



AUGUST 2026

CO-OP CURRENT



HOW EXTREME HEAT IMPACTS YOUR HOME'S ENERGY CONSUMPTION

Indiana experiences a wide range of weather throughout the year, from bitter-cold winters, like late January 2026 when temperatures stayed below zero for nearly a week, to summer heat waves, like the first week of July 2026, with temperatures in the 90s. These rapid shifts make it challenging to maintain a comfortable home, and energy use often increases during extreme temperatures.

In the summer, air conditioners work to keep indoor spaces cool while outdoor heat rises. The greater the difference between the indoor setting and outdoor temperature, the harder the system has to work. Even though your energy system will be used more during extreme temperatures, there are still simple ways to help reduce overall energy consumption.

AVOID LARGE THERMOSTAT ADJUSTMENTS

It can be tempting to turn the thermostat down as low as possible when a home feels warm, but this does not cool the home faster. Instead, it causes the system to run longer and work harder to reach that lower temperature.

For better efficiency, thermostat adjustments should be made gradually, only a few degrees at a time. Keeping a consistent temperature helps the cooling system operate more efficiently and reduces unnecessary energy use.

KEEP COOL AIR INSIDE

Small gaps around doors and windows can

allow cool air to escape and warm air to enter the home. Sealing these areas with caulk or weather stripping helps maintain a comfortable indoor temperature for longer periods and reduces strain on the HVAC system.

USE FANS AND MANAGE SUNLIGHT

Ceiling fans help circulate air and make rooms feel cooler without lowering the thermostat. In the summer, ceiling fans should rotate counterclockwise to create a cooling breeze.

Sunlight can quickly increase indoor temperatures. Closing blinds or curtains during the hottest parts of the day, especially on windows that receive direct sunlight, helps keep homes more comfortable and reduces heat gain.

SCHEDULE REGULAR HVAC MAINTENANCE

Routine maintenance helps heating and cooling systems run as efficiently as possible. HVAC systems should be serviced twice a year, once in the spring and once in the fall, to prepare for seasonal demands.

SCI REMC members may also qualify for an HVAC maintenance rebate that reimburses 50% of the cost up to a maximum rebate of \$50. Members are eligible for up to two qualifying maintenance visits per year.

To learn more about available rebates, visit sciremc.com/rebate.



HOW SCI CAN HELP YOU SAVE

At SCI, we're committed to helping our members use energy more efficiently and save money. We offer tools and resources designed to make energy management easier:

1. SCI Connect App

Track your energy usage in real time with the SCI Connect app, available in the Apple App Store and Google Play. You can also set up alerts to notify you if your energy usage is higher than usual, helping you avoid unexpected spikes in your bill.



2. Free Energy Audits

If you're noticing higher-than-expected energy use, our free energy audits can help. SCI REMC will analyze your energy consumption and identify areas where you can improve efficiency. Members who are interested can fill out the form at sciremc.com/energyaudit.

3. Customer Support

Still have questions? Our friendly customer service team is here to help you adopt energy-saving habits and make the most of the resources available to you. Give us a call from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday to Friday at 765.342.3344 or toll-free at 800.264.7362.



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CONTACT

765.342.3344
askus@sciremc.com

SAVE THE DATE

SCI REMC's Virtual Annual Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 26, at 9:45 a.m.

DIRECTOR ELECTION DATES

AUG Voting Opens

28 Members can vote online through an emailed link, and paper ballots will begin arriving by mail.

SEPT Voting Closes

23 Online voting ends at 11:59 PM, and paper ballots must be received by Survey and Ballot Systems by this date.