself. Plus Nest is the first thermostat to get ENERGY STAR certified.

What are some of the advantages of owning a Nest?

2:00
P.M.

SIMPLE INSTALLATION

Pop off your old thermostat and install your new Nest. It should take about half an hour. Now adjust the temperature and get comfortable.

10:30
P.M.

G' NIGHT, NEST

You turn up the air before going to bed. Nest gets to know what you like and starts building a schedule: cozy in the morning and cool at night.

7:00
A.M.

A WARM WELCOME

After you adjusted the temperature a few days in a row, Nest learned you like eating breakfast at 68 degrees. So now it adjusts itself as you get out of bed.

8:30
A.M.

IT KNOWS WHEN YOU'RE AWAY

You're off to work. The Nest Thermostat can use sensors and your phone's location to check if you've left then sets itself to an Eco Temperature to save energy. And your money.

4:30
P.M.

WHEREVER YOU GO, YOU'RE HOME

The babysitter calls to say she picked up the kids from soccer and they are heading home. You adjust the temperature from your phone so they'll be comfortable.

9:00
P.M.

YOU SURE HAVE SAVED!

Pull out your smartphone or tablet and Nest will show you your daily energy use in Energy History and every month in your Home Report. You can see when you use most energy, like on weekends or Monday nights, and how to use less.

For more details about the Nest and to find out about Northeastern's rebate and incentive program, contact Energy Advisor Jeanne Hasty at 635-3700, x 403, or j_hasty@nremc.com. Interested in having one installed? See page 4.

Northeastern REMC member Tony Romano purchased a Nest programmable thermostat from the co-op last summer and couldn't be happier.

Why did you purchase a Nest?

"When I saw I could get a Nest Wi-Fi programmable thermostat from you for less than anywhere else, I decided it was time to buy. You offer a great price point. And I knew to have one would be beneficial from an energy efficiency standpoint."

How hard was it to install?

"It was really simple. You only have to deal with a few wires. They have easy instructions and there are videos you can watch. I'm pretty sure almost anyone could do it. It probably took me 30 minutes, at most, to get it installed and working."

What did you hope to achieve?

"I wanted to be able to monitor our household energy use to give us ideas on how to save money. I like that it is smart enough to determine when to automatically switch to eco-mode based on our habits and movements.

Plus, I can program it to run the furnace fan constantly on low. That has made a big difference in circulating the cool or hot air throughout all levels of our house. It's always comfortable upstairs now."



Has having a Nest affected your electric bill?

"I installed it early last Summer. Our house is a little over 3,000 square feet, and we heat and cool two floors and a full basement. I've seen a \$20-30 per month savings when it was operating. I am really pleased about that!"

Employees celebrated for an amazing 300 combined years of service to REMC

Employees of Northeastern REMC are honored for every fifth year of service to the cooperative. Receiving recognitions in 2018 were front row, left to right: Kristy McCutcheon, 10 yrs; Amanda Weber, 20 yrs; Deanna Kissinger, 15 yrs; Stephanie Kerschner, 20 yrs; Holly Fry, 20 yrs. Back row: Keith Sievers, 20 yrs; Steve Sturgeon, 40 yrs; Lee MacSorley, 25 yrs; Brad Zumbrun, 15 yrs; Jeff Uher, 20 yrs; Randy Brommer, 30 yrs; and Matt Slone, 10 yrs. Not pictured: Mary Noah, 15 yrs; Blake Dennison, 5 yrs; Jeanne Hasty, 20 yrs; Devra Garcia, 15 yrs.

Thank you for the important part each of you play at the cooperative.



Let the adventures begin!

"I got up at 6:00 a.m. on my first day of retirement. I actually got to sleep in an hour more than what I was used to. But unfortunately, our puppy is not yet on my retirement schedule."

So started Rene' Scott's first day of retirement from Northeastern REMC, where for over 13 years, she served as the Executive Assistant to the CEO.



"When I was looking for a job, a temp employment agency suggested that I check out a position which had just come open at REMC. Looking back, I'm really happy I took their advice," said Scott.

The cooperative experienced a lot of changes since Scott started, but she says the two biggest challenges, at least as far as she is concerned, were the move to a new headquarters building and the recent transition to a new CEO.

"When a new person comes on board, in this case the CEO and my direct supervisor, you can't help but worry and wonder how things might change. Fortunately, all went very well."

According to Scott, working with the REMC's board of directors was one of the favorite parts of her job. "They are a great group of leaders, all with different personalities but all with the co-op's best interests foremost in their mind. I really respect them for that. They always kept my job interesting," she said.

