



MEMBER ENERGY TIP

Track Your Home's Energy Use

If you've ever wondered what's driving your electric bill, Southeastern Indiana REMC can help.

Energy Advisor Nick Borgman works with members experiencing high energy use by installing an Emporia Vue Home Energy Monitor. The device is installed inside your electrical panel and tracks energy use from appliances and equipment throughout your home.

This information helps identify what may be causing high usage and allows members to make informed decisions about energy-saving upgrades.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Heating and cooling typically account for about half of a home's energy use.
- LED bulbs can last up to 25 times longer than incandescent bulbs.
- Electronics left plugged in can account for 5–10% of residential electricity use.

SMALL UPGRADES, BIG ENERGY SAVINGS

Spring is the perfect time to think about how small technology upgrades can improve your home's energy efficiency. As temperatures warm and our routines shift, simple changes can help reduce energy waste, lower monthly bills, and keep your home comfortable.

Many of today's energy-efficient technologies are easy to install and begin saving energy right away.

Smart thermostats are one of the easiest upgrades. These devices learn your schedule and automatically adjust heating and cooling when you're asleep or away from home. Many can be controlled from your phone, allowing you to adjust temperatures remotely. By reducing unnecessary heating or cooling, smart thermostats can help lower energy use without sacrificing comfort.

Another quick upgrade is LED lighting. LED bulbs use up to 75% less energy than traditional incandescent bulbs and last much longer. Replacing frequently used bulbs — such as those in kitchens, living rooms, and outdoor fixtures — can make a noticeable difference over time.

You can also reduce wasted electricity with smart power strips. Many electronics continue drawing power even when turned off, often called "phantom" or "vampire" energy use. Smart power strips automatically cut power to devices when they're not in use.

Small upgrades may seem simple, but together they can have a meaningful impact on your home's energy use. Understanding how your home uses electricity is the first step toward making smart energy decisions.