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.

3596 Brumbaugh Road New Enterprise, PA 16664-8814 814-766-3221 • 1-800-270-3177 FAX: 814-766-3319 Website: www.newenterpriserec.com

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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

COOPERATIVE ONNECTION

Electric Cooperative Communities: Members Helping Members



MARK MORRISON

OVER THE YEARS, YOU HAVE probably heard, read about or seen an example of New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative's (REC) concern for community. This is one of the core principles and beliefs that sets electric cooperatives apart from other businesses and utilities. At New Enterprise REC, the directors and staff are thankful for the members and communities we serve.

And with the holiday season fast approaching, we pause to give thanks for the blessings in our lives. It's also a time to consider blessing and helping others and contributing in

ways to make our communities better.

At the cooperative, showing concern for community is a year-round mission. The cooperative, for example, sponsors the Family in Need Fund, which is funded through the generosity of gracious members who "round up" their electric bill each month. The "rounded-up" donations are pooled together to help those who are most vulnerable or have fallen on an unexpected hardship.

Another program, Youth Tour, is organized through our national organization and open to local high school juniors. Students spend a week in Washington, D.C., where they share the experience with thousands of other Youth Tour students from all over the country. New Enterprise REC's service territory includes Northern Bedford, Tussey Mountain and Forbes Road school districts. Youth Tour is typically held in June, but planning begins soon. If you know a high school junior who would like to participate or wants to hear more about it, reach out to us at the office.

Over the past few years, New Enterprise REC has also donated LED light panels to several schools in our service territory. This has helped them conserve energy and implement energy-efficiency programs.

Outside of work, our employees serve on local boards, coach youth sports, volunteer with charitable organizations, and serve as local EMS, volunteer fire department members, and township supervisors. When you work at an electric co-op, you understand how important our communities are. Like the electric cooperative pioneers who created this vision some eight decades ago, the commitment to improving the quality of life in the community is being fulfilled today.

Our core job is to provide the membership with safe, reliable, and affordable electricity and keep the lights on, but we always try to make our communities better for all, too. Stop by our office at 3596 Brumbaugh Road or call us anytime at 814-766-3221 and let us know how we are doing.

Happy Thanksgiving, and I hope all of our members have had a year filled with blessings. ${\color{red} \bullet}$

MARK MORRISON

GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

Help with Winter Heating Bills is Now Available

THE PENNSYLVANIA LOW INCOME HOME Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which helps low-income families pay their heating bills, opened Nov. 4 and will close April 4, 2025.

The program offers one-time cash payments ranging from \$300 to \$1,000, based on household size, income and fuel type. Applicants do not have to be late on their payments to qualify for the cash grant. Crisis grants are available if you have an emergency, are in jeopardy of losing your heat or your service is facing termination.

Families can receive more than one crisis grant during the season. The maximum benefit is \$1,000.

To learn more, see the graphic below or visit dhs.pa.gov, choose "Services" and then type "LIHEAP" in the search bar.

Those eligible can apply online at compass.state.pa.us or contact their County Assistance office:

- ▶ Bedford County 800-542-8584 or 814-623-6127
- ► Fulton County 800-222-8563 or 717-485-3151
- ► Huntingdon County 800-237-7674 or 814-643-1170 •

What is LIHEAP?

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps income-eligible families pay their heating bills. LIHEAP is a grant. You do not have to repay it.

To receive help...

- Apply between Nov. 4, 2024, and Apr. 4, 2025
- · You don't have to be on public assistance
- · You don't need to have an unpaid heating bill
- · You can either rent or own your home

How does LIHEAP work?

LIHEAP offers both cash and crisis grants. Families may apply for:

Cash Grants

Cash grants help families pay their heating bills. The one-time payment is sent directly to your utility company or fuel provider, and it will be credited on your bill. (In some cases, the check may be mailed to you directly.) Cash grants range from \$200-\$1,000 and are based on household size, income, and fuel type.

Crisis Grants

Crisis grants may be available if you have an emergency situation and are in jeopardy of losing your heat. You can receive more than one crisis grant, as necessary, during the season until the maximum benefit of \$1,000 is reached.

