

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

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Office Hours
Monday through Friday
7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Emergency Outage Number
814-766-3221
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From the General Manager/CEO



Annual meeting notice

By Rick L. Eichelberger

MARK YOUR calendars now for the 79th annual meeting of the members of New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. This year's meeting will be held at the Northern Bedford County High School, 152 NBC Drive, Loysburg, on Tuesday, June 13, 2017. Attend this year's meeting and join others in:

- ▶ A family-style turkey dinner from 4 to 6:45 p.m.
- ▶ Entertainment — gospel and country music by John Topper and Connie Rose from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.
- ▶ Business meeting from 7 to 8 p.m.
 - Reports given by officers and general manager/CEO
 - Election of one director to serve the cooperative for a three-year term
 - Transaction of business properly brought before the meeting

Official annual meeting notices and registration cards will be mailed out in late May. Only members are eligible to vote at the annual meeting (members are those who have paid a \$5 membership fee). If you are unsure if you have paid your membership fee, please contact the office for verification.

The Northern Bedford County High School Band students and parents will serve the meal. All members of the household are encouraged to attend. Two free adult and two free children's meal tickets for those living in the same household will be provided for each membership present. In addition, one free guest ticket per membership for someone living outside the household will be allowed. Additional tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for age 12 and under. Reservations must be made by June 1. Dinner is by reservation only.

If you have paid a membership fee and have not received an official annual meeting notice and reservation card in the mail by the end of May, please call the office. ☀



2016 ANNUAL MEETING: Board Secretary Timothy Newman presents a report at the 2016 annual meeting.

Want efficient, safe laundry? Leave no lint behind

HOUSEHOLD chores like laundry seem fairly safe, but hidden problems like lint buildup in a dryer could lead to higher energy bills due to inefficiency and ultimately hazardous conditions in your home.

“Lint is the bane of our existence,” declares Brian Wallace, president of the Coin Laundry® Association in Oakbrook Terrace, Ill. “We have to clean lint, not only as a safety issue, but to keep our energy costs down and ensure proper performance.”

At coin-operated laundries, dryers are key to customer satisfaction. Other conveniences pale if clothes don't dry fast enough, so laundry owners need to remain dedicated about maintaining proper air flow through commercial dryers. With 30 to 50 dryers at an average laundry, operators clear trash cans of lint every day from their screens.



HOUSEHOLD SAFETY ISSUE: Clean the lint filter in your electric clothes dryer after each load to prevent unnecessarily high electric bills or even a fire.

The same principle applies at home, although on a smaller scale.

“Cleaning the lint filter after every cycle is one habit we want to encour-

age,” recommends Jill Notini, communications & marketing director for the Washington, D.C.-headquartered Association of Home Appliance Manu-

Home safe home

Here are some simple checks you can make in your home to help ensure your family's safety. For more information, please visit the National Electrical Safety Foundation website at www.nesf.org.

- ▶ **Bathroom safety** – Use extra caution when using appliances near water. Hair dryers, curling irons, electric razors, radios, and television sets should be kept away from the sink and tub. If an appliance falls into the water, unplug it first. NEVER reach into water to retrieve an appliance without unplugging it first. During an electrical storm, do not use appliances such as hair dryers or telephones (except in an emergency), and do not take a bath or shower.
- ▶ **Kitchen safety** – Never stick a metal object such as a knife into a toaster to retrieve a piece of toast without unplugging it first. Keep kitchen appliances away from the sink.
- ▶ **Appliances** – If an appliance repeatedly blows a fuse, trips a circuit breaker, or if it has given you a shock, unplug it, and have it repaired or replaced.
- ▶ **Lights** – Use lightbulbs that are the proper wattage for your light fixtures and lamps. Bulbs that are not the proper wattage can overheat, causing a fire. Replace lightbulbs when they burn out. Make sure bulbs are screwed in securely; loose bulbs may overheat. Never leave a socket empty.
- ▶ **Outlets** – Check for outlets with loose-fitting plugs that can overheat and lead to a fire. Replace any missing or broken wall plates. When small children and pets are present in a home or visit frequently, keep outlets covered with plastic guards; these prevent children from accidentally sticking something in the outlet and suffering a shock.
- ▶ **Plugs** – Make sure your plugs fit your outlets. Never remove the ground pin (the third prong) to make a three-prong fit a two-conductor outlet; this could lead to an electrical shock.
- ▶ **NEVER FORCE A PLUG INTO AN OUTLET IF IT DOESN'T FIT.** Plugs should fit securely into outlets. Avoid overloading outlets with too many appliances.
- ▶ **Cords** – Make sure cords are in good condition (not frayed or cracked). Make sure they are placed out of traffic areas. Cords should never be nailed or stapled to the wall, baseboard or to another object. Do not place cords under carpets or rugs, or rest any furniture on them.
- ▶ **Extension Cords** – Check to see that extension cords are not overloaded. Additionally, extension cords should only be used on a temporary basis; they are not intended as permanent household wiring. Make sure extension cords have safety closures to help prevent young children from shock hazards and mouth burn injuries.
- ▶ **Fuses and Circuit Breakers** – Fuses and circuit breakers should be the correct size for the circuit. Always replace fuses with another correct size fuse for the circuit. If you do not know the correct size, have an electrician identify and label the size to be used.
- ▶ **Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs)** – GFCIs can help prevent electrocution. They should be used in any area where water and electricity may come into contact. When a GFCI senses current leakage in an electrical circuit, it assumes a ground fault has occurred. It then interrupts power fast enough to help prevent serious injury from electrical shock. Test GFCIs regularly according to the manufacturer's instructions to make sure they are working properly.
- ▶ **Entertainment/Computer Equipment** – Check to see that the equipment is in good condition and working properly; look for cracks or damage in wiring, plugs and connectors.

