

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leroy D. Walls
President
David Bequeath
Vice President
Timothy Newman
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Merle Helsel
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Robert Guyer
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Office Hours
Monday through Friday
7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Emergency Outage Number
814-766-3221
1-800-270-3177

From the General Manager/CEO



Annual meeting notice

By Mark Morrison

MARK your calendars now for the 80th annual meeting of the consumer-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, Pa., on Tuesday, June 12, 2018. Attend this year's meeting and join others in:

- ▶ A family-style turkey dinner from 4 to 6:45 p.m.
- ▶ Entertainment, a "Tribute to Patsy Cline," by Joanne Stiffler 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 in late May. Only consumer-members are eligible to vote at the annual meeting (consumer-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 children 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. ☎



2017 ANNUAL MEETING: Board Secretary Timothy Newman presents a report at the 2017 annual meeting.

Talk about electrical safety with your children

CHILDREN often do not understand the danger of electricity and electrical equipment. In their innocent and imaginative minds, what can be potentially dangerous may go unnoticed or even appear enticing and fun. Take an opportunity to point out overhead power lines and any other electrical equipment to children and explain what they are.

Safe Electricity recommends teaching children to follow these rules:

- ▶ Never climb trees near power lines. Even if the power lines are not touching the tree, they could touch when more weight is added to the branch.
- ▶ Kites and model airplanes should be flown only during good weather conditions in large open areas, like an open park or a wide field. Keep kites away from overhead power lines or other electrical equipment, such as substations. If a kite gets stuck in a tree near power lines, do not climb up to get it. Electricity can travel down kite strings or wires. Contact New Enterprise REC for assistance.
- ▶ Never climb a utility pole or tower. The electricity carried through this equipment is high voltage and could kill you.

- ▶ Don't play on or around pad-mounted electrical equipment. These are often green metal "boxes" on cement pads and contain transformers.
- ▶ Never go into an electric substation. Electric substations contain high-voltage equipment; even raising your hand inside one can cause an arc that may cause an electric shock. Never attempt to retrieve a pet, ball or any toy from these areas. Call New Enterprise REC.

- ▶ Immediately seek shelter if lightning or thunder is present while playing outdoors.

When designing a tree house or outdoor play area for children, take preventive precautions before starting your project. Do not install playground equipment or swimming pools underneath or near power lines. Installation of either will require digging. Call 811 to have buried lines marked so you can avoid serious injury and damage. Protect all family members from serious shock and injuries by installing ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) on outdoor outlets and in interior rooms where water is present. A GFCI shuts off power instantly if it detects a problem. Use portable GFCIs for outdoor outlets that don't have them. GFCIs are affordably priced and found at hardware stores.

Be careful using electrical appliances outdoors, even if plugged into GFCI-equipped outlets. Never use appliances with frayed or damaged cords, and always be sure the ground prong is intact.

Teach kids never touch an electric appliance while in a pool or hot tub, to keep all electrical appliances at least 10 feet away from pools, ponds, and wet surfaces, and that it is never safe to swim in a pool or lake when a storm is brewing.

Teach older children to exercise caution before plugging in a radio, CD player, or any electrical gadget outdoors, and never leave any electrical appliance outside. If it rains, the device could get wet and cause an electrical shock when used later.

Make sure your family members know to stay away from downed power lines and wires, and tell children to report any fallen or dangling wires to an adult. Downed power lines are dangerous; always assume any power line is energized and stay far away. Call New Enterprise REC immediately if you or your child encounter a downed power line and include our phone numbers, 814-766-3221 or 800-270-3177, with other posted emergency phone numbers. ⚡

May is National Electrical Safety Month



**ELECTRIC CO-OPS
are committed to
keeping members
& employees SAFE.**



 plug into safety

2018 Youth Tour students

NEW ENTERPRISE REC is pleased to announce the 2018 Youth Tour students. These juniors will represent the co-op this June during the Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. They will be among 1,800 rural electric cooperative high school students from across the United States participating in this great trip.

Sarah Bilger is a junior at Tussey Mountain High School. Her parents are Kenneth and Rebecca Bilger of Saxton. Sarah is involved as the student director in the school musical, is a High Honor Roll student and has competed in Math 24 Competition, Spelling Bee, French Competition, Reading Competition, and Scholastic Quiz. She also is involved in Yearbook Club, Titan TV Crew, French Club and AYSO Soccer, and enjoys painting. She is a member of her church's youth group and also tutors elementary students.

