



P.O. Box 247, 4800 St. Rte. 125
 West Union, OH 45693
 Phone: 937-544-2305
 Toll-free 1-800-283-1846

Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Trustees

Stephen Huff.....President
 Donald C. McCarty Sr....Vice President
 Kenneth McCann.....Secretary
 Blanchard Campbell ..M. Dale Grooms
 Charles L. Newman ... William Seaman
 William Wylie..... John Wickerham

Personnel

Bill Swango	General Manager
Erika Ackley	Dave Kirker
Alice Baird	Chris Koenig
Steve Campbell	Rodney Little
Kacee Cox	Ronald Lynch
Chad Daniels	Dave McChesney
Joan Drummond	Kristina Orr
Joyce Grooms	John Polk
John Hayslip	David Ralston
David Henry	Andrew Seaman
Steve Hoop	Kimberly Smith
Matt Isaac	Gary Tolle
Jared Johnson	Mike Whitley

Pay stations

Failure to receive your electric bill in no way relieves you, the member, from paying it. If you do not receive your bill, contact the office before the due date and we will issue another.

For the convenience of Adams REC members, we have established several ways to pay your bill:

- online at www.adamsrec.com.
- by phone at 1-800-809-6352.
- directly from your bank account.

Pay at these collection points:

The First State Bank
 Georgetown, Hillsboro, Manchester,
 Peebles, Ripley, Seaman, West Union,
 and Winchester

The National Bank of Adams County
 218 N. Market St., West Union

Hidden account number credit

Find your account number in the Adams REC local pages (the four center pages of this magazine), then call our office and you will receive a \$20 credit on your electric bill. You must call by the end of the month in which your account number appears. Your call affirms permission to publish your name as a winner in an upcoming issue of *Country Living*.

Energy Mythbusters

Some of those energy misconceptions can cost you real money

EATING CARROTS WILL IMPROVE your eyesight. Cracking your knuckles will cause arthritis. Watching too much TV will ruin your eyes. We've all heard the old wives' tales, but did you know there are also many myths about home energy use? I'd like to clear up some of those common energy misconceptions.

Myth: The higher the thermostat setting, the faster the home will heat (or cool).

Many people think that walking into a chilly room and raising the thermostat to 85 degrees will heat the room more quickly. This is not true. Thermostats direct a home's heating and cooling system to heat or cool to a certain temperature. Drastically adjusting the thermostat setting will not make a difference in how quickly you feel a temperature change. The U.S. Department of Energy recommends setting your thermostat to 78 degrees during summer months and 68 degrees during winter months for optimum energy efficiency.

Myth: Opening the oven door to check on a dish doesn't really waste energy.

While it can be tempting to check the progress of what's cooking, opening the oven door does waste energy. Every time the oven door is opened, the temperature inside is reduced by as much as 25 degrees, delaying the progress of your baking and, more important, costing you additional money. If you need to check a dish, try using the oven light instead.

Myth: Ceiling fans keep your home cool while you're away.

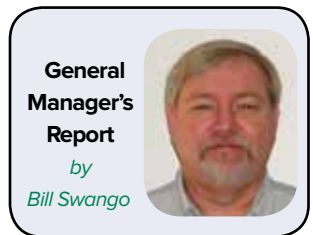
Many people think this is true — but ceiling fans cool people, not rooms. They circulate room air but do not change the temperature. A running ceiling fan in an empty room is only adding to your electricity use and your bill. Remember to turn fans off when you're away to reduce your energy use.

Myth: Reducing my energy use is too expensive.

Many consumers believe that reducing energy use requires expensive upfront costs like purchasing new, more efficient appliances or building upgrades to an older home. But the truth is, consumers who make small changes to their energy efficiency habits — such as turning off lights when not in use, sealing air leaks, and using a programmable thermostat — can see a reduction in energy consumption.

Remember, energy efficiency doesn't have to be difficult. Focus on small changes to save big.

Have a happy and blessed Thanksgiving holiday!



This-n-that

BY ALICE L. BAIRD

I know I say it every year, but where has this year gone? It doesn't seem possible that it is November already. I know summer was hot, but it sure seemed to go by fast. I don't think it is just that I am getting older (cough, cough); I hear younger people say the same thing. At any rate, here we are getting ready for winter again.

Pull out the winter clothes and get your coats and gloves ready. Some have predicted a rough winter; some, not so much. But it is always best to be prepared.

If you haven't already done so, you may want to have your heating system checked out and serviced. It's better to be proactive on this than to delay and wake up in the middle of a freezing night with no heat. Been there, done that. You may also want to check for leaks around windows and doors to see if you may need to do some weather stripping or caulking. These are just a couple of small things you can do to help keep your use as low as possible.

The possibility of a snow or ice storm is seemingly ever-present during the winter months, and with that threat comes the possibility of power outages. Outages are always inconvenient and sometimes present health hazards if power is off very long. Be as prepared as possible for an outage. If you or a loved one relies on medical equipment, you may want to invest in a generator or make arrangements to take them to a place that still has power.


The Outage Management System (OMS) through Milsoft Utilities has proven to be a great asset when it comes to locating and managing power outages. 1832250082. Members can also access an outage viewer on our web site at www.adamsrec.com. Under "INFO CENTER", click on "Outage Viewer." You will see a map of our service area, and by using the map key, you will know where the outages are located and how many members are without power.

If you do experience an outage, please call it in. That is the only way to be sure that we know about it. Facebook and e-mail are not continuously monitored, and if you try to notify us by these means instead of calling, it could prolong the restoration time. We don't like power outages any more than our members do, and our crews at Adams REC work very hard to get the power back on as quickly as possible.

