



WHITING REFINERY Federal Credit Union

1339 119th STREET • WHITING, INDIANA 46394 • (219) 659-3254 • www.wrfcu.org • April 2021

The 86th Annual Meeting

The 86th Annual Meeting was held virtually on March 15, 2021 with 32 members in attendance. We would like to congratulate Carl Towner, David Kirchhoff, and Sue Mateja who were re-elected to the Board of Directors for another three year term.

EStatements Available

EStatements have finally arrived. Are you tired of all the paper delivered to your mailbox? Log into your Home Banking and opt into EStatements today. It is quick and easy. If you do not have Home Banking contact the credit union at your earliest convenience to sign up.



WRFCU App

The Whiting Refinery Federal Credit Union Mobile App is available for iOS and Android devices. View balances and transactions, transfer funds,

and much more. Simply install the app and use your Online Banking username and password to login. Search for "Whiting Refinery FCU" in the App Store (Apple iOS devices) or Whiting Refinery in the Play Store (Android) devices. Download it today and have access to your account on the go. Contact the credit union for more details.

SHARED BRANCHING

Our Shared Branching locator has become easier than ever before. There are several ways to find the closest shared branching location to you. Text your zip code to 91989, log onto www.co-opsharedbranching.org to enter in your zip code or address, or you can download the app to your smart phone. What is Shared Branching? Shared Branching is where you can go to other partner credit unions and access your account at the Whiting Refinery Federal Credit Union. It's a great service for when you may be out of town or our hours do not work well with yours.

COVID-19 Update from WRFCU

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 PANDEMIC we were forced to close our lobby for a second time and assist our members on an appointment only basis. We realize this was an inconvenience, but it was necessary to keep our staff, the members that we serve, and community safe. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Once again, the credit union plans on offering discounted tickets to local theme parks depending on their regulations and CDC guidelines. Contact the credit union for individual pricing and availability.



DORMANT ACCOUNTS



Due to regulations, we are required to review dormant accounts periodically. Accounts that are classified as dormant have had no transactions done on them in a period of at least three years. To avoid your account from becoming dormant, all you need to do is a transaction every three years. Please contact the credit union at 219-659-3254 for any further questions on your inactive account.

NEED A MORTGAGE?

Need to apply for a mortgage or refinance your existing mortgage? Contact Heather Opperman at CU Mortgage Service at 219-743-6232. CU Mortgage Service is licensed to accept mortgages in all 50 states.

IS YOUR
CONTACT
INFORMATION
UP-TO-DATE?



Have you moved recently or changed your phone number? Please remember to contact the Whiting Refinery Federal Credit Union for all updates on your personal credentials so we can make sure we have accurate information on your account. Also, do we have your email address? Contact the credit union to verify we have your current email address on file.

IMPORTANT!!! Due to compliance regulations, you must have all individuals on your account if you plan on allowing them to access it in anyway. For example, via an ACH debit transaction. The item will be returned if the name does not match the account holders. This is for the member's protection as well as the credit unions. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**



Have you ever thought about adding a beneficiary to your account or perhaps a joint owner? Someone you can trust who can help you with your finances in case of your inability to do so. Or what happens to your funds in the event of your death? Call or stop by the credit union and speak to one of our staff members and inquire on how to add a joint owner to your account or just a beneficiary.



Need a New Vehicle

Looking ahead to your 2021 summer road trips? You're ready. Your vehicle? Not so much. So, if you're in the market for new wheels, see the credit union first for a pre-approved loan. With pre-approved financing from the credit union, you'll be in the best position to buy the vehicle that's right for you, not the one the dealer is trying to sell you. That's because any special dealer financing offers may be limited to certain vehicles, often the slower selling models. With a credit union loan, you have more choices, including buying from a private seller.

If you do buy privately, be sure to review all of the service records, and have the vehicle checked over by a mechanic.