Continued Page 4

It's been a great run...

Hunting, fishing, grandkids.

Those are the new priorities for Kevin Quickery as he wraps up a 37-year career working for rural electric cooperatives. Quickery, who has served as Vice President of Corporate Services at Northeastern REMC for the past 8 years, began his retirement January 18.



"I am looking forward to traveling with my wife, Rhonda. We have an upcoming trip to Mexico, will probably return to Hawaii and Alaska, and will definitely try to make the trip to Ireland in 2020 to see Notre Dame play there," said Quickery. "And in-between there will be lots of hunting and fishing. Plus I'll be spending lots more time with our six grandkids" he added.

Quickery began his REMC career as an accountant at United REMC (now Heartland REMC) in Markle. He advanced to Office Manager then served as that co-op's CEO for 13 years before coming to Northeastern REMC in August, 2010.

"When I started at United I was transferring information from large green ledger papers to new computer software that was just being developed. That was a huge thing to go through. And now the technology available to employees, from the linemen in the trucks to everyone in the office, is unbelievable," he said. "That has to be the biggest change I have witnessed during my time with REMCs."

Continued Page 4

Change someone's life for a few cents per month



Thanks to the generosity of Northeastern REMC members who participate in the co-op's Operation RoundUp program several local organizations received much needed financial support in 2018.

The purpose of Operation RoundUp is to collect and distribute funds for charitable purposes within the Columbia City/Fort Wayne area. The money comes from NREMC members who have volunteered to round up their electric bills to the nearest dollar every month. For most, this donation is less than \$6 per year.

When it comes time to distribute funds, applications from individuals and organizations within our service area are reviewed by the Northeastern REMC Community Trust Board of Directors, which is made up of Northeastern REMC members. In most cases, funds will be provided to meet the needs of applicants which aren't being met through other sources. Applications are reviewed and funds are distributed three times yearly.

[Program details and applications are available on Northeastern's website, nremc.com,](http://www.nremc.com) or at our Columbia City office. Questions can be directed to our member service department at 260-244-6111 or 625-3700.

Please sign up for our Operation RoundUp program today. It's easy - just call our office or visit our website. Your change can make a really big difference in other people's lives.

Operation RoundUp funds were awarded to the following in 2018:

Churubusco United Methodist Nursery School

Grace Lutheran Church Food Pantry

Arcola Volunteer Fire Department

Churubusco Community Child Care Center

Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry

Relay for Life of Whitley County

South Whitley Community Preschool (One Community)

Community Harvest Food Bank

Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Northeastern REMC now offering up to \$150 bill credit to offset the cost of professional installation!



Nest thermostats are designed for easy installation, however, NREMC suggests using a professional. Better yet, use a recommended local Nest Pro Installer. A Nest Pro Installer can handle installation from start to finish, get everything set up in the app, and answer any of your questions. An added benefit of using a Nest Pro Installer is that the warranty on your thermostat will be extended at no charge. Once installation is complete and enrollment in our Rush Hours Reward rebate program is verified, an installation credit of up to \$150 will show up on your electric bill.

For a list of local Nest Pro Installers and more details about our Nest program, check out the Nest page of our website at nremc.com.

Continued - Scott

Besides training her new puppy, Bailey, Scott's "to-do" list includes going through and organizing 30+ years of accumulated "treasures", traveling to visit relatives in England and exploring Canada with her husband, Clive, and spoiling her 6-year old twin grandchildren.

Everyone at NREMC wishes Scott the best as she embarks on her new adventures and thanks her for all she has done for the co-op. Taking over Scott's responsibilities will be Deanna Kissinger. Kissinger has been with NREMC for 15 years, most recently serving as Administrative Assistant in the Corporate Services department.

Continued - Quickery

"The other thing that has really changed in the past 37 years is our members' expectations. They have come to expect power to always be available, they want 24/7 access to our employees, and they want immediate responses. All which we can, and do, offer. I remember finding a postcard, mailed in to the REMC in the 1940s by a member, letting us know they were without power at their house. Times have really changed!"

Quickery considers himself very fortunate to have had the career he did, stating that co-ops are a great place to work. "I am so passionate about the REMCs that I have convinced three of my kids to work at REMCs too. I consider myself so fortunate. It's been a great run, but now...it's time for the next chapter."

SPOTLIGHT

Free wall calendars

Copies of the 2019 Cooperative Student Art calendar are available in our lobby while limited supplies last. The calendar features art created by students from around Indiana, including a few from right here in Whitley County.