Reminders

Daylight saving time ends Nov. 6; remember to turn your clocks back one hour. This would also be a good time to check your smoke detectors and make sure they are in good working condition.

Veteran's Day is Nov. 11. Remember to thank a vet for their service.



Adams Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc., will be closed on **Nov. 24 and 25** for Thanksgiving so employees may celebrate with their families.

We hope you have a blessed Thanksgiving and that winter passes with you being healthy, happy, and warm.

If you experience a power outage, please call 937-544-2305 or 1-800-283-1846.

WE MADE PAYING YOUR BILL EASIER

3 ways to pay with:

NO ENVELOPES!

NO STAMPS! NO DRIVING!

ONLINE AT OUR WEBSITE

BY PHONE

DIRECT PAYMENT

FROM YOUR BANK ACCOUNT

*Pay online at www.adamsrec.com; just click on the "Pay Your Bill" link and follow the instructions. You can pay by credit/debit card or from your checking/savings account.

*Pay by phone with our payment hotline. Dial 1-800-809-6352 and follow the directions. You can pay by credit/debit card or from your checking/savings account.

*Sign up for Direct Payment to have your payment automatically drafted from your bank account — call the office to find out how to sign up.

If you have any questions about which payment method is the best one for you, please call Adams REC at 937-544-2305.

Medical Certifications available

BY KEVIN KELLY

Residential consumers of Adams Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc., who are facing termination of service due to non-payment of their account can apply for a 30-day Medical Certification in order to retain electric service.

Prior to termination, the consumer must provide proper certification from a health care professional (licensed physician, physician assistant, clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse practitioner, or certified nurse midwife) who must complete a form provided by Adams REC stating that termination of electric service would be especially dangerous or life threatening to the health of a permanent resident of the premises. The consumer also must enter into an extended payment plan with the cooperative and make all payments due under the plan on time.

The Cooperative will accept no more than two

renewal certifications regarding the health of any resident, for a total maximum certification period of 90 days within any 12-month period.

For additional information, please feel free to call the office.



Outage Reminder

If you experience a power outage, please do not attempt to notify the office by Facebook or e-mail. Facebook and e-mail are not continuously monitored, especially in the evenings or on weekends. This type of communication could delay restoration time. *Please call the office at 937-544-2305 or 1-800-283-1846 to report a power outage.*



Stealing electricity and meter tampering are crimes

Since August 1978, a revised Ohio law has been in effect covering theft of utility service and tampering with utility equipment. The statute provides that a person does not have to be seen tampering with a meter to be held responsible for such action. Prior to the revision in the law, it was difficult to prosecute a person for meter tampering unless the action was witnessed.

In addition, in prosecution for a user's reconnecting a device that was disconnected by a utility, such activity now is considered prima facie evidence that the user intended to defraud the utility.

The law defines theft of a utility service as a first-degree misdemeanor if the value of the stolen electricity, plus any utility equipment repair, is less than \$150. It's a fourth-degree felony if the value is more than \$150 or if the offender was previously convicted of the charge. Tampering convictions carry similar penalties.

Tampering is defined as "to interfere with, damage, or bypass a utility meter, conduit, or attachment with intent to impede the correct registration of a meter or the proper function of a conduit or attachments."

Conviction can bring from six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine to five years in jail and a \$2,500 fine.

Meter tampering costs all of us. It costs the cooperative, and it costs you. And it's downright dangerous. If you witness someone tampering with an electric meter, contact your cooperative office. Stealing electricity is a crime, and anyone caught violating the law will be prosecuted.

Capital credits retirement

Capital credits refunded to the estates of Adams Rural Electric Co-op members for September 2016 totaled \$9,792.70. Estates paid in 2016 to date total \$131,057.91.

In case of the death of a member of Adams Rural Electric, contact Kimberly Smith or Alice Baird at 937-544-2305 or 800-283-1846.



Important Reminder

When sending in one payment for multiple accounts, please enclose all of the payment stubs. If you pay for several accounts with one check, but only send one account payment stub, the entire payment will go to that account.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

- 11 **Veterans Day Parade.** Starts at 11 a.m. in West Union. **Contact Sam Kimmerly at 937-386-0293.**
- 18-19 **The Mid West Dream Center “Christmas Bazaar” fundraiser.** 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct.18, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19. **Contact Rhonda Burton at 513-218-9759.**
- 19 **Grits @ Glamour Tour with Lorrie Morgan & Pam Tillis.** Red Barn Convention Center. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. and the concert is at 7 p.m. **Contact 1-800-823-9197, ext. 121, or visit www.redbarnconventioncenter.com/upcoming-events.**
- 26 **Adams Country Christmas.** Adams County Courthouse Square in West Union. Event begins at 5:30 p.m. with a welcoming ceremony at 6:30 p.m.

December

- 3 **Peebles Christmas Celebration.** Lighting of the Christmas tree and other holiday events. Starts at 6 p.m.
- 11 **Page One-Room School House Christmas Event.** 2 p.m. at the corner of Page School Road off of Vaughn Ridge Road east of West Union off St. Rt. 125. **Contact Mary Fulton at 937-587-2043.**
- 12 **Adams County Historical Society Christmas Meeting.** 7 p.m. at the Heritage Center. **Contact Mary Fulton at 937-587-2043.**
- 17 **Adams County Audubon Christmas Bird Count.** **Contact the Cincinnati Museum Center’s Edge of Appalachia Preserve at 937-544-2880.**
- 21 **Lighting the Serpent.** 4-8 p.m. (Rain or wind date Dec. 22). **For more information, visit serpentmound.org**