facturers (AHAM). “Repetition builds a habit.”

AHAM urges consumers to clean the lint filter after each load and occasionally remove the filter and wash it with a nylon brush and hot, soapy water to remove residue. This simple chore not only improves air flow and energy efficiency, but also reduces the chance of a dryer fire.

Statistics on dryer fires show no difference between the natural gas and electric dryers, according to John Drengenberg, consumer affairs manager for Underwriters Laboratories (UL), Inc., a Chicago, Ill.-based, not-for-profit firm that tests and sets minimum standards for electric-consuming items.

“If you forget to clean the lint screen too many times you’re going to get a buildup, and that’s where ultimately you could have a problem,” he says.

Manufacturers whose products carry the UL mark are required to ship dryers with safety instructions that specify cleaning the lint screen before or after each load. These instructions also recommend keeping dryer exhaust openings and adjacent surrounding areas free from accumulated lint, dust, and dirt, and having qualified service people periodically clean the dryer’s interior and exhaust duct.

Without adequate air circulation, heat flow becomes blocked, clothes take longer to dry, and it costs more to operate the appliance. Like ovens and stoves, dryers apply extreme heat on potentially flammable materials.

“You wouldn’t leave something cooking unattended for long periods of time — at least you shouldn’t, for safety and edibility,” Drengenberg notes. “Dryers, though, often run up to an hour or more, forgotten in a basement, garage or utility space.”

This out-of-sight, out-of-mind practice makes it essential that a dryer be maintained on a simple and regular basis. 🌞

Source: Underwriters Laboratories

How to clean refrigerator coils

... AND WHY IT MATTERS!

Your refrigerator is one of the largest, most-used appliances in your home. It requires only minimal maintenance – just simple cleaning of the condenser coils, which disperse heat. If the coils are covered with dust, gunk, or pet hair, they cannot diffuse the heat properly and will not run efficiently. A bigger problem can result if the compressor burns out from having to run constantly because of the grimy coating. This can be an expensive problem. The bottom line? A minor investment in time, every three months, can save you cold cash down the line.

1. Locate the refrigerator’s coil, a grid-like structure, or fan that will likely have a covering or grate protecting it. The coil is usually concealed behind the front toe kick or in the back. Some newer models have internal coils, so if you don’t find them in the front or back, this may be the case with your fridge.

2. If the coil is in the back, slide the refrigerator away from the wall, removing the plug from the electrical outlet when possible. You may also need to disconnect the line to the water dispenser or icemaker to allow enough room to work.

3. Gently vacuum and clean the coil. Using the brush or crevice attachment, carefully vacuum the dust and dirt wherever you see it. If you have pulled the fridge out, vacuum and wipe down the sides and back of the fridge and the floor.

4. Once the floor is dry, plug in the refrigerator and rearrange the power cord and supply lines so they don’t get a kink or stuck under the weight of the refrigerator. Slide the refrigerator back into place. Be sure to replace the toe kick panel if this was removed.



Clean coils to keep your refrigerator working properly.

Cooking up safety in the kitchen

The kitchen is the heart of the home. It’s where families gather to cook favorite recipes, share warm meals, and reconnect with each other, but it’s also the location where two-thirds of all home fires start.

