



MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

PRACTICE ELECTRICAL SAFETY

May is National Electrical Safety Month, which is a serious issue. Not only is electrical safety at the top of the list here at Adams Rural Electric, but we want it to be at the top of the list where your home, farm, or business is concerned.

Our cooperative's mission is to provide safe, affordable, and reliable electricity to our member-owners. But equally important is the need to return our workers home safely to their loved ones every day. To do this requires ongoing focus, dedication, and vigilance. Working with electricity is an inherently dangerous job, especially for line workers. We have established safety protocols based on the leading national safety practices for the utility industry. We require our line workers to wear specialized personal protective equipment when working next to or with power lines, and they must follow specific protocols.

Each year, thousands of people in the United States are critically injured and electrocuted as a result of electrical fires, accidents, and electrocution in their own homes. In 2016, 475,500 structure fires (including residential fires) were reported in the U.S., causing 2,950 deaths, 12,775 injuries, and \$7.9 billion in property damage. According to the National Fire Protection Association, a residential fire

was reported every 90 seconds. Many home fires occur when electrical equipment is outdated or improperly used. Many of these accidents are preventable. Don't attempt electrical DIY projects or overload your outlets. Report downed power lines, unlocked substations, or pad-mount transformers that look amiss.

It is important that co-op members understand their home's electrical system and the safety concerns associated with the latest residential technologies before bringing them into their homes. With newer technologies, electric vehicles, and more electronic gadgets in the home, people need to ensure they have an electrical system that's compatible with the increased load.

Through electrical safety awareness and education, we can all play a part in preventing electrical hazards and injuries in the future. Together, let's plug into safety this May.



Bill Swango
GENERAL MANAGER

"All that I am, or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother."

Abraham Lincoln

Happy Mother's Day!





TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

As a member, you have a VOICE

Election procedures

Adams Rural Electric Cooperative's policies and procedures are determined by an elected board of directors, who are also member-owners of the cooperative. The Adams REC service territory is made up of nine districts, with one board member representing the cooperative from each district.

You, as a cooperative member-owner, have the privilege to vote for the trustees who sit on the board of your cooperative. It is the responsibility of the board of trustees to see that the cooperative remains financially stable. The board must continually look ahead to anticipate the needs of the membership, such as building new substations and replacing damaged or outdated equipment. They must keep abreast of changing legislature, rising costs, and new technology to make decisions that will not only keep the cooperative financially viable, but also able to supply the best electric service possible to the membership.

You can make your voice heard each year by casting your votes for trustees via mail-in ballot. The results, as well as updates on the status of the cooperative, are announced at the Annual Meeting of Members, which will be held this year on Saturday, Aug. 25, at Adams County Fairgrounds.

Following is information on the nomination and election of trustees, excerpted from Adams REC's Code of Regulations.

General powers

The entire business and affairs of the cooperative shall be managed by a board of nine (9) trustees, which shall exercise all of the powers of the cooperative except such as are: by law, the Articles of Incorporation, or the Code of Regulations conferred upon or reserved to the members.

Election and tenure of office

The service territory of the cooperative is divided into nine districts; one board member shall be elected from each district. Board members shall be elected for three-year terms by mail at the Annual Meeting of Members, with three trustees elected each year. No person shall be eligible to become or remain a trustee who is not a member and bona fide resident in the district within the service area of the cooperative which they are to represent.

Nomination

It shall be the duty of the board to appoint, not less than thirty (30) days nor more than ninety (90) days before the date of the mailing of the notice of the meeting of members at which members of the board are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than eleven (11) members who shall be selected so as to ensure equitable representation on the committee to the geographic areas constituting the service area of the cooperative.

Nominations shall include at least two candidates from each district for a board member representing such district, which is to be filled at the next Annual Meeting of the Members. No person shall be voted upon for membership on the board who has not signified his willingness to serve if elected.

The notice of the Annual Meeting of Members, as well as ballots and instruction for the return of the ballots, shall be mailed at least thirty (30) days before such meeting. Any twenty-five (25) or more members may make other nominations by petition more than fifteen (15) days prior to the mailing of the notice of the meeting of members.

Please contact the office with any questions you may have.

Capital credits

Capital credits refunded to the estates of Adams Rural Electric Co-op members for March 2018 totaled \$4,921.17. Estates paid in 2018 to date total \$26,922.25.

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.



The office will be closed on **Monday, May 28**, in observance of Memorial Day. We remember all those who gave the ultimate sacrifice serving our country.



This-*n*-That

New fixed budget year begins in July

Adams REC offers a Fixed Budget Billing Plan to our members. If you have 12 months of billing history for your account, and your balance is zero, you may sign up for Fixed Budget Billing.

