Current Comments

July 2024

Making energy work for YOU

Scammers Use Online Ads to Trick You The ONLY Number to Use to Call Midwest Energy is (800) 222-3121

A new scam is targeting Midwest Energy customers via "Sponsored" ads on Google. When customers type "Midwest Energy" into Google, a scammer's website and phone number may appear as "Sponsored" top results. Customers then click or call the scammers, making it much easier for them to steal information.

The scam works so well because people are skeptical when someone calls them; however, this scam has the customer initiating contact with the scammer, making them more likely to share information freely.

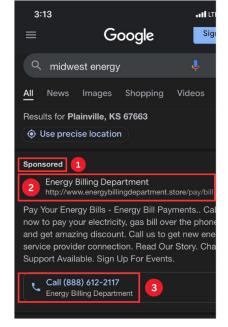
Customers who call the 855 or 888 phone numbers in the Sponsored ads are connected with scammers in Pakistan who ask verification questions similar to those used by Midwest customer service representatives.

Armed with the customer's bank card information. scammers make dozens of small charges for weeks until the fraud is detected.

Sponsored pages are easy to differentiate from organic search results. Protect yourself by never clicking on "Sponsored" links - only click search results that belong to the

HOW TO IDENTIFY A SCAM

- Sponsored ads are paid to show up first in results.
- Does not say "Midwest Energy" in title and incorrect web address.
- **Not Midwest Energy's** phone number.



actual entity being searched for.

Lastly, the ONLY number to call Midwest Energy is (800) 222-3121. Never use any other number to start/stop service, report issues or make payments.

Capital Credit Checl to Customers in July

As a customer-owned cooperative, Midwest Energy refunds any excess margins (money left after all expenses have been paid) back to you, our members. These margins are returned on roughly a 20-year cycle. Credits paid by check this year were earned by electric customers back in 2003 and 2004.

Customers should review their



Capital Credits statement, which will appear on the upper right hand corner of their July or August bill.

This year, \$5.2 million in credits will be paid out in the form of paper checks. Checks will be mailed to the last known address, so customers who move out of the area are encouraged to update their address with us.

Impact Grant Applications Due August 1

Midwest Energy's Impact Grant Program consists of five \$5,000 grants awarded annually to communities or organizations within Midwest Energy's retail natural gas or electric service area. The application deadline is August 1.

The Impact Grant supports projects that are larger than the typical Community Fund applicant, and are more narrow in focus. The requirements for application are listed below:

- Awards are for projects that are \$10,000 or more
- The local match for Impact Grants must be on a 1 to I basis (\$5,000 must be raised or pledged to receive a \$5,000 grant).
 - Applications to create an endowed fund for a com-

munity must have a 2 to 1 match (\$10,000 raised or pledged in order to receive a \$5,000 grant).

- Additional information describing the project, letters of community support and proof of matching funds are required for grant considerations.

To apply for an Impact Grant and find more information, visit www.mwenergy.com and click on "Community Fund/Impact Grant" under the "Community" tab. The official Impact Grant Program Guidelines can also be found here.

If you have any questions or desire more information, please contact us at (800) 222-3121.

Pay Your Midwest Energy B Six Authorized Ways t

There are several convenient ways you can pay your Midwest Energy bill. There is no fee for use of any method except credit, debit and ATM cards.

- **E-billing:** When you sign up for e-billing, you receive an email on your billing date with a link to your bill. Click the link, review the bill and select your payment option. You can select the day your account will be debited up to your due date. You can opt out of receiving paper bills. Enroll online at www.mwenergy.com, by visiting one of our offices, or by calling (800) 222-3121.
- Automatic Bank Draft: Your bill is automatically deducted from the bank account you specify on your due date. Enroll online at www.mwenergy.com, by visiting one of our offices, or by calling (800) 222-3121.
- Online Bill Payment: Log-in to your account at www.mwenergy.com. You can now see your current bill and pay it from here using the bank account you specify. Multiple bank accounts can be saved in your profile for quicker payment processing.
- U.S. Mail: If you pay by mail, enclose your bill payment stub and a check or money order in the preaddressed envelope provided with your bill. Please allow 3-5 days for Postal Service delivery.
- Customer Service Offices: You may pay in person at any of our local offices during business hours, or drop your payment (bill payment stub and check or money order) in the drop box at these locations. A list of our locations is at www.mwenergy.com/locations.

- Credit, Debit and ATM Cards: Residential customers may use credit, debit and ATM cards at any customer service office, or online at www.mwenergy. com by clicking on "Account Login" and using the "Make a OneTime Payment" feature. A fee of \$3.95 is charged by the card processing agent for each transaction.

All other payment options not listed above are considered "unauthorized pay agents." Midwest Energy provides no assurance to the timeliness or accuracy of payments made via unauthorized agents.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Electricity used to operate major appliances accounts for a significant portion of your home energy use.

Here's an easy way to lighten the load on vour clothes dryer. Before you dry a load of damp clothing, toss in a clean, dry towel. The towel will absorb excess water, shortening the drying time. If your dryer does not include an autosense feature to determine drying time, remember to reduce the timer to about half of what you normally would. Remove the towel about 15 minutes after the cycle begins. Shorter drying times will extend the life of your dryer and save energy.

Source: homesandgardens.com

Atwood, KS . Colby, KS . Great Bend, KS . Hays, KS

Phillipsburg, KS • Scott City, KS • WaKeeney, KS







1330 Canterburv • Havs. Kansas 67601