Even if you're not looking to trade, refinancing your current loan at the credit union may be in your best interest. With rock-bottom rates, we may be able to significantly reduce your payment. So, call on us to help get you on the road to savings.

BRIGHTER FINANCIAL FUTURE

Spring is in the air. Time to wash away winter's grime. It is also a good chance to put your finances back on track. Here are five steps you can take to help ensure a brighter financial future:

1. Clean out your financial files. Generally, you can toss tax returns older than seven years. Be sure to shred documents with sensitive information.

2. Check your wallet as well. Leave your social security card in a safe place at home. Photo copy your credit cards and safeguard that information. If the cards are lost or stolen, you'll have all your account information if you need it.

3. If you haven't filed your 2020 taxes, make it a top priority. The longer you delay the inevitable, the chances of tax identity fraud increase. If you are getting a refund, use it to pay down debt or earmark it in a special savings account at the credit union for a future goal. If you owe, see the credit union for a loan.

4. Review your credit reports. A free copy from each of the three credit reporting agencies is available annually.

5. Dust off your budget. Review your spending and saving habits to make sure they are in line with your goals. If you're not saving enough, sign up for payroll deduction or automatic transfers to your credit union Share Savings Account. Set up automatic payments so you don't miss a bill.

Digital or Paper?

The credit union may be going digital with the Newsletters soon. If you want to continue receiving a paper copy, please give the office a call at 219-659-3254.

Does it ever feel like there are not enough hours in the day? Sometimes, even with the best laid plans and the best of intentions, we simply cannot check every box on our daily to-do list. Sometimes, life is unexpected. When it comes to keeping your financial to-dos in check and on time, the Whiting Refinery Federal Credit Union is here for you, even after hours. With our mail drop slot, you have the flexibility to make safe, secure deposits on your schedule.

With this convenient service, you can access the credit union location outside of normal business hours. Before the branch opens and after it closes, you can still safely:

- Make deposits and payments.
- Complete emergency transactions 24/7.
- Feel at ease knowing deposits will be processed the next business day and credited to your account.
- Rely on a trusted option as a business owner or individual in need of a secure drop off after normal business hours.

LOW INTEREST LOANS

Are you looking to make a big purchase at a lower interest rate? Motorcycle, Boat, Home Improvement? The Whiting Refinery Federal Credit Union has the right loan for you. Check out our new signature loan terms and rates. The credit union is now offering signature loans up to \$25,000 at a lower interest rate and with flexible repayment terms. Certain restrictions may apply. Contact the credit union for more details.

WWW.WRFCU.ORG

If this past year has taught us anything, it's that technology gives us the capability to move forward and power through in ways we never thought possible. We weathered the storm of Covid-19 by going virtual in so many aspects of our lives, and handling our finances was no exception. The credit union was there to support members with secure, accessible online financial tools and solutions, when they needed it most. We were there then and continue to be just a click away as we help you navigate life and financial management, post-pandemic.

Our already versatile website is always improving to better serve members' ever-changing virtual financial needs. www.wrfcu.org offers the ability to:

- * Quickly and easily perform daily transactions via Home Banking
- * Transfer funds
- * Check balances
- * Make loan payments
- * Pay bills online
- * Apply for a loan

At the credit union website, you can also get up-to-date news and information about the credit union, including:

- * New products, services, and promotions
- * Current rates
- * Branch Location
- * Contact information and hours

DEBT

It's estimated Americans owe more than \$825 billion in credit card debt. If you're part of that statistic and would like to see your credit card debt in the rear-view mirror, here are tips to make that happen:

