

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

NEW ENTERPRISE RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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OFFICE HOURS

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

EMERGENCY OUTAGE NUMBERS

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

Guest Column

An Ounce of Prevention



MIKE SHAWLEY

THEY SAY NOTHING LASTS forever, and that is certainly true of the equipment needed to bring electricity to your farms, homes, and businesses. One essential component is the wooden pole supporting the wires and equipment needed for you to be able to turn on the lights.

On average, a wooden pole's life span is about 40 years. At New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative (REC), we inspect every pole on our system every 10 to 12 years. We contract with an outside vendor to perform a routine inspection to check the inside of each pole for rot. Traditionally, several holes are drilled into the pole to check for rotting areas, a preservative is injected and the hole is plugged. Inspection crews will also dig around the pole where it meets the ground to check for external rot. New technology has created some less invasive examination methods such as sending sound waves through the pole to determine the inside's condition. Another new method is the use of a small drill bit — about 1/8 inch in diameter — connected to a computer that reports on the internal condition as the bit is drilled into the pole.

In 2020, your cooperative management team decided to take things one step farther than the periodic inspections. We wanted to do more preventive maintenance by evaluating poles on our system that are more than 50 years old. Each pole has a brand burned into it that indicates the length, treatment method and the year it was manufactured. This information has always been noted in our records from routine pole inspections and daily engineering and line construction. From our records, we found nearly 500 of the 11,000 total poles on the system to be more than 50 years old.

Cooperative personnel have been visiting these poles to determine if they need to be replaced or if they have a few more years of reliable service left in them before they undergo the next internal inspection. We look for problems such as large, deep cracks, peeling shells, woodpecker damage and clearance issues due to the pole being too short. During the last three years, we have replaced 280 of the poles on the list. We targeted



POLE REPLACEMENT: New Enterprise REC lineworkers use a track-mounted digger while replacing a pole in a remote area of Sherman's Valley.



POWER BEHIND THE POWER: New Enterprise REC lineworkers replace a pole carrying two separate circuits along Waterfall Road in Three Springs.

Continued on page 14B

GUEST COLUMN

Continued from page 14A

the Waterfall service area first, then moved to the Eichelberger substation area, and now we are working in the Waterside service area.

We are constantly evaluating and inspecting the lines and equipment to ensure our electrical system is as safe and reliable as possible. If you ever see poles, wires or equipment that looks damaged, please do not hesitate to call our office to report it. We will investigate it and make the necessary repairs to prevent an unexpected outage. 📞

MIKE SHAWLEY

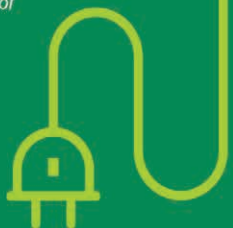
OUTSIDE OPERATIONS MANAGER

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know fall is the perfect time to schedule a tune-up for your heating system? Home heating accounts for a large portion of winter energy bills, and no matter what kind of system you have, you can save energy and money by regularly maintaining your equipment.

Combining proper equipment maintenance and upgrades with recommended insulation, air sealing and thermostat settings can save about 30% on your energy bills.

Source: Dept. of Energy





WE WILL BE CLOSED ON



LABOR DAY

Sept. 4

What's Your Appliance Safety IQ?



Clothes Dryer

Children have been electrocuted when hiding behind dryers; some pets also like to nap there.

Install a childproof lock on the laundry room door, as well as on your washer and dryer—especially front-loading models.

Clean lint screen between loads, and thoroughly clean the vents and duct system at least twice a year.

Make sure hoses, seals and connections do not leak and are secure.



Refrigerator

Follow the manufacturer's instructions for maintenance.

Clean the coils every six months to a year.

Keep an eye out for dust or lint under or behind your fridge and remove it to let your refrigerator breathe.

If you have young children in your home, make sure your refrigerator is not a tipping hazard. Consider using an appliance anchor that secures your tall appliance to the wall.

Safe Electricity.org



Hot Water Heater

Make sure your hot water heater is well-maintained.

Make sure it does not have excessive pressure buildup by testing the relief valve (or have it tested) at least once a year.

Ensure vents are connected securely and that the correct parts are used to avoid carbon monoxide production.

Have all components of the appliance inspected regularly (at least once a year) by a technician.

College Dorm Room Essential: Safety

MOST COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE ALREADY back to school and settled in their dorm. However, it is not too late to make changes to their dorm safety. Personalization is a big trend for college dorm rooms and shared housing facilities. College furnishings — from bedding and décor to kitchen supplies and electronics — often reflect interests and future aspirations. One essential for the college residence is safety.