Crisis situations include:

- Broken heating equipment or leaking lines that must be fixed or replaced
- · Lack of fuel
- · Gas or electric service has been shut off
- Danger of being without fuel within 15 days or have received a shut-off notice for gas or electric services

If you have a heating emergency, please call your local County Assistance Office (CAO).

How do I apply?

- · Apply online at: dhs.pa.gov/COMPASS
- Request an application by calling the Statewide LIHEAP Hotline at 866-857-7095 or call PA Relay at 711 for the hearing impaired.
- · Applications are available at your local CAO

To apply, you will need

- · Names of people in your household
- · Dates of birth for all household members
- · Social Security numbers for all household members
- · Proof of income for all household members
- · A recent heating bill

Who is eligible?

You may qualify for a LIHEAP grant if your household income meets the following income guidelines:

INCOME GUIDELINES 2024 - 2025 LIHEAP		
Household Size	Maximum Annual Income	
1	\$ 22,590	
2	\$ 30,660	
3	\$ 38,730	
4	\$ 46,800	
5	\$ 54,870	
6	\$ 62,940	
7	\$ 71,010	
	\$ 79,080	
9	\$ 87,150	
10	\$ 95,220	
Each Additional Person Add \$8,070		

After your application is processed, you will receive a written notice that will tell you if you qualify. If eligible, it will tell you the amount of your grant.

Shop Christmas Early! Gift Certificates are Available!

NEW ENTERPRISE RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE (REC) has a gift that isn't hard to find and makes shopping easy: electric gift certificates. Our gift certificates make great gifts for Christmas and any time during the year. Christmas, however, is the most popular time to buy them.

If you would like to purchase one, please complete the certificate below. If you would like to buy more than one, write the additional information on a separate piece of

paper. Mail this information with your check for the full amount to: New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, 3596 Brumbaugh Road, New Enterprise, PA 16664-8814.

Gift certificates can also be purchased at the office, over the phone or at newenterpriserec.com. We can mail the certificates to the member-recipient or to you. Please let us know if you would prefer to remain anonymous.

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. A Touchstone Energy' Cooperative	3596 Brumbaugh Road New Enterprise PA 16664 814-766-3221 or 800-270-3177	
Gift Certificate		
Especially for		
From		
This amount has already been applied to your account: \$		
Authorized by		





Show You Care with Safety-Minded Gifts

As you create your holiday gift list this year, consider adding safety-minded gifts to show you care. From a smart doorbell to a smoke detector, a gift that keeps loved ones safe gives peace of mind and could help save lives.

Safe Electricity offers the following gift ideas and tips:

For adults

- ▶ Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- ▶ A flashlight with extra batteries for emergencies
- ► A roadside emergency kit
- ▶ Reflective clothing for runners or walkers
- ► Gloves designed for runners that have LED lights or hand-held "knuckle lights"
- ► A smart doorbell to see who's at the door while at home and away
- ► Gift certificates for home services, such as an HVAC inspection or a chimney cleaning
- ▶ A fire extinguisher for the kitchen
- ► A pack of GFCI (ground-fault circuit interrupter) outlets and a gift certificate for a qualified electrician to install them
- ▶ A cozy blanket to replace an older electric blanket

(those more than 10 years old are often unsafe)

- ► After-market vehicle safety systems such as forwardcollision and lane-departure warnings
- A rear-view camera and dash cam for their car
- ► A pet harness for use in a vehicle (make sure it has earned crash-test certification)

For kids

- ▶ Buy age-appropriate gifts (see recommendations on the box or toy)
- ▶ Avoid marbles and small balls for young children
- ► When gifting scooters, roller blades, bikes, and other riding toys, give safety gear such as helmets and knee and elbow pads
- ▶ When giving a hover board, make sure it is compliant with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) safety standards
- ▶ Be aware of the internet browser and chat feature capabilities available on gaming consoles or electronic devices

Visit SafeElectricity.org for other safety tips and information. ${\color{red} \bullet}$



BE PREPARED: A roadside emergency kit – complete with a basic first aid kit and jumper cables – makes a great, practical gift for the holidays.