1. Make a plan to pay more than the minimum payment each month. Your statement alerts you to how much time it would take to pay off your balance and how much it would cost you should you only make the minimum payment. So, figure out a way to start chipping away your balance. There are readily available online calculators that show you the difference it will make. Can you get some cash by selling things online or holding a garage sale? Can you cut the cable cord and stream instead? Can you reduce your utility bills by making a concerted effort to save energy? Can you shop around for insurance and pay less with another company?
2. Freeze your credit use. Literally. Put your card or cards in a container of water and put them in the freezer. When your plastic isn't handy, you'll be less tempted. You can thaw it out under hot water should a real emergency use arise.
3. Use payroll deduction or automatic transfers to your credit union Share Savings Account to create a safety net. This method works because what you don't see, you don't miss. This savings cushion will help prevent you from having to use your card for things you may need or in an emergency.
4. Apply for a Consolidation Loan from the credit union. Chances are the interest rate will be lower.
5. Make the most of any "found" money: a bonus at work, an inheritance, or a gift. Use those funds to pay down your debt.
6. Check to make sure you're not over withholding your taxes. That's likely the case if you are getting a big tax refund. Don't give Uncle Sam a loan. Use that money to help pay off your own debt.
7. Pay off the card with the highest interest rate first.
8. Walk before you run. Start small and don't be discouraged. Just keep heading in the right direction.

BILL CONSOLIDATION LOAN

The pandemic turned the economy upside down and if you've found yourself at the bottom, it's time to start digging out with a Bill Consolidation Loan from the credit union. A consolidation loan can help you get back on top of your finances. With a low-rate loan, you can pay off those high-interest credit cards, and with just one payment to make, it will help simplify your life as well. A consolidation loan also can help protect your credit rating. Missed payments can adversely affect your score, as payment history is weighted to make up a more than a third of it. The higher your credit score is, the lower the rate you'll pay on loans. Your credit score also may affect what you pay for insurance and even if you can rent an apartment. Contact the credit union today to find out how a Bill Consolidation Loan can help you climb out of debt.

**WHITING REFINERY
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**
1339 - 119th Street
Whiting, Indiana 46394

PRSTD STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Hammond, IN
Permit #1

Dividend News

The Board of Directors declared to pay 1.00% APR/
1.00% APY on all eligible share accounts for the 1st
Quarter of 2021 payable March 31, 2021.
The Board of Directors declared to pay 1.00% APR/
1.00% APY on all eligible share draft accounts for the
1st Quarter of 2021 payable March 31, 2021.

****RATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME !!!**

Certificate Rates

1 Year (\$1,000.00 Min) 1.10% APR/1.11% APY
2 Year (\$1,000.00 Min) 1.20% APR/1.21% APY
3 Year (\$1,000.00 Min) 1.30% APR/1.31% APY
4 Year (\$1,000.00 Min) 1.40% APR/1.41% APY
5 Year (\$1,000.00 Min) 1.50% APR/1.51% APY

****RATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME !!!**

Loan Rates

NEW AUTOMOBILES

1.99%* 36 Months
1.99%* 48 Months
1.99%* 60 Months

USED AUTOMOBILES

2.99%* 36 Months
2.99%* 48 Months
2.99%* 60 Months

Longer Terms Available (Contact the Credit Union for
more details) *Certain Restrictions May Apply *Based on
Credit Score & Debt Ratio

SIGNATURE LOAN (\$25,000 Maximum)

5.00%-12.00%* 12 Months - 36 Months
8.00%-16.24%* 48 Months - 72 Months

*Certain Restrictions May Apply *Based on Credit Score
& Debt Ratio

SHARE PLEDGE LOAN

1.99% Up to 60 Months

****RATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME !!!**

**Whiting Refinery
Federal Credit Union**
SERVING OUR MEMBERS SINCE 1935

1339 - 119th Street,
Whiting, Indiana 46394
(219)659-3254
wrfcu@wrfcu.org

HOURS

8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Monday thru Friday
Payday Friday - Open until 6:00 p.m.

www.wrfcu.org

Holiday Closings

April 2, 2021
GOOD FRIDAY

May 31, 2021
MEMORIAL DAY

July 5, 2021
INDEPENDENCE DAY (OBSERVED)

Your Savings Federally Insured to \$250,000

NCUA

National Credit Union Administration.

a U.S. Government Agency

