

NEWS & VIEWS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS
OF HENDRICKS POWER COOPERATIVE

JANUARY 2026
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AROUND TOWN

Calendar of Events

JANUARY 9

Applications Due - Page Day

High school students can spend a day at the Indiana Statehouse.

Learn More:

IECPageDay.org

JANUARY 24

Applications Open - Camp Kilowatt

HPC sponsors current sixth-grade students for a chance to attend Camp Kilowatt, located at Happy Hollow Children's Camp in Nashville, IN, July 26-29, 2026.

Learn More:

hendrickspower.com/camp-kilowatt

JANUARY 26

Legislative Breakfast

Hendricks Co. 4-H Fairgrounds
7:00 am

Enjoy a complimentary breakfast, followed by an opportunity to speak with your representatives from the Indiana Statehouse.

The remaining 2026 dates are February 23 and March 16.

RSVP the Thursday before to janna.bolen@infarmbureau.com.

FEBRUARY 13

Applications Due - Youth Tour

High school juniors can apply to Youth Tour for the chance to visit Washington, D.C.

Learn More:

hendrickspower.com/youth-tour

MARCH 6

Applications Due - Scholarships

Attention high school seniors! Applications for Commitment to Community Scholarships are due by 4:30 pm.

Learn More:

hendrickspower.com/scholarships

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFASTS

**YOU'RE
INVITED**

**2026
LEGISLATIVE
BREAKFASTS**

Legislative Breakfast dates announced for 2026 session

Each year, Hendricks Power helps sponsor a series of Legislative Breakfasts for residents of Hendricks County. These breakfasts serve as an opportunity for those in our community to learn more about what's happening during session from the Indiana Statehouse.

Breakfasts will take place at the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds Conference Complex in the North/South Hall and last from 7-8am. Upcoming dates for the breakfasts are Monday, January 26, February 23, and March 16, 2026.

These free breakfasts are the largest publicly attended legislative events in the state during session and include a short time for Q&A, where attendees will be able to ask their own questions. Don't miss this chance to learn more about our state legislature! Breakfasts will feature Representatives Becky Cash, Craig Haggard, Greg Steuerwald, and Jeff Thompson, along with Senators Brian Buchanan, Brett Clark, and Mike Young.

**DON'T
FORGET
TO RSVP**

We hope to see you! RSVP to Janna Bolen of Indiana Farm Bureau by the Thursday prior to each breakfast at (317) 745-4463 or janna.bolen@infarmbureau.com.

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JANUARY 2026



Hendricks Power and Operation Round Up Support Community

Hendricks Power is proud to announce recent contributions that strengthen families, youth programs, and community spaces throughout its service area.

As part of its ongoing commitment to community well-being, Hendricks Power donated \$2,000 to Project ANGEL of Hendricks County. Project ANGEL provides essential holiday assistance to families in need, including food baskets, warm clothing, and holiday gifts for children. This donation will help ensure that local families can enjoy a joyful holiday season, despite financial hardships.

Through its Operation Round Up program, funded by voluntary donations from Hendricks Power members who “round up” their monthly utility bills, Hendricks Power also contributed \$3,000 to the Cascade Fire Cadet Program. This program introduces students in 7th-12th grade to firefighting and emergency medical services (EMS), combining hands-on training, mentorship from local firefighters, and educational opportunities. The program not only prepares young people for potential careers in public safety but also teaches leadership, teamwork, and community responsibility.

Operation Round Up also donated \$2,000 to the B&O Trail Association. These funds will support landscaping and beautification efforts around the recently paved and improved parking lot at the Tilden Trailhead on County Road 500 East. This investment enhances the trail experience for residents and visitors, encouraging more outdoor activity and enjoyment of local recreational spaces.

“Hendricks Power is proud to support programs that strengthen our community, provide meaningful opportunities for youth, and enhance local spaces for everyone to enjoy,” said Heather Thompson, Director of Human Resources and Marketing at Hendricks Power. “From helping families have a brighter holiday season to investing in youth education and local recreation, these contributions reflect our ongoing commitment to making our community a better place for all.”

EMPLOYEE UPDATES



Steve Hite



Greg Mantooth



Dave Olmstead

Celebrating Three Hendricks Power Retirements

This month, we are honored to celebrate three valued team members as they retire from Hendricks Power Cooperative. Their dedication, leadership, and commitment to our members have made a lasting impact, and we’re excited to cheer them on as they begin their next chapter.

Steve Hite, Energy Advisor Supervisor — 16 Years of Service
Known for his deep expertise and strong commitment to helping members make informed energy decisions, Steve has been an essential resource for both the cooperative and the community. His guidance and willingness to help others will be truly missed.

Greg Mantooth, Technical Services Supervisor — 37 Years of Service
With nearly four decades of dedicated service, Greg has played a significant role in HPC’s growth, safety, and operational reliability. His knowledge, mentorship, and steady leadership have shaped countless projects and colleagues throughout the years.

Dave Olmstead, Director of Finance & Member Service — 9 Years of Service
Dave has been a steady and trusted presence at HPC, guiding financial operations and supporting member-focused initiatives. His thoughtful approach and calm leadership style have made a meaningful difference across the organization.

We are deeply grateful to Steve, Greg, and Dave for the years they’ve invested in HPC and the positive impact they’ve had on our team and our members.

Please join us in congratulating them and wishing them the very best in retirement. Their contributions will be remembered—and their presence will be greatly missed.

Congratulations



If you are unable to pay your Hendricks Power bill, please call us. We can work with you to create a payment plan.

We are available Mon-Fri, 7:30 am-4:30 pm at (317) 745-5473.

Utility Assistance Options

As winter weather arrives and temps drop, most families notice increased energy usage, which leads to higher energy bills. As a member-owned utility, we want to remind members that resources are available to help.

Indiana 211
Indiana 211 is a free service that connects Hoosiers with help and answers from thousands of health and human service agencies and resources in their local communities quickly, easily, and confidentially. You can contact 211 by call or text.

Family Promise of Hendricks County
Family Promise assists local families in Hendricks County with rent, utilities, food, and other necessities. To see if you are eligible, call (317) 296-3742 or visit www.familypromisehendrickscounty.org.

Western Indiana Community Action Agency (WICAA)
WICAA offers assistance with education, employment, housing, food, child care, health care, transportation, utilities, support systems, family interaction, and additions. WICAA serves Putnam, Vigo, and Clay counties. Contact them at www.wicaa.org or by calling (812) 232-1264.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

RELIABILITY



Where Your Energy Dollar Goes: Building a Reliable System You Can Count On

4 Tips to Reduce Energy Usage This Winter Without Sacrificing Comfort

Winter in Indiana brings colder weather, shorter days, and higher energy use. Hendricks Power is here to help you stay warm, comfortable, and energy-smart with these tips.

1. Thermostat Settings

 - 68°F while you're home and awake
 - 60–65°F while you're away or asleep

If you have a heat pump, avoid large setbacks (more than 3–4 degrees) to prevent energy-heavy auxiliary heat. A smart or programmable thermostat can help manage this automatically.
2. Phantom Loads

Some of these devices use power even when turned off.

 - Game consoles
 - TVs and sound systems
 - Chargers left plugged in
 - Coffee makers and countertop appliances with digital displays

Tip: Unplug devices when not in use, or plug groups of electronics into a power strip so you can turn them all off with one switch.
3. Affordable Insulation improvements

 - Weatherstrip doors and windows
 - Install door sweeps
 - Cover drafty windows with clear plastic film kits
 - Add foam outlet gaskets behind switch plates on exterior walls
 - Use insulated curtains at night
 - Seal gaps around pipes, attic doors, and vents
4. Humidity Levels

Dry air makes your home feel cooler. Adding a little humidity helps rooms feel warmer at lower thermostat settings. Aim for 30–50% humidity.

 - Use a humidifier
 - Add plants
 - Air-dry small laundry loads
 - Leave bathroom doors open after showers

As a member-owned electric cooperative, Hendricks Power is focused on delivering safe, reliable power by continually investing in the system that serves you—often behind the scenes.

Strengthening the Poles That Hold It All Together
One of the key ways we enhance reliability is through our pole replacement program. In 2025, we replaced 700 poles, proactively preventing outages by identifying and renewing aging or damaged infrastructure.

Smarter Technology for Faster Restoration
We continue investing in feeder automation technology that detects problems, isolates faults, and reroutes power. In many cases, this technology can restore service in seconds, reducing outage time and improving the overall member experience.

New automated devices are being added to overhead lines, with installations beginning on underground circuits.

Overhead-to-Underground Improvements
We are advancing overhead-to-underground conversions in areas with limited access, heavy vegetation, and aging equipment. In 2025, we completed 11 projects, with 15 more budgeted for 2026.

Substations Built for the Future
Substations are critical to safe, efficient power delivery. We completed construction on the new Vandalia Substation, making it fully operational, earlier this year. We’ve also begun early design work on the Whitaker Substation in Plainfield, which should be completed by the end of 2027 or the beginning of 2028.

Upgrades are underway at the Montclair, Plainfield West, and Plainfield South substations to strengthen infrastructure, improve communication, and increase system flexibility.

Why This Work Matters
Like all electric utilities, we face changing costs for materials, fuel, technology, and labor. But as a cooperative, our focus remains clear: invest wisely, plan responsibly, and operate transparently—always with our members’ best interests in mind. Every improvement we make helps ensure your cooperative is ready to meet today’s needs while preparing for tomorrow.