“There is a tendency for college students to want to bring everything they own,” says Erin Hollinshead, executive director of the Energy Education Council’s Safe Electricity program. “The limited number of electric outlets in student rooms can tempt many to use multiple extension cords and power strips, which can cause cords to overheat, creating shock, and fire hazards.”

Potentially older wiring in student housing and apartments may not be able to handle the increased electrical demand of today’s college student. If use of an appliance frequently causes power to trip off, or if its power cord or the outlet feels hot, the appliance should be disconnected immediately and the condition reported to the landlord or campus housing staff.

Safe Electricity offers the following safety tips for students to help prevent and reduce the risk of electrical fires in their student housing:

- ▶ Only purchase and use electrical products tested for safety. The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration publishes a list of approved testing laboratories. Some common approved safety labels include: Underwriters Laboratories Inc., Canadian Standards Association, and MET Laboratories.
- ▶ Avoid overloading extension cords, power strips or outlets.
- ▶ Use power strips with an over-current protector that will shut off power automatically if there is too much current being drawn.

- ▶ Never tack or nail an electrical cord to any surface or run cords across traffic paths or under rugs where they can be trampled or damaged.
- ▶ Use the correct wattage lightbulbs for lamps and fixtures. If no indication is on the product, do not use a bulb with more than 60 watts.
- ▶ Keep all electrical appliances and cords safely away from bedding, curtains, papers, and other flammable material.
- ▶ Make sure outlets around sinks are equipped with ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCI) before use. If they are not, contact the resident assistant, campus housing staff or landlord.
- ▶ Unplug small appliances when not in use and all electronics when away for extended periods.
- ▶ Always use microwave-safe containers. Glass, ceramic containers and plastics labeled “microwave-safe” should always be used. Metal and aluminum foil can damage the microwave or start a fire. If the microwave is damaged in any way, do not use it.
- ▶ Smoke detectors should never be disabled, and fire alarms should never be ignored or taken casually as a drill. Every time a fire alarm sounds, residents should calmly and quickly follow practiced procedures and immediately exit the building.

“Stress to students that in the event of a fire, it is important to follow safety procedures and get out of harm’s way immediately,” Hollinshead adds. “Property and valuables can be replaced, but lives cannot.”

ALWAYS ROOM FOR SAFETY: College students should keep all electrical appliances and cords safely away from bedding, curtains, papers, and other flammable material.



Yoo-hoo! Where are You?

EVERY YEAR, NEW ENTERPRISE Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) returns capital credits to active and inactive consumer-members. We need your help to locate former members of the cooperative. Below is a list of people who have not cashed their checks. Regardless of the reason, we

would like to return their money to them.

If you know someone on this list, please contact the office at 814-766-3221 or toll-free at 800-270-3177 or email us at info@newenterpriserec.com. 📧

BAKER ADAM MICHAEL - HOPEWELL PA
BARNETT CHRISTOPHER - THREE SPRINGS PA
BECK JAMES E - CLEARFIELD PA
BENNETT HAROLD - SCHELLSBURG PA
BENNETT BARBARA - SCHELLSBURG PA
BICKING BRENDA - DOWNINGTOWN PA
BLACK CAROL LWELLS - TANNERY PA
BLACK CHRISTA L - WATERFALL PA
BLACK FELICIA - SAXTON PA
BLOUGH CARLEY - DAVIDSVILLE PA
BONSALL JOYCE M - ALTOONA PA
BRAZLE PAMELA J - MARTINSBURG PA
CAMPBELL KRYSTAL - ST AUGUSTINE FL
CIMBALISTA STEPHEN - BUTTE MT
CLAPPER LUCAS - EVERETT PA
COFFMAN DOLORES - SAXTON PA
COGAN JOEL T - CLEARVILLE PA
CROOKS WESLEY - SAXTON PA
DIVELY MICHAEL A - ALTOONA PA
DIXON BRIANA N - LOYSBURG PA
DODSON KAY - HOPEWELL PA
DOLBIN ROBERTA - ALTOONA PA
DOPP HEATH L - WILLIAMSBURG PA
ELLIOTT DIANE M - ROBERTSDALE PA
ELLIOTT RICHARD A - ROBERTSDALE PA
ETHRIDGE DEBORAH E - LOWER PAXTON PA
FEATHERS JEREMIAH - ROARING SPRING PA
FINNEGAN JOSEPH S - ALTOONA PA
FORD SYDNEY - WATERFALL PA
FREDERICK CATHY A - ROARING SPRING PA
FRIEDLINE LEE - BEDFORD PA
FRIES RONALD W - BELLWOOD PA
FRIES THOMAS J JR - BELLWOOD PA
GATES MINDY - NEW ENTERPRISE PA
GATES ROBERT V - NEW ENTERPRISE PA
GESSER ANGELA - ALTOONA PA
GESSER WILLIAM A - ALTOONA PA
GILLILAND KATINA R - THREE SPRINGS PA
GORMAN STEVE - ROARING SPRING PA
GRACE DAVID W - BEDFORD PA

GREENAWALT MARK W - PORTAGE PA
GRUM TERRY L JR - BREEZEWOOD PA
GUYER EDITH - NEW ENTERPRISE PA
HALL SHIRLEY A - ORBISONIA PA
HANEY DANETTE S - EVERETT PA
HANEY JASON D - EVERETT PA
HELSEL GREG - NEW ENTERPRISE PA
HERSHBERGER JEREMY L - WOODBURY PA
HOFFMAN ELIZABETH - HARRISONVILLE PA
HOFFMAN KEVIN - HARRISONVILLE PA
HORTON JONI N - HOPEWELL PA
HORTON MATTHEW W - HOPEWELL PA
HOST MARRIOTT CORPORATION - MIDDLETOWN PA
JARVIE VANNIE SOUTH - FORK PA
JOHNSTON GREGORY E - LITTLE ROCK AR
KAISER JACOB - THREE SPRINGS PA
KELLER JUDITH F - FREDERICKSBURG VA
KILGORE KELLY R - HOPEWELL PA
KING THOMAS S - HARRISONVILLE PA
KONSAVICH BETTY A - FALLING WATERS WV
KYLER SHANA B - NORTH LITTLE ROCK AR
LAMENS AMBER - I WOODBURY PA
LAMENS ZANE T - WOODBURY PA
LEACH ROY D - GREENCASTLE PA
LEBEAU DAVID - THREE SPRINGS PA
LEBEAU DAWN - THREE SPRINGS PA
LOFHJELM ERIC I - JAMSVILLE MD
LONG JAMES P - ALTOONA PA
MARTIN JOSHUA R - JACKSONVILLE FL
MATEO LUIS E - BRISTOL PA
MATEO IDALIA - BRISTOL PA
MC CONAHY ANNA F - ROARING SPRING PA
MCILNAY SCOTT R - LATROBE PA
MCKIM LOUISE - HUNTINGDON PA
MEDLIN GLORIA A - DUNDALK MD
MEDLIN KENNETH E - DUNDALK MD
MELLOTT CANDY M - EVERETT PA
MELLOTT GEORGE - HARRISONVILLE PA
MELLOTT JASON - HARRISONVILLE PA

METZGER BONNIE L - ANN HARBOR MI
MILLER ANGELA D - GREENCASTLE PA
MILLER JAMES R II - HOPEWELL PA
MILLS STEPHEN V - EVERETT PA
MINNICH DONALD - WAYNESBORO PA
MOSEBEY SHERLYN - MIFFLINTOWN PA
NAGLE JACKIE - LAUREL MD
ORTH GLADYS M - HARRISONVILLE PA
OTT MICHAEL S - MARTINSBURG PA
PEPPLE BRIDGET - DUNCANSVILLE PA
PITTENTURF SHIRLEY A - CLEARVILLE PA
POFF KENNETH E JR - BROGUE PA
REDINGER VICTORIA - MARTINSBURG PA
REESE JACK W SOUTH - FORK PA
REESE LUCY SOUTH - FORK PA
REFFNER JOE W - BEDFORD PA
RICHARDSON JENNIFER - CUMBERLAND MD
RIEHL LEONARD - LOYSBURG PA
RISBON JOANN E - BEDFORD PA
ROMONOVICH PATRICIA - PITTSBURGH PA
RUPERT BERTHA G - ALTOONA PA
SEARS REBECCA - TAKOMA PARK MD
SHAFFER JEFFREY A - GETTYSBURG PA
SHAFFER KIMBERLY A - GETTYSBURG PA
SHEEDER ROGER L - MCCONNELLSBURG PA
SIBLE KERRI - TYRONE PA
SIBLE NATHAN T - YRONE PA
SIEGEL CARL - TAKOMA PARK MD
SMITH TINA - BERLIN PA
SOUDERS ROY J - MCCONNELLSBURG PA
SOUDERS TAMMY - WATERFALL PA
STOUT LINDA D - HOPEWELL PA
VEASEY GEORGE - HUNTINGDON PA
WAITE TRAVIS W - ORBISONIA PA
WHITAKER LISA - HOPEWELL PA
WINDSOR REBECCA - PORTAGE PA
YINGLING TIMOTHY - MARTINSBURG PA