Her future career plans are to be a surgeon or a doctor specializing in diagnoses.

One of her friends describes Sarah: "She is a calm, caring individual who excels at helping others. I have always enjoyed her spirit and friendliness, and I am excited to see where she goes in the future as she pursues her passions."

Cameron Pressell, the daughter of Brad and Stacy Pressell of New Enterprise, is a junior at the Northern Bedford County High School. After high school, Cameron will be pursuing a career in the medical field. She is involved in volleyball, basketball, track, band, chorus, the school musical, Future Business Leaders of America and team assemblies for PRIDE (Positive, Respectful, Involved, Dependable, Excellent). After school, she doesn't slow down much. She was a Fall Foliage

contestant, and she volunteers at the Woodbury Food Bank, Interact Club, and Dance-a-thon. She does slow down to enjoy reading and traveling.

One of Cameron's teachers describes her: "Cameron is a field commander for the marching band. She also serves the band as treasurer. She faithfully participates in multiple public performances with the band and chorus. She is outgoing, pleasant, persistent and determined."

Alison Ritchey attends Northern Bedford County High School where she is a junior. She is the daughter of Christopher and Jacalyn Ritchey of Roaring Spring. Alison is involved in volleyball, Future Business Leaders of America, was Cogsworth for the Beauty and the Beast musical, and has received the Presidential Award. She was a Fall Foliage contestant and is a member of the Interact Club.

In her spare time, Alison enjoys reading and working at Abby's Daycare.

Alison will be attending college with the goal of becoming an elementary school teacher.

A family friend describes Alison as "fun-loving, energetic, helpful and kind. She is a very hard worker and always ready to lend a helping hand." ☀



Keep your family safe during a flood

Heavy rains often cause flooding in lowland areas, homes and basements. The prospect of an electrical accident is probably not on the top of your mind when you're dealing with a flooded basement, room or even outdoors. However, it is the first thing you should think of before you step foot in the water.

Safe Electricity reminds everyone to be alert to electrical equipment that could be energized and in contact with water, with other potential hazards that create a serious danger of electrocution. Cleaning up and using water-damaged appliances carry safety risks. Safe Electricity urges parents and other caregivers to make sure children are also aware of these hazards.

Safety measures to remember include:

- ▶ Never step into a flooded basement or other room if water may be in contact with electrical outlets, appliances, or cords.
- ▶ Never attempt to turn off power at the breaker box if you must stand in water to do so. If you can't reach your breaker box safely, call New Enterprise REC to shut off power at the meter.
- ▶ Never use electric appliances or touch electric wires, switches, or fuses when you're wet or when you're standing in water.
- ▶ Keep electric tools and equipment at least 10 feet away from wet surfaces. Do not use electric yard tools if it's raining or the ground is wet.
- ▶ If an electrical appliance has been in contact with water, have a professional check it out before it is used. It may need to be repaired or replaced.

KIDZcorner

What the well-dressed lineworker is wearing

New Enterprise Rural Electric Co-op lineworker Zach Conley knows better than to go to work half-dressed. He has special clothing and tools that allow him to work on live power lines and do his job safely.

But you don't have the same outfit or expertise as Zach. That's why you should never try to touch any electric line, even if you think the power is off. Electricity helps us in many ways, but it can be very dangerous, even deadly. Call New Enterprise REC if you see a downed power line.

1. FIBERGLASS SHOTGUN STICK

Allows linemen to perform some tasks from the ground.

2. HARD HAT

Protects head from falling objects and bumps; also insulates head in case of electrical contact.

3. FIRE-RETARDANT SHIRT

Protects against flames, flash fire and electric arc.

4. CLIMBING BELT

Securely supports lineman's weight when climbing poles; also holds tools and supplies to free hands as necessary.

5. FIRE-RETARDANT JEANS

Are 100 percent natural fibers. They must be fire-retardant to protect the lineman in case of fire or sparks.



6. HOOKS

Are used for climbing poles when a bucket truck can't be used or more assistance is required.

7. SAFETY GLASSES

Protect eyes from debris, flying objects and other hazards.

8. RUBBER GLOVES

Insulate hands and fingers from live electrical circuit; allow linemen to repair lines without disconnecting your power.

9. LEATHER PROTECTORS

Protect rubber gloves from punctures.

10. SAFETY STRAP

Wraps around a pole for support and protection while linemen are climbing.

READY FOR WORK: Zach Conley has all of his gear on. He is now ready to work around electricity.