The primary purpose of the plan is to pay the same amount on your bill each month, with a settlement month to “even up.” The June billing is considered the settlement month, or the end of budget year, in which case the account must be paid in full based on the actual kilowatts used during the year. If a credit exists on your account at the time of settlement, it will be applied to your next billing.

The budget amount will be adjusted annually with the July billing to reflect the prior 12 months’ use. You will be notified of the new budget amount on your June bill.

You may sign up for the plan at any time during the year, but to gain the full benefit of budget billing for the year, the month of June is the most opportune time because the new fixed budget year begins in July.

Please remember that the Fixed Budget Billing Plan amount is due in full each month. Failure to pay the full budget plan amount may result in termination of the agreement.

If you would like to be set up on the Fixed Budget Billing Plan, please contact the billing department at 937-544-2305. The account must be paid in full before the budget can be established.

Reminders

Happy Mother’s Day on May 13 to all of you moms! If you are blessed to still have your mother with you, take time to honor her on this day and every day.

If you need information concerning the scholarship program, calendar of events, or capital credits, or if you have any other questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at the office. Just ask for Alice.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATIONS AVAILABLE

Residential consumers of Adams REC who are facing termination of service due to nonpayment 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, which includes a licensed physician, physician assistant, clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse practitioner, or certified nurse midwife. The health care professional 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 must also 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 or a form to complete, please feel free to call or visit the office.

PLEASE CALL IN YOUR OUTAGES



Do not use e-mail or Facebook, as they are not continuously monitored.

If you experience an outage, please call the office at 937-544-2305 or 1-800-283-1846. If you post on Facebook or e-mail your outage information, it could delay the restoration time. E-mails and Facebook are not continuously monitored, especially in the evenings or on weekends.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

- 4 **Wheat Ridge Amish School Benefit Auction and Supper.** Supper starts at 4 p.m., and auction at 5 p.m. Located at Ridge Way Lumber on Wheat Ridge Road. For more information, contact 937-544-7566.
- 4–6 **Spring Arts and Crafts Fair** at Gallery 32. Come and enjoy our Spring into Spring event at 2586 Burnt Cabin Road, Seaman. Call 513-767-1974.
- 5 **Gene Watson** will perform at The Red Barn Convention Center. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. Concert is at 7 p.m. Contact 1-800-823-9197, ext. 121.
- 5–6 **Free fishing weekend** throughout Ohio. Good time to sample the fishing locally at Adams Lake and Ohio Brush Creek and Ohio River.
- 12 **Ohio Brush Creek Sweep.** Interested participants should contact Bill Wickerham at the Adams Co. Soil and Water Department at 937-544-1010.
- 12 **Dailey & Vincent** will perform at The Red Barn Convention Center. Dinner at 5:30 p.m. Concert is at 7 p.m. Contact 1-800-823-9197, ext. 121.
- 19 **Scioto Brush Creek Sweep.** Interested participants should contact Bill Wickerham at The Adams Co. Soil and Water Department at 937-544-1010.

June

- 9 **Reptile Day** at Serpent Mound.
- 16 **Ohio River Sweep.** For more information, contact Whitney Lawhorn at 937-378-3431, ext. 104.
- 23 **The Van-Dells** will perform at the Red Barn Convention Center. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. Concert is at 7 p.m. Contact 1-800-823-9197, ext. 121.
- 23 **Summer Solstice** at Serpent Mound.



ADAMS RURAL ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

CONTACT

937-544-2305 | 1-800-283-1846
www.adamsrec.com

OFFICE

4800 St. Rte. 125
P.O. Box 247
West Union, OH 45693

OFFICE HOURS

Mon. – Fri., 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

PAY YOUR BILL AT 1-800-809-6352

We provide three convenient ways to pay: online, by phone, or directly from your bank account. Failure to receive your bill in no way relieves you from paying it. If you don't receive your bill, contact the office before the due date and we'll issue another one.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Stephen Huff
President
Donald C. McCarty Sr.
Vice President
Kenneth McCann
Secretary

Blanchard Campbell
Charles L. Newman
William Wylie
M. Dale Grooms
William Seaman
John Wickerham

Pay at these collection stations:
First State Bank — Georgetown, Hillsboro, Manchester, Peebles, Ripley, Seaman, West Union, and Winchester.
National Bank of Adams County — 218 N. Market St., West Union.

Erika Ackley
Alice Baird
Kacee Cox
Joan Drummond
Joyce Grooms
Treavor Hall
John Hayslip
David Henry
Steve Hoop
Jared Johnson
Samuel Kimmerly
Dave Kirker

Chris Koenig
Rodney Little
Ronald Lynch
Dave McChesney
Kristina Orr
John Polk
David Ralston
Joseph Scott
Kimberly Smith
Cody Spriggs
Paul Thompson
Gary Tolle
Mike Whitley

Bill Swango
General Manager

HIDDEN NUMBER BILL 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 *Ohio Cooperative Living*.