
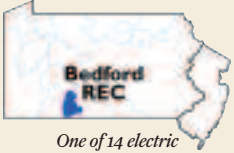


Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Bedford REC
P.O. Box 335
Bedford, PA 15522
814/623-5101

Email: support@bedfordrec.com
Website: www.bedfordrec.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President & PREA Director
Owen L. Miller
East St. Clair Twp.

Vice President & Allegheny Director
C. Robert Koontz
Colerain, Snake Spring and South Woodbury Twp.

Secretary
Donald Hoenstine
Kimmel and King Twp.

Treasurer
Reuben R. Lafferty
Juniata Twp., Bedford County, and Allegheny Twp., Somerset County, New Baltimore Boro

Assistant Secretary
Earl W. Garland
East Providence Twp., Bedford County, and Brush Creek Twp., Fulton County

Assistant Treasurer
Paul L. Rummel Jr.
Bedford and Cumberland Valley Twp.

William Howard Atkinson
Monroe and West Providence Twp., Everett Boro

Wayne M. Hillegass
Napier and Harrison Twp.
Ned H. McDonald

West St. Clair, Pavia, and Lincoln Twp.

John J. Dirienzo Jr.
Attorney

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Principles + values = cooperatives

“A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both.”

— Dwight D. Eisenhower



by Brooks Shoemaker
General Manager

BEDFORD Rural Electric Cooperative, just like all of the other cooperative businesses around the world, operates according to the following seven cooperative principles:

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Member Economic Participation

4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training and Information
6. Cooperation among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

However, we have also adopted a set of values that helps put these principles into practice. Our value system is based on self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. Following in the traditions and footsteps of our founders, we believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility, and concern for others.

Our founders created them to serve the members that use the electricity we provide, and we continue to do that today. They represent the values of self-help, taking action and doing what needs to be done. We also know we must embrace the value of self-responsibility and be accountable to you, our members.

Each member has one vote, no matter how much electricity you use, or how many accounts you have. This ensures that democracy is practiced as it was intended — with equality for all members. This concept highlights one of the key differences between cooperatives and investor-owned companies, where the number of votes you have depends on the number of shares you own. In most cases, the stockholders voting in those elections are not even customers of the utility.

For co-op members, equity has two meanings. First, we strive to treat all of our members fairly. Second, it means that, as a member, you have equity (ownership) in the co-op.

While we are autonomous — self-governed by our board of directors, who are elected by the members — we do act in solidarity with other cooperatives and our community. We know that we can do more for you by partnering with our sister co-ops and like-minded organizations.

Your parents were right when they said, “Honesty is the best policy.” As an owner, you have the right to expect us to act with openness and transparency.

(continues on page 12d)

6 COOPERATIVE VALUES

Co-ops have adopted a set of values that helps put the Seven Cooperative Principles into practice.

- 1 SELF-HELP**
CO-OPS TAKE ACTION AND GET THE JOB DONE.
- 2 SELF-RESPONSIBILITY**
CO-OPS ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO MEMBERS.
- 3 DEMOCRACY**
EACH CO-OP MEMBER HAS ONE VOTE.
- 4 EQUALITY**
DEMOCRACY ENSURES EQUALITY FOR ALL CO-OP MEMBERS.
- 5 EQUITY**
MEMBERS HAVE OWNERSHIP IN THE CO-OP.
- 6 SOLIDARITY**
PARTNERING WITH OTHER CO-OPS AND LIKE-MINDED ORGANIZATIONS BENEFITS MEMBERS.

American Electric Cooperations

Sportsmen's club Youth Field Day celebrates 20 years

BY LINDA WILLIAMS

BEDFORD COUNTY Youth Field Day, sponsored by the Bedford Sportsmen's Club, provides a time of learning and challenges for local kids ages 9 to 15. The free event is held the first Saturday in June each year.

John Everhart, chairman since 1995, says with only a few exceptions, even the weather has cooperated to make it an outstanding day.

Participation is limited to 200, so it's important to register early. A couple of years, they have had to turn some away.

Participants can learn how to handle a 22-caliber rifle or shoot clay pigeons with a lightweight shotgun. They learn everything from safety techniques to aiming at targets and loading powder in a muzzle loader, but safety is the No. 1 lesson.

They also work on a small carpentry project and take home a completed birdhouse.

On its 169 acres, the club has a lake for both canoeing and fishing. The Pennsylvania Game Commission provides canoes and life jackets for Youth Field Day. Club members patrol the canoes in kayaks, again emphasizing safety.



TRAPPING: Bedford County Youth Field Day includes information on trapping from an authentic trapper.

While it is difficult to catch fish with so much commotion going on, the kids still learn the techniques of the sport.

