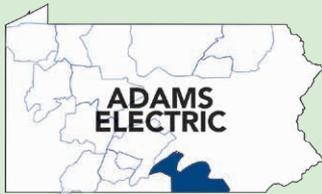




# Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Glenn E. Bange, President**
- Nadine M. Hubner, Vice President**
- Dale E. Myers, Secretary**
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**Steve Rasmussen**  
CEO/General Manager

## ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

1338 Biglerville Road  
P.O. Box 1055  
Gettysburg, PA 17325-1055  
1-800-726-2324

## GETTYSBURG DISTRICT

1338 Biglerville Road  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

## YORK DISTRICT

200 Trinity Road  
York, PA 17408

## SHIPPENSBURG DISTRICT

10 Duncan Road  
Shippensburg, PA 17257

## DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday  
7 a.m. - 5 p.m.\*  
\*By appointment only

Check out [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop)

Like us on Facebook at  
[Facebook.com/AdamsEC](https://www.facebook.com/AdamsEC)

LOCAL PAGES EDITOR:  
**Kami Noel, CCC**

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

## Building a Strong Financial Position



**STEVE RASMUSSEN**

**ONE OF THE MANY BENEFITS** of working for a cooperative is maintaining our strong financial standing. Our consumer-members reap the benefits of that financial stability, and it shows our commitment to the cooperative principle of members' economic participation.

The board votes annually on our ability to return a portion of our prior year's margins back to the members who helped create them. In 2024, Adams Electric refunded \$2.7 million in capital credits to its members. Referred to by the cooperative as Ownership Rewards, the co-op has surpassed the \$55 million mark for total rewards returned to the membership.

We think it's imperative to keep our membership informed and engaged in the financial position of your cooperative. If I can draw your attention to page 14 of the annual report inserted in this issue of *Penn Lines*, you can review the financial strength of the co-op there. We also highlight other key investments over the last year, some of which are touched on below.

While we have a commitment to maintaining a strong financial standing, we also have a commitment to supporting the rural communities in which we live and work. We're not just an electric utility; we are a quality-of-life business. In 2023, the co-op made donations to more than 60 different organizations, including an American Legion post, a board of township supervisors and a youth sports team, which used the funds to buy AEDs.

In addition, Adams Electric distributed nearly \$61,000 of Project Helping Hand funds to assist 182 members who were having trouble paying their electric bills. An additional 141 members received assistance, totaling around \$24,600, to bring their accounts current through the cooperative's escheats fund, which is supported by unclaimed Ownership Rewards and has no negative impact on rates.

Returning money to the community through donations is important to help improve the quality of life in the areas we serve. However, another important role we take seriously is setting rates. It's our mission to keep your rates competitive and to keep you informed of changes that affect you directly.