



WHITING REFINERY Federal Credit Union

1339 119th STREET • WHITING, INDIANA 46394 • (219) 659-3254 • www.wrfcu.org • October 2024

IMPORTANT!!

There are instances where the credit union needs to get in contact with our members, so it is imperative that we have up to date contact information. Maybe you have moved, changed your phone number, or email but have forgotten to notify us. If that's the case, please contact the credit union to verify we have the most recent contact information.



It's that time of year again when the credit union sponsors Christmas Angels on behalf of the Salvation Army. The Angels are usually available at the beginning to middle of November in the lobby of the credit union.

Please stop by anytime during normal operating hours to pick out your angel to sponsor. On behalf of the credit union and the Salvation Army, we thank you for your continued support and generosity for this program.

FAST CASH

The signs are tempting "Fast Cash!" "No Paperwork" "Payday Advance" but like many temptations, you may soon regret that you've succumbed. That's because you'll pay a high price for the convenience of "fast cash." Check-cashers and payday lenders typically charge high fees for the chance to put cash in your pocket. According to the Center for Responsible Lending, on average, payday loans can carry an interest rate of 391% APR (annual percentage rate) and often the product is designed to force borrowers into repeat loans. If you find yourself in a financial bind, stop by the credit union and we will do our best to help you. A Signature Loan may be what you need to get over a financial hump. Equally important, we'll show you how to start putting money aside for the future. Even small amounts can add up and can give you the financial cushion you need.



SHRED DAY!!

Free Document Destruction on Saturday, October 19, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. hosted by Advance Financial FCU at two different locations, 31 W. US Highway 30 Schererville, IN 46375 and 4035 Adler St East Chicago, IN 46312. Items accepted are paper, file folders, and staples. Items not accepted are books/magazines, CD's/DVD's, binders/binder clips, batteries, plastic materials and cardboard. They are also accepting optional donations of non-perishable food items for the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana.

Christmas Club

While the holiday season is chock full of beloved traditions, festive gatherings, and cherished family time, it also comes with pesky to-do lists, gift-buying worries, and plenty of expenses that can easily spiral out of control. If you financially and mentally overextended yourself last year, take comfort in knowing that you can better plan for next year with a Christmas Club Account.

This convenient account is designed to help you easily save for things like gifts, entertainment, dining, and travel expenses during the holidays. As a dedicated savings program, the Christmas Club Account helps you get started and stay on track to saving for the 2025 holiday season. It can also be linked to a direct deposit or payroll deduction and is separate from your regular savings and checking accounts, for better budgeting. Saving doesn't get much easier than that! Be financially savvy and stress-free next holiday season by signing up for your 2025 Christmas Club Account!





HOW SECURE IS YOUR MOBILE PHONE?

Mobile phones have revolutionized our way of life. We use them to contact our friends and family, get directions, check social media, get news updates, listen to music, take photos, plus take care of our financial business, and much more. In fact, mobile phones are so ubiquitous, many families have had to set rules about usage, for example, no phones allowed at the dinner table. While mobile phones are now woven into the tapestry of our lives, don't let familiarity breed complacency. It's easy to sacrifice security for convenience. Here are some do's and don'ts to keep in mind:

- Do pass code protect access and regularly change your passwords.
- Don't leave your phone unattended; be vigilant about where you put it down.
- Don't use public Wi-Fi for any secure transactions; most public Wi-Fi connections are not secure, resulting in an open door for hackers.
- Don't walk and talk; thieves have perfected a back-of-the-head slap that lands your phone in their hands in one easy step.

THREE WAYS TO HELP REDUCE YOUR DEBT

1. Once you pay off any type of installment loan, continue to make "payments" to your savings account at the credit union. If it isn't possible to save the entire amount, then at least save half of the payment you were making.
2. Make one extra mortgage payment each year. This can save you thousands of dollars in interest. If making one extra payment a year is too much, divide your mortgage payment amount by 12, and add this amount to your monthly payment. Include a note with your payment instructing the lending institution to apply the extra payment to the loans' principal. By increasing your mortgage payment, you not only save money over time, but it also increases the equity in your home.
3. Make it a goal to get rid of your credit cards, student loans, car payments, etc. Figure out how much interest you are paying. Then, make a list of each debt, including creditor's name, interest rate, and the monthly minimum payment that is due. Pay the most amount each month to the creditor with the highest interest rate. This will help reduce your outstanding debt.

Signs of carbon monoxide poisoning



PROTECT YOURSELF FROM CARBON MONOXIDE

With colder temperatures approaching, it is important to take safety precautions that can protect you and your loved ones from the risks of carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide can escape from any fuel-burning appliance, furnace, water heater, fireplace, wood stove, or space heater. Here are some tips to help keep your home and family safe from carbon monoxide:

- Install and maintain carbon monoxide detectors in your home. If you are installing only one carbon monoxide detector, the Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends it be located near the sleeping area, where it can wake you if you are asleep. Additional detectors on every level and in every bedroom of a home will provide extra protection.
- Do not start your car, generator, or any combustion engine in a closed garage.
- Never use a charcoal grill, hibachi, lantern, or portable camping stove inside a home, tent, or camper.
- Clean and replace furnace filters regularly.
- Do not install carbon monoxide detectors directly above or beside fuel-burning appliances, as they may emit a small amount of carbon monoxide during start-up.

Symptoms of low-level poisoning are commonly mistaken for common flu and cold symptoms – shortness of breath on mild exertion, mild headaches, and nausea. With higher levels of poisoning, the symptoms become more severe – dizziness, mental confusion, severe headaches, nausea, and fainting on mild exertion. If carbon monoxide poisoning is suspected, consult a health care professional right away.