With at least 75 devoted volunteers teaching their individual passions, there is expert instruction in the field of archery, as well as hunting and trapping. The National Wild Turkey Federation teaches turkey hunting safety.

Members of the state Department of

Conservation and Natural Resources and the Pennsylvania Game Commission offer safety instruction for all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). Kids learn the dangers of off-road driving and are shown photographs of what can happen if safety rules are not obeyed. In all of the activities, safety is the No. 1 lesson. Statistics show that between 1982 and 2011, there were 571 ATV deaths in

Pennsylvania, ranking it third in the nation. How accidents happen and safe driving standards are emphasized.

"We have the day very well organized," Everhart explains. "When the kids arrive, we are ready to go. A whistle sounds when it is time to move to the next station. We have never had any serious discipline problems."

At lunch, hot dogs, chips, cookies and drinks are served. When possible, the Pennsylvania Game Commission brings a caged bear for the kids to see. There are also water dog demonstrations over the lunch hour.

Youth Field Day in the Commonwealth began in 1991, and Bedford was quick to join by staging its own field day in 1995. It is an event that keeps growing with both attendees and volunteers. Everhart says it brings a lot of satisfaction to those who help.

"We want kids to be interested in the outdoors and to learn how to have fun, but also stay safe," Everhart says.

For more information, contact the club for participation forms or find out how you can volunteer. ☀



CARPENTRY: All participants in field day take home a birdhouse they built.



SHOOTING SPORTS: Jack Emory shows a young man how to shoot a rifle at a target.



SAFETY FIRST: Shawn Lynd from the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources explains the importance of all-terrain vehicle safety.



ALL ABOARD: It's time to get in the canoes.



CANOE SAFETY: Youth Field Day participants receive final instructions from canoe safety volunteers before heading out.



CANOEING: Participants in the Bedford County Youth Field Day, left, canoe on the Sportsmen's Club lake.

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

(continued from page 12a)

That's why we distribute financial data at our annual meeting, and we are always available to answer your questions. We welcome your active participation in our co-op.

Cooperatives have long (and correctly) been identified as the original socially responsible business, meaning we care about the impact we have on the community, while ensuring we are economically viable.

We've been using these values to support our principles for 76 years, and we will continue to do so long into the future. We strive to always be the "People You Can Count On!"

Interesting tidbit

The prices of LED lightbulbs are dropping. In some cases, LEDs that are equivalent to 60-watt incandescent bulbs are priced as low as \$3. Did you know that, for a limited time, Bedford Rural Electric is offering a \$3 rebate per bulb on the purchase of up to five LED bulbs? Visit www.bedfordrec.com for details or call our office.

Energy efficiency tip of the month

Periodically inspect your dryer vent to ensure it is not blocked. This will save energy and may prevent a fire. Manufacturers recommend using rigid venting material, not plastic flex ducts that may collapse, cause blockages and catch on fire. ☀

Office closing
 Bedford REC's
 office will be
 closed on
 Friday, July 3, in
 observance of
 Independence
 Day

Emergency Power Needs

As a service to our members, Bedford Rural Electric needs to be aware of situations where special needs exist. Please provide the following details:

(Please print clearly)

Account: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Special Needs: Medical Farming/Livestock
 Other _____

Each year, our goal is to provide service with no outages. Unfortunately, that is not a realistic expectation. Outages do occur, and especially during severe storms, service restoration may take several days or longer. Therefore, we strongly recommend that our members with special needs install standby backup generation equipment. Please contact our office for more information on this type of equipment.

TROUBLE CALL SCHEDULE

In case of trouble ...

- First Check your fuses or circuit breakers.
- Second Check with your neighbors, if convenient, to see if they have been affected by the power failure.
- Third **Call 24-hour number, 623-7568**
OR call 800/808-2732 during office hours
 (Please help us save money - only use this number if toll charges apply.)

Please give person receiving call your name as it appears on your bill, your telephone number and your map number if known. Any specific information about the outage will also be helpful in pinpointing the problem.

Alternate numbers ...

Ed Hankinson	Week of June 29	733-4005
Scott Bischof	Week of July 6	839-4640
Adam Claycomb	Week of July 13	635-3376
Gary Lafferty	Week of July 20	842-9925
Troy Mock	Week of July 27	276-9759

In case you cannot reach any of the above ... Call:

Jim Wood	Bedford.....	623-6121
James Clark	Everett	652-9791
Mark Rowan	Bedford.....	623-7890

During widespread power outages, many members are calling to report power failures. You may receive a busy signal, or in certain cases your call may go unanswered. This occurs in after-hours outages when the office is not fully staffed. Please be patient, and try again in a few minutes.