Propane available thru REMC

We offer some of the best propane pricing around! And you don't have to pay for a one-time bulk fill or worry about running out. Call 625-3700 or go to nremc.com for the details.

Are you a Facebook follower?

[Our Facebook page](#) is the go-to site for all that is new and/or upcoming at the cooperative. We post details about outages, programs and services, special offers for members, upcoming events, and special things like Youth Tour, camp and scholarships... just to cite a few examples. Follow and Like our page please!

Our Vision

**Service, Satisfaction and Safety -
Second to None!**

Our Mission

**To meet our members' on-going
need for reliable energy service at
a good value while meriting trust
and confidence.**

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED TO AREA STUDENTS

Make new friends, create memories at camp

For the past 17 years Touchstone Energy Camp has helped educate students entering the seventh grade on how to be safe around electricity, while also providing them the opportunity to enjoy traditional outdoor camp activities. Northeastern REMC will continue this time-honored tradition and sponsor students to attend Touchstone Energy Camp June 5-8 at Camp Tecumseh in Brookston, Ind.

Current sixth grade students residing in Northeastern's service area are encouraged to fill out an application, which is available on Northeastern's website (nremc.com). Up to four students will be selected to participate in this free three-day program. While at camp

students will enjoy outdoor camp activities such as horseback riding, zip lining, canoeing, archery and swimming, while also receiving a lesson in safe electricity, a live line safety demonstration and even bucket truck rides.

The [Touchstone Energy Camp program](#) was developed by a committee of electric cooperative employees from around the state of Indiana. It is held at Camp Tecumseh, one of the highest-rated YMCA camps in the country. REMC employees join the camp's full-time staff as chaperones for the three days.

Deadline to apply is March 4, 2019.

Seeking high school seniors for trip to D.C.

Every June, as many as 1,500 high school students from across the country spend a week in our nation's capital as part of the [National Rural Electric Cooperative Youth Tour](#). The students are sponsored by electric cooperatives – cooperatives that are committed to educating America's rural youth about America and the role electric cooperatives play in developing strong communities.

Participating in the Youth Tour is an awesome way to learn about this great nation, develop leadership skills, gain a better understanding of electric cooperatives, see historical sites in and around Washington, D.C., and make friendships that will last beyond the week!

Indiana's electric cooperatives (REMCs) have hosted the Youth Tour since 1960, providing hundreds of young Hoosiers the opportunity to travel to our nation's capital:

- to experience first-hand how our government functions,
- to meet our elected officials,
- to learn about the complexities of today's electric utility industry,
- to discover the unique characteristics of cooperative business enterprise,
- to meet and work with hundreds of their peers from throughout the United States,
- to compete to win college scholarship money,
- to experience the sites and sounds of our country's capital.

This year Northeastern REMC will again sponsor two students entering the 12th grade in the Fall. This all-expense paid trip will be June 13-20, but **applications must be submitted by March 4.**

For more details, qualifications, and the link to an application, visit our website, nremc.com.

Two college scholarships offered by NREMC

Northeastern REMC is very excited to announce a new scholarship program to financially assist students of REMC members.

Under the guidelines, two students will be selected from applicants to receive a \$1000 scholarship to attend college, full-time, during the 2019-20 school year. To apply, the student must complete

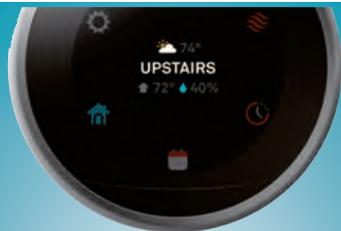
and return the application and meet all qualifications listed. Application forms and more information can be found on our website, nremc.com, and in our office in Columbia City.

Selection criteria will be based on scholastic achievement, school involvement, community involvement and recommendations. The student must

be a graduating senior, accepted to an accredited college or university and be a full-time dependent of a current REMC member.

Northeastern REMC is proud to offer this scholarship program. There is no better way to support our community than to encourage our local students in their pursuit of higher education.

PSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NORTHEASTERN
REMC



**Discounted pricing
on Nest thermostats**

PAGE One

**We'll pay for your
installation**

PAGE Four



**Operation RoundUp
grants available**

PAGE Three



**Scholarships, camp &
Youth Tour**

PAGE Five

LIGHTPOST

Questions? [E-mail memberservices@nremc.com](mailto:memberservices@nremc.com)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

260-244-6111 (Columbia City) or 260-625-3700 (Fort Wayne).

Line Locating: Please call 811 at least 2 full business days prior to digging.