

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

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

Emergency Outage Number
814-766-3221
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From the General Manager/CEO



Annual meeting notice

By Mark Morrison

MARK YOUR calendars now for the 83rd annual meeting of the members of New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. As you all know, we were unable to hold our meeting last year due to COVID-19 restrictions and precautions. While things will be a bit different from our usual annual meeting as we are still following guidance from government agencies on large gatherings related to COVID-19, we are grateful to be able to meet this year. I will lay out what we are doing for this year's meeting.

The annual meeting will be held at the Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds, 145 Cave Road, New Enterprise, from 4 to 7 p.m., Thursday, June 10. This year's meeting format is a drive-thru event where members will be able to participate in the meeting while maintaining current COVID-19 precautions. The grounds will be set up for members to pass through three stations. The first station will be for registration and voting. Cooperative staff will register members the same way we have done in the past. All registered members will receive a \$25 bill credit and a meeting packet for attending. Joint accounts may only receive one \$25 bill credit and packet.

The second station is optional, giving the membership an opportunity to ask questions of directors and staff.

At the third and final stop, registered members will receive a gift for attending this year's meeting.

Members will be able to hear reports from the board president and gener-

al manager/CEO by tuning their car radio to 91.3 FM. We will be broadcasting cooperative news, highlights and annual meeting messaging over the airwaves.

While this format is a bit different from past meetings and we would rather be able to get together as we did pre-COVID-19, we are grateful for the opportunity to at least gather this way. You will be receiving your Annual Meeting Notice, a meeting registration form and a "Save the date" card coming by mail in May. Please return your registration card as you have done in the past, and we will see you at the drive-thru annual meeting. Please feel free to give us a call at 800-270-3177 or 814-766-3221, or stop in the office to let us know how we are doing. ☀



Receive a \$25 bill credit plus a special gift for attending the 83rd annual meeting.

The names of those in attendance will be entered into the raffle drawing. You may win a \$100 bill credit.

See you at the annual meeting!

Respect electricity's potential wrath: May is Electrical Safety Month


MAY IS National Strawberry Month and National Barbecue Month. Yum! While both of those observances sound incredibly delicious and worth celebrating with our taste buds, there are also more serious observances this month, including **Electrical Safety Month**.

Electricity can be extremely dangerous but is often “out of sight, out of mind.”

While you can see, smell, or hear some electrical hazards — outlets that are warm to the touch or lights that constantly flicker, for example — many others are invisible and undetectable. Always respect electricity and the potential danger that comes with its distribution and use.

There are precautions you can take both inside and outside your home when it comes to possible electrical dangers. When outside, always be aware of overhead power line locations and never come within 10 feet of a line — for example, while trimming trees or carrying a tall ladder or other far-reaching object. Also, if you see a downed power line near your home or in your travels, always assume it is live (energized) and NEVER go near one.

Safe Electricity offers these other electrical safety tips:

- ▶ **Cellphones make strange bedfellows.** Do not sleep or lounge in bed with a cellphone or other device that is charging: they can cause burns to your skin or soft bedding materials to ignite.
- ▶ **Do not use cheap chargers.** Instead, use the original charging components that came with your cellphone or other electronics. When it comes time to replace them, spend a little extra to buy brand-specific chargers and cubes. Using cheaply made generic chargers with your electronics can cause injury (shock/burns) or even a fire since they may be defective.
- ▶ **Charging devices and water don't mix.** Do not use a plugged-in (charging) cellphone near water. Take a break from your phone while bathing, swimming or sitting in a hot tub. Deaths have occurred when a plugged-in cellphone has fallen into water. DO NOT use plugged-in items near water.
- ▶ **Do not overload outlets or circuits.** While it can be tempting to plug in several items in one outlet or on one circuit, drawing too much power can damage your electronics or your home's wiring, or cause more serious problems such as a fire. If too much current is drawn, usually a circuit breaker would trip or fuses would blow, but this is never guaranteed.
- ▶ **Do not use portable heaters unattended or around small children or pets.**
- ▶ **Do not place flammable items near a space heater.**
- ▶ **Test your GFCI buttons once a month.** Put a reminder in your phone or mark it on your calendar each month. GFCIs help prevent ground faults that can shock or injure you, but they can't do their job if they are not working properly.
- ▶ **Do not ignore odd electrical symptoms in your home.** If your lights flicker often, if your outlets are warm to the touch or appear discolored, or if you smell odors like something is overheating but can't determine where the odors are coming from, there may be problems with your home's electrical system. There might also be a problem if your circuits or fuses need to be tripped or changed often. If you notice any of these symptoms or other unusual electrical oddities in your home, consult a qualified electrician.
- ▶ **Make sure your home is protected with AFCIs (arc fault circuit interrupters).** When there is an arc fault, it means that an electrical source in your home is malfunctioning. When that happens, an arc (intense heat or light) can be discharged. Because of that, AFCIs are required by National Electric Code since they help prevent home fires. Have a professional electrician assess your home to make sure AFCIs are installed, especially if your home is older.
- ▶ **Include electrical sources when baby-proofing or child-proofing your home.** There are many electrical components that toddlers and children can tamper with, such as exposed outlets, dangling cords, and accessible power strips or surge protectors. Be aware of potential electrical dangers throughout the home by getting down on the floor and seeing what is at eye level or within reach. Tamper-resistant outlets became required by the NEC (National Electric Code) in 2008; many homes built before then do not have them. 

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

When the weather is nice, put your grill to use! During summer months, cooking outdoors is a great way to save energy and eliminate unwanted heat from cooking indoors.





**** SAVE THE DATE ****

Join New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative for the first-ever drive-thru annual meeting. The meeting will be held at the Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds, 145 Cave Road, New Enterprise, PA 16664 on Thursday, June 10, 2021, from 4 to 7 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE

The annual meeting is on Thursday this year, not Tuesday as before.

Each member who registers and attends will receive a \$25 credit on their electric bill plus a special gift.

All members attending will be entered into an additional prize drawing. Winners will be announced after the meeting.

From Bedford I-99

Follow I-99 North to exit 7 PA 869 toward St. Clairsville/Osterburg. Follow 869 East for 3.5 miles over Brumbaugh Mountain; at the bottom of the mountain, turn right onto 869 East for 2.5 miles. Turn right onto Cave Road for 0.5 miles. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on the right.

From Woodbury

Head southwest on PA 36 South toward Everett. Turn right onto PA 869 West toward New Enterprise for 2.5 miles. Turn left onto Cave Road for 0.5 miles. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on your right.

From Saxton

Follow PA 26 South, then turn right onto PA 36 North toward Loysburg for 3.8 miles. Turn left onto PA 869 West toward New Enterprise for 2.5 miles. Turn left onto Cave Road for 0.5 miles. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on your right.

From Waterfall

Follow PA 655 North, take a sharp left onto PA 913 West for 1.7 miles. Turn left onto Wells Valley Road for 4.9 miles. Turn right onto PA 915 North for 9.4 miles. Turn left onto PA 26 South for 4.9 miles. Turn right onto PA 36 North toward Loysburg for 3.8 miles. Turn left onto PA 869 West toward New Enterprise for 2.5 miles. Turn left onto Cave Road for 0.5 miles. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on your right.



BE PREPARED BEFORE A STORM STRIKES

In the event of a power outage, be prepared by keeping the following items in an easy-to-find emergency supply kit.



■ WATER

Three-day supply, one gallon per person per day.



■ TOOLS

Flashlight, extra batteries, manual can opener, battery-powered or hand-crank radio, NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert.



■ FIRST AID KIT AND PRESCRIPTIONS

First aid supplies, hand sanitizer and at least one week's supply of prescriptions and medications for the family.

Learn more at www.ready.gov



AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

Source: American Red Cross, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

ALWAYS CALL BEFORE YOU DIG



One free, easy call gets your utility lines marked AND helps protect you from injury and expense.

**Safe Digging Is No Accident:
Always Call 811 Before You Dig**

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