


New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

3596 Brumbaugh Road
P.O. Box 75
New Enterprise, PA 16664-0075
814/766-3221 • 1-800-270-3177
FAX 814/766-3319
Website:
www.newenterpriserec.com

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

Making changes and keeping up with technology



Rick L. Eichelberger
General Manager & CEO

AS WE wonder where another year has gone, looking at the “To Do List” is a good way to see what needs to be completed. Much has been completed and much is in progress at your cooperative.

Things like keeping poles, wire and equipment updated, and trees cut away from the lines help provide reliable electric service. But

along with these ongoing things are the changes or new items that happen over time.

We keep up with technology by providing numerous payment options, interactive energy-efficient information on our website, along with state-of-the-art equipment in the field. In future months you will hear about the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)/demand response programs we are initiating that will provide a direct link of electrical information between your home and the cooperative.

Elimination of electric payments at banks

Fewer than 150 consumer-members still pay their electric bill at a bank partly because of options like Auto Pay, check by mail and credit cards. Payments taken at a bank are not recorded electronically and are more costly for the cooperative. On the due date, the cooperative drives to the banks to get the payment receipts. After this pickup, all payments are applied to the next month, which causes confusion in knowing the true balance on the billing statement.

For these reasons, your board of directors has approved the elimination of electric payments at all banks, effective Dec. 31, 2008. For the consumer-members

using Community State Bank at Waterfall or Susquehanna at Woodbury, please call the office to find out which method may work best for you. The cooperative appreciates the service these banks provided to consumer-members of New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative over many years.


Activity around electric poles

Your help is critical as we continue to search for a way to end the thefts of ground wire from our poles. Some of you contacted the office to make sure people working around the base of our poles were legitimate. During September, our pole inspection contractor, Osmose, had employees inspecting poles and replacing the stolen ground wire. All the Osmose employees have a high visibility vest with the name Osmose across the back. These are the “Good Guys.”

Thanks for keeping your eyes open as we attempt to resolve the problem.

Find your energy-efficient options

Now is the perfect time to tighten up any leaks around your doors or windows. Making our homes as energy efficient as possible keeps utility bills down and helps us preserve precious natural resources for future generations. Using more efficient compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) will provide a dramatic savings. Your cooperative is accepting old CFLs for recycling, along with many of the stores.

Please check out the HomeEnergySuite link on our website at www.newenterpriserec.com to get all kinds of energy-saving ideas. The energy calculator and library will help determine what works best for your situation. With minimal work, you can find ways to offset the recent \$4 increase in your customer charge. 

The year was 1938...

This year is the 70th anniversary of New Enterprise REC. Your cooperative was incorporated on Nov. 18, 1938. In 1938, the United States president was Franklin D. Roosevelt and the vice president was John N. Garner. The population was 129,824,939. Following a number of years of success with the U.S. economy, a recession hit, which caused unemployment to rise back to 19 percent.

In Europe, Germany was continuing its strategy of persecuting the Jews, targeting Czechoslovakia. British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain went to Germany fearing another world war. After agreeing to allow Hitler to occupy Czechoslovakia, "Peace in our time" was declared. Adolf Hitler was *Time* magazine's "Man of the Year" (as most influential during the course of the year, not as "best" man of the year).

The law changed in the United States raising the minimum hourly wage to 40 cents per hour for a 44-hour work week.

On Sept. 21, a giant hurricane slammed into the East Coast with little or no warning from the Weather Service; the hurricane caused 40-foot waves to hit Long Island and 63,000 people were left homeless with some 700 dead.

On Oct. 30, Orson Wells' dramatization of "War of The Worlds" radio program caused panic when it was broadcast more like a breaking news story than a radio play.

Most of the world cheered when Germany's Max Schmeling was defeated by a knockout in the first round by the great Joe Louis for the heavyweight championship.



Popular Movies

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" by Disney

"Boys Town" starring Spencer Tracy and Mickey Rooney

"Jezebel" starring Bette Davis

More events from 1938

- ▶ Freak waves at Bondi Beach, Sydney, Australia, cause 300 swimmers to be dragged out to sea
- ▶ Floods and landslides in Los Angeles cause 200 deaths
- ▶ The first use of a seeing eye dog occurs
- ▶ German troops enter Austria
- ▶ Agricultural Adjustment Act is passed, helping farmers affected by Dust Bowl
- ▶ Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae - FNMA) established
- ▶ Howard Hughes sets a new round-the-world record flight of 3 days, 19 hours
- ▶ March of Dimes Polio Foundation created
- ▶ A 450-metric ton meteorite struck the earth in an empty field near Chicora, Pa.

How much things cost in 1938

Average cost of new house – \$3,900

Average wages per year – \$1,730

Cost of a gallon of gas – 10 cents

Average cost for house rent – \$27 per month

A loaf of bread – 9 cents

Average price for new car – \$763

Steer clear of downed power lines

Lightning storms, heavy snowfall, high winds and car accidents can all bring power lines crashing to the ground.

The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) advises people to use extreme caution any time they encounter a downed line, and offers these tips:

- ▶ Move away from any downed line you see and anything touching it. Shuffle away with small steps, feet close together and on the ground at all times.
- ▶ Do not touch anyone who is in direct or indirect contact with the downed line. Call 911.
- ▶ Do not use another object to move a downed power line or anything in contact with the line. Even wood can conduct electricity.
- ▶ If you are in a car that is in contact with a downed line, stay inside the car until the electric utility moves the line and indicates it is safe to exit. Honk your horn for help and to keep others away. If you have a cellular telephone, it is safe to use it to report your situation.
- ▶ Assume that any downed wire you see is an energized power line, and report it immediately to the police, fire department and local electric utility.

These and other electrical safety tips are available at ESFI's website at www.electrical-safety.org or by phone at 703/841-3229.

Energy assistance

The Pennsylvania Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) opened on Nov. 3, 2008. This program is designed to help low income people pay their heating bills. You don't have to be behind in your bills or receive welfare money to receive this assistance.

Under the program, people can be eligible for two different grants. The crisis grants are for emergency situations such as:

- ▶ Broken heating equipment or leaking lines that must be fixed or replaced
- ▶ Lack of heating fuel
- ▶ Disconnection of electric service
- ▶ Danger of being without heating fuel or of having the electric service disconnected

If you get a Service Load Limiter Notice, you will not be eligible for crisis money. Crisis money is meant to be used for heating. With a Service Load Limiter, you will have heat.

The cash grants can be used by people who are past due on the heat-

ing bills or those who aren't. To apply for either or both of these grants, you will need the following:

- ▶ Names, birth dates, Social Security numbers and proof of income for all people in the household
- ▶ A copy of a recent heating bill
- ▶ A copy of a disconnection notice

Below is a chart showing the gross annual income limits for households to qualify for this year's energy assistance programs.

Household Size	Maximum Income (before taxes)
1	\$15,600
2	\$21,000
3	\$26,400
4	\$31,800
5	\$37,200
6	\$42,600

For each additional household member add \$5,400.

If you are having trouble paying your heating or electric bills, you may want to contact your county assistance office at:

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

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

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

New Enterprise REC's gift certificates make a great gift anytime during the year

Gift Certificate

Recipient's Name: _____

Amount of Gift: _____

Purchaser's Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Purchaser's Address: _____

(Please circle one)

I wish to remain anonymous

Mail letter to recipient

Mail letter to purchaser

KIDZCORNER

Trash to treasures

Christmas is a time to be enjoyed with your friends and family. During this festive time of year, lots of food, treats, gifts and decorations are prepared and given. Not only are good things made, but we produce a lot of trash. Do you ever think about how much energy is used during this time of year? What happens to the wrappers on all of the candy you get, the food scraps from your turkey dinner, the bows and gift wrapping from presents, the used tape dispensers, the dried-up wreaths and Christmas trees? Most of it gets thrown away and, there's no getting around it, it's a lot of waste.

You can help the environment this Christmas season by using less stuff, less energy and turning trash into treasures for your friends, family and yourself. This is also a good way to save some money if you're looking for simple and inexpensive gift ideas. Use this list to help you reduce waste, conserve energy, save money and get rid of some of your unwanted stuff.

Gift idea

PAPER BEADS

What you need:

Brightly colored paper from magazines, gift wrap or catalogs, white glue or glue sticks, scissors, string, yarn or fishing line



Once you have gathered all your supplies, cut strips of paper that are 1 inch wide and 4 inches long. Use your glue or glue stick, and spread it over half of the strip. Roll up the paper, starting with the unglued end. Make sure as you roll it that you leave a hole in the middle so you can put your string or fishing line through it. Keep gluing and rolling until you have the amount of beads you need. When your beads are ready, string them onto the yarn, string or fishing line. Once you get the right length, tie it. You can tie it on for a permanent necklace that you'll have to cut to get off, or buy a clasp that you can find at most craft stores.

Wrap it up

Why not wrap your gifts in newspaper or old maps? Your own artwork drawn on the back of scrap paper adds a personal touch to your gift.

Reuse

Place your "used" Christmas tree in the yard to provide cover for rabbits and birds during heavy snowfall. Decorate your tree with strands of popcorn and cranberries, and place pine cone feeders on it to feed the birds.

PINE CONE BIRD FEEDER

What you need:

Wax paper, pine cone, string, peanut butter, butter knife, bird seed and scissors

What to do:

Spread the peanut butter inside the openings all around the center and bottom of the pine cone and fill up the spaces. Spread bird seed of your choice on the wax paper. Take the pine cone and roll it in the bird seed so that the seeds stick to the peanut butter all around the outside. You may also want to sprinkle seeds inside any openings.

Measure your string to hang down from a branch of a tree or bush so that it is far enough from the branch to keep any squirrels from eating your feeder. Tie your string to the top of the pine cone and then to the tree branch. Watch and record who comes to visit your pine cone feeder this winter.