Identify and correct potential hazards in your kitchen before someone gets hurt.

Kitchen safety menu:

- ▶ **Keep your stove and oven clean. Clean the exhaust hood and duct over the stove regularly.**
- ▶ **Keep the cooking area around the stove/oven clear of combustibles, such as towels, napkins and pot holders.**
- ▶ **Plug countertop appliances into GFCI-protected outlets.**
- ▶ **Locate all appliances away from the sink.**
- ▶ **Keep appliance cords away from hot surfaces like the range or toaster.**
- ▶ **Unplug the toaster and other countertop appliances when not in use.**
- ▶ **Make sure there is room behind the refrigerator for air to circulate.**
- ▶ **Even a slight shock from a major appliance can indicate an extremely hazardous wiring condition. Turn the power to the appliance off at the circuit breaker. Do not touch the appliance until it has been checked by a licensed, qualified electrician.**
- ▶ **Do not use electrical appliances that have been wet. Water can damage the motors in electrical appliances like freezers and refrigerators.**

2017 Rural Electric Youth Tour

NEW ENTERPRISE REC is pleased to announce five juniors will be representing the co-op this June during the Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. They will be among 1,700 rural electric cooperative high school juniors across the nation participating in this outstanding trip.

Baylee Swope is a junior at Northern Bedford County High School. Her parents are Jeremy and Misti Swope of Woodbury. Baylee has been very active in two of the high school musicals — she played the head nurse in “South Pacific” and Babette in the “Beauty and the Beast.” She also was a majorette.

After school, she keeps busy by volunteering as a dance coach. Baylee uses her singing talent to bring musical enjoyment at churches and community activities.

Some words to describe Baylee are: kindhearted, hardworking, selfless, giving, and trustworthy as stated by a teacher and a family friend.

A career as a photographer is in Baylee’s future.

Danika Reed, the daughter of Brad and Marlene Reed of Woodbury, attends Northern Bedford County High School. Her school activities include: musical support cast, marching and concert bands, and Youth Leadership Bedford County (YLBC). Outside of school, she is active in her youth group, 4-H Shooting Club and Kids Cove Theater. She enjoys violin, piano, drawing and writing.

After high school, Danika will pursue a career in the medical field as a surgical physician assistant. One of Danika’s teachers comments, “Danika is a staple here in the high school community. She is immensely involved within the student body. She is also planning on volunteering at Home-

wood in the near future.”

Kara Wright attends Northern



Bedford County High School. She is the daughter of Ty and Kathy Wright of Everett. Kara is the Class of 2018 secretary, a football cheerleader, on the High Honor Roll and has participated in two high school musicals. She leads many school clubs including: Interact, SADD and Prom Committee.

Life doesn’t slow down for Kara when she is out of school. She attends the Woodbury Church of God and volunteers at Nason Hospital, the local food bank, and Love in the Name of Christ (INC).

She plans to become a dermatologist.

When asked to describe Kara, these are the words used: driven, enthusiastic, helpful, technologically savvy and goal-setter.

Madison Burket is a junior at Tussey



Mountain High School. She is the daughter of Wendy Burket of James Creek. She was class secretary for two years and is currently the class

president. Madison is the captain of the varsity cheerleading squad, a member of the National Honor Society, Youth Leadership Bedford County, Student Council, SADD and French Club.

During her spare time, she enjoys spending time with family, organizing, reading and shopping.

Her future plans are to become a teacher.

One of Madison’s teachers stated, “Madison’s year in journalism involved building a 12-page paper with just five staff writers. I pushed Madison as far and as fast as I could for the entire year, and she always came through, no matter what the challenge was that I threw at her. After that challenging course, Madison continues to volunteer and is looking to return to a

leadership role next year.”

Maizie Husick, the daughter of



Shawn Husick and Kendra Deter of Saxton, attends Tussey Mountain High School. She has been the class secretary for the past three years, is

a member of the National Honor Society, the Challenge Program and was honorable mention in volleyball. She also participates in softball, basketball, Prom Committee, Lords and Ladies, Spanish Club, Student Council and SADD.

When not participating in one of her many school activities, she is involved with the Matt Baker Cancer Fund and volunteering. She works as a waitress and enjoys spending time with her family.

Maizie will be pursuing a career in the medical field.

“Maizie is very helpful to her family and friends, always trying to make other people’s lives easier. She is outgoing and very dependable. She works hard at school getting very good grades and helping her other classmates,” remarks one of her friends. 🌟

