

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
Harry Johnson, Vice President
John R. Dively, Secretary
Robert Guyer, Asst. Secretary
Dean Brant, Treasurer
David Bequeath
Timothy Newman
Ellis Sollenberger

OFFICE HOURS

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

EMERGENCY OUTAGE NUMBER

814/766-3221
1-800-270-3177

FROM THE MANAGER/CEO

Interested in a seat on your co-op board?



Rick L. Eichelberger
General Manager & CEO

SEVENTY years ago, local residents wanted the convenience of electricity. However, private power companies weren't interested in providing power to these rural people. Why? There were no profits for their stockholders.

So, area residents organized to provide the wonder of electricity themselves.

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. (REC), a not-for-profit business, was established by members to serve members.

The territory served by New Enterprise REC was divided into eight areas with one director representing each area. This system has remained in place for 70 years.

The eight-member board of directors acts as a trustee on behalf of the cooperative's consumer-members. Directors ensure your cooperative is operating in your best interest. Today, the election of directors is still a very important part of every annual meeting.

When you become a consumer-member of New Enterprise REC, you share in the benefits and responsibilities of the cooperative. You have a say in how this utility operates.

New Enterprise REC doesn't have stockholders who are interested in lining their pockets. The cooperative's main concern is providing reliable electric service at the lowest cost possible.

As a consumer-member of the cooperative, you are eligible to seek a position on the board of directors. The areas up for reelection this year are Areas 3, 7 and 8. Directors currently representing these areas are: Ellis Sollenberger in Area 3 since 1983, Timothy Newman in Area 7 since 2003 and Dean Brant in Area 8 since 1986.

AREA 3 — Northern Bedford County, consisting of North Road, Mountain View Drive, Loysburg, Texas Corner,


Salemville, New Enterprise, Guyer Corner, Muley Lane, Furry's Orchard Road and Replogle School Road up to Teeter School Road.

AREA 7 — Northwest Fulton and southern Huntingdon counties, consisting of Moseby Road, Ford Road, Purnell Road, Enid Road, Thomas Road, New Grenada, Turkey Hill and Bucktail Acres, Zion Church Road, Route 655 in Huntingdon County, Waterfall Hill and Route 994 past Spring Farm Elementary School.

AREA 8 — Northern Fulton and southern Huntingdon counties, consisting of Waterfall toward Hustontown along Route 655, Mountain Road, Witter Road, Frick Road, Hollow Road, Laidig Road, Little Egypt area, Davis Lane, Buck Road, Lear Road, Cherry Grove, Kramer Road, Black Hollow Road and Cutchall Road.

If you live any of these three areas and are interested in becoming a director candidate, contact or stop by the cooperative office and speak to Rick L. Eichelberger, General Manager/CEO. Not sure of the area you are located in? A detailed map is available at the office for your review.

If being a director doesn't appeal to you, you still have an important role in the operation of the cooperative. You can nominate other consumer-members for a director position.

The bylaws of the cooperative outline the qualifications and procedure for the selection of directors. There are certain time frames throughout the procedure that must be followed. The board of directors will select a Nominating Committee in April. The Nominating Committee will prepare a list of nominations and post it at the cooperative office in May. Any 15 or more consumer-members acting together may make additional nominations after the list is posted. Consumer-members attending the New Enterprise REC annual meeting may make additional nominations from the floor. 

Don't forget to clean your dryer lint filters

THE DRYER has become a very important appliance in the American home. Dryers can be found in 80 percent of homes. The dryer not only dries your clothes, it also eliminates some ironing time. The de-wrinkle cycle works great to take the wrinkles out of your clothes. Along with the convenience of a dryer comes a home safety concern. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that 15,500 fires occur annually due to clothes dryers. Although this number is high, it has decreased by 35 percent since the late 1970s.

Many dryer fires are caused by lack of maintenance. Cleaning the lint filter after each use should be a common practice and vent systems should be cleaned periodically. Fires can start when airflow is reduced due to lint buildup in the screen or other areas around the dryer. This buildup causes the dryer to perform

poorly, operate at elevated temperatures and possibly overheat.

Removing the lint after each use is a great practice but you need to go one step further.

Certain fabric sheets can cause a thin clear film that develops on the filter screen. This film causes a barrier that restricts the air from properly exhausting your dryer.

A quick test to see whether this film exists is to take your filter screen to a sink and run water into it. Does the water flow through easily or lay in pools in the filter? If you have pools of water in your filter, it will require a thorough cleaning.

Use a very soft nylon brush and warm soapy water to clean your filter,

repeat the above test — the flow should no longer be restricted. Repeat this cleaning every six months.

Problems can occur if improper items, such as foam-backed rugs or athletic shoes, are placed in the dryer. Ensuring proper exhaust materials is also important. Rigid or flexible metal venting and ducting materials help sustain airflow. By making your dryer lint-free and having proper materials, you can prevent a fire hazard. Other benefits

are a reduction in operating costs and the extended life of your dryer and clothes due to the lower dryer temperatures.

So remember to follow these easy safety tips:

- ▶ Always make sure the lint filter is in place and cleaned out after each use. Failure to clean lint traps is the main cause of dryer fires.
- ▶ Make sure the dryer is plugged into an outlet that is suitable for its needs.
- ▶ Make sure the dryer is properly vented and that dryer vent flaps are not freezing shut or sticking (especially in winter). Remove lint buildup inside the vent by vacuuming occasionally.
- ▶ Pull out the dryer occasionally to vacuum away any lint behind or underneath the dryer. Learn how to remove the front panel of a dryer and vacuum inside to remove any lint.
- ▶ Do not leave the house unattended when the dryer is operating.
- ▶ Do not leave flammable items near the dryer (clothes, rags, cleaning supplies, etc.).
- ▶ A dryer is an electrical (or sometimes gas) appliance; make sure it's serviced by a professional only.
- ▶ Have a functional smoke detector placed in the laundry room (near the dryer).

Just a simple maintenance check and a few minutes of cleaning can go a long way toward keeping your family safe. ☀



How to hire a good electrician

You can save yourself time, trouble and money when hiring an electrician by asking a few questions before the job begins.

Ask about the work they do.

Describe the job you have in mind and ask if the electrician specializes in this type of work.

Ask if a permit is required.

A qualified electrician should be familiar with all electrical codes and statewide building codes and can determine if a permit is required on your particular job.

Ask about certification, licensing insurance, and workers' compensation.

An electrician's certification and state license are proof he or she has mastered the trade. For insurance reasons, it's always best to hire a licensed electrician, especially when a permit is required. You also do not want to be sued if a worker is injured while working in your home.

Ask for an estimate.

On small jobs, you may want to get an estimate over the phone. On larger jobs, ask for an hourly rate. Expect to pay more if a helper is needed. On larger jobs, ask for estimates from two or three contractors.

Ask the electrician to purchase all the materials for the job.

You may think you'll save money by buying the materials yourself, but it's often better for the electrician to make all the purchases and be responsible for any warranties.

Ask who is responsible for any repairs caused by the job.

To install a new circuit in your home, an electrician may need to drill or cut holes in the walls. The repair work may not be done by the electrician. The same is true if you're having landscaping lights installed outside and the contractor needs to dig trenches in the lawn and uproot shrubbery.

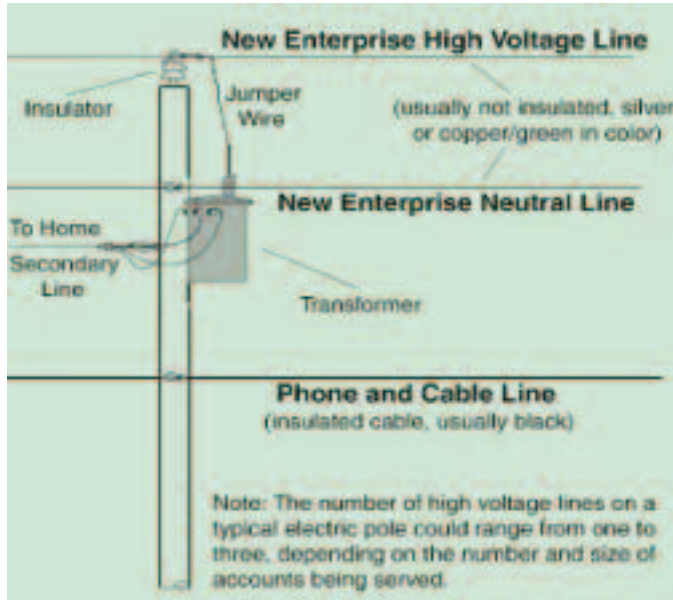
Ask about how to pay for the services.

On small jobs, the contractor may expect payment when the job is completed. On larger jobs, the contractor will typically ask for a percentage before work begins.

Stay clear of all downed wires

During outages, we receive numerous reports of trees on our lines and, all too often, our crews arrive only to find that the tree is on telephone or cable lines. While we would like to remove the tree, we are unable to devote time during outages to obstructions that are not damaging our lines.

We appreciate the calls, and we want them to continue. However, we need you



to provide the most accurate information possible. Take a moment to study the drawing of a typical pole with electric, phone and cable lines attached.

We have labeled some of the components and ask you to review this information. If possible, refer to the drawing before calling. By providing us with the most accurate information, you

can help control operation costs and save us precious time to work on other system restorations during outages.

If you are not sure what line is down, do not hesitate to call us, and please stay clear of all downed wires. ☀

Disconnection to resume

DURING THE WINTER MONTHS, New Enterprise REC doesn't disconnect accounts that are past due. However, we do install service load limiters on the meter base behind the meter. It has a circuit breaker that will open, turning off the electricity, if the electric load in the house exceeds the allowable limit. Only a few electrical appliances can be used at one time. We use these limiters during the winter months because they will allow the furnace to run in a home. This helps to control the amount of electricity used in a household.

Starting on April 2, accounts with a past-due balance of 60 days or greater will be subject to disconnection. If your account is past due, you will receive a notice in March.

If you are unable to pay the full past-due balance, call Brawna at extension 224 immediately to set up an agreement. A signed, written agreement must be in our office before the disconnect date. Therefore, don't wait until a few days before the disconnect date to call the office. It is best to call as soon as you get the billing statement or the disconnect notice. This gives us enough time to get the agreement to you and for you to return it to our office. Should the signed agreement not be in our office before the disconnect date, disconnect will occur. All names on the account must sign the agreement. Disconnection will not occur as long as you have a signed agreement and payments are made as stated.

The County Energy Assistance offices are scheduled to remain open until March 23, 2008. You may wish to contact your county office at the telephone numbers listed below:

Bedford County Energy Assistance
814/623-6127 or 800-542-8584

Fulton County Energy Assistance
717/485-3151 or 800-222-8563

Huntingdon County Energy Assistance
814/643-1170 or 800-237-7674

Co-op News

- ▶ March 28, 2008, is the payment and meter reading due date.
- ▶ Cooperative closed on March 21, 2008, to observe Good Friday.
- ▶ Seventy-two payments were made through our new e-bill payment options in January.
- ▶ Save money on gas or stamps. Call our office or go to our website, www.newenterpriserec.com, to make your payment. Readings can be submitted through our new e-bill. You can pay by check, credit or debit card.

KIDZCORNER

What to do in case of a fire

Know your way out! Sit down with your family and make a fire escape plan. Everyone living in your home should be involved in making the plan. The idea is to get outside quickly and safely. Smoke from a fire can make it hard to see where things are, so it's important to learn and remember the different ways out of your home. Never hide or take time to gather up your favorite toys or clothes.

Some suggestions for making an escape plan are:

- ➡ It is best to find two ways out of every room. The first way should be through a door.
- ➡ Before opening any door during a fire, feel the door at the bottom first. Move your hand up the door to feel if it is hot. A hot door means there may be fire on the other side. This is where your second way out comes in. Try it next.
- ➡ Smoke rises, so stay low to the floor when escaping.
- ➡ Pick a safe and easy-to-remember place outside for everyone to meet. This helps you to know everyone is out of the burning building.
- ➡ After you get out, call 911 or your fire department. Don't take time while you are in the house to call. You need to get OUT.
- ➡ Don't go back into the burning building no matter what.
- ➡ Practice, practice and practice some more. Be sure everyone knows your fire escape plan. If you are in school, you have fire drills. Now you can have fire drills at home.

What to do if you catch on fire

If you should catch on fire, STOP where you are, DROP to the floor or ground and ROLL around to smother the flames. Remember STOP, DROP and ROLL.

post _____

rdlli _____

ordp _____

wyawoutots _____ (three words)

olrl _____

acrlw _____

ddlaer _____

dotreect _____

eeccasnpal _____

hifftgieerr _____ (two words)

Answers: stop, drop, roll, ladder, escape plan, drill, two ways out, crawl, detector, firefighter