Joint Owner vs Beneficiary

A joint owner can access your account if you experience an unexpected illness or accident. Also, they will receive the monies from your account in the event of your death.

A beneficiary will only receive the monies from your account in the event of your death.

The credit union encourages all members to have a joint owner on their account. Too many times we have seen members have an unexpected illness or accident and someone needed access to their account. Whether it was a withdrawal or a history of the account. Unfortunately, without a joint owner on the account, the credit union is unable to provide anyone with this information. Only having a beneficiary on the account does not give us authorization to divulge information to anyone other than the account holder.

Call or stop by the credit union to speak to one of our staff members more about this important notice and how to make this adjustment to your account.



Periodically you may receive correspondence mailed to you from the credit union, please respond right away. If you put it off until later, that's a good way of forgetting about it. If you are unsure of the contents, contact the credit union to verify the contents.

MORTGAGE LOANS

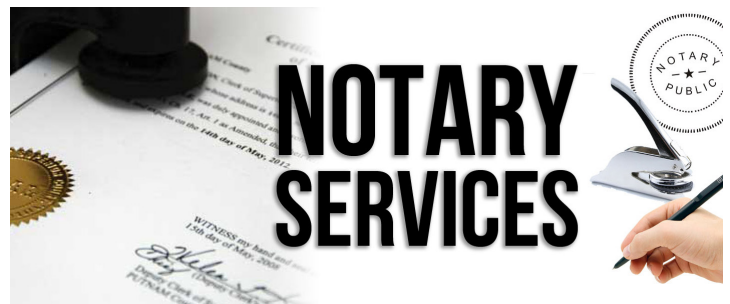
Did you know the credit union offers mortgage loans? Whether you're in the market for a new mortgage or would like to refinance your existing mortgage from another lender check out the credit union for your financing needs. Plus, we are offering a .25% discount off the current rate. To get more information and check the current rates please contact our mortgage specialist Heather Opperman at CU Mortgage Service at the following 219-743-6232. Or you can apply online via the following website: https://hosting.bytesoftware.com/apps/bcp_19713/?lo=heathero.

The credit union is licensed to accept mortgages in all 50 states including Washington DC.



ONLINE BANKING

It's imperative that you check your account balance and history on a regular basis to prevent or dispute any transactions that may not be the accountholders. Too many times members realize there is a transaction that has debited their account, and it is too late to dispute the transaction. There is no need to wait for your statement to come in the mail or your inbox, we have online banking available. If you do not have online banking, we encourage you to contact the credit union at your earliest convenience to get signed up. By having online banking, you have access to your account 24/7.



Even though we now can often conduct our business with keystrokes or clicks, or taps and swipes, some things in life require your autograph. Under certain circumstances, your signature needs to be notarized. Typically, you need a notary for transfers of property, for example, on legal documents such as a will, deed, or trust. Some medical documents require a notarized signature. That's because signing your name in the presence of a notary signifies you are doing so of your free will - you are not under duress and no one is forcing you to sign. You are also indicating you are signing the document for the reasons described in it and that you swear or affirm the document contains the truth.

If you need a document notarized, contact the credit union. It's a service we are happy to help you with.

**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 2.00% APR/2.02% APY on all eligible share accounts for the 3rd Quarter of 2024 payable September 30, 2024.
The Board of Directors declared to pay 2.00% APR/2.02% APY on all eligible share draft accounts for the 3rd Quarter of 2024 payable September 30, 2024.
****RATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME !!!**

Certificate Rates

1 Year	(\$1,000.00 Min)	4.50% APR/4.59% APY
18 mo.	(\$1,000.00 Min)	4.25% APR/4.33% APY
2 Year	(\$1,000.00 Min)	3.50% APR/3.56% APY
3 Year	(\$1,000.00 Min)	3.50% APR/3.56% APY
4 Year	(\$1,000.00 Min)	3.60% APR/3.66% APY
5 Year	(\$1,000.00 Min)	3.75% APR/3.82% APY

****RATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME !!! *SUBJECT TO EARLY PENALTY WITHDRAWAL. **CERTAIN LIMITATIONS MAY APPLY***

Loan Rates

NEW AUTOMOBILES (2025-2024)	USED AUTOMOBILES (2023-2017)
4.69%-9.69%* 36 Months	5.69%-10.69%* 36 Months
4.94%-9.94%* 48 Months	5.94%-10.94%* 48 Months
5.19%-10.19%* 60 Months	6.19%-11.19%* 60 Months
5.44%-10.44%* 66 Months	6.44%-11.44%* 66 Months
5.69%-10.69%* 72 Months	6.69%-11.69%* 72 Months
6.14%-11.19%* 84 Months	7.19%-12.19%* 84 Months

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

SIGNATURE LOAN (\$25,000 Maximum)

6.00%-13.00%*	12 Months - 36 Months
9.00%-17.24%*	48 Months - 72 Months

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

SHARE PLEDGE LOAN

2.99% Up to 60 Months

MOTORCYCLE LOAN RATES (2025 - 2017)

4.74%-6.24%* 60 Months
4.99%-6.74%* 66 Months
5.24%-7.74%* 72 Months
5.74%-8.74%* 84 Months

BOAT & RV RATES (2025-2010)

4.74%-10.99%* 60 Months
4.99%-11.24%* 72 Months
5.24%-11.49%* 84 Months
5.49%-11.74%* 96 Months
5.74%-11.99%* 120 Months
5.99%-12.99%* 180 Months

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

www.wrfcu.org

Holiday Closings

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
November 28 & 29, 2024

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
December 24 & 25, 2024

NEW YEAR'S EVE
December 31, 2024 Closing at 2:00pm

NEW YEAR'S DAY
January 1, 2025

Your Savings Federally Insured to \$250,000

NCUA

National Credit Union Administration

a U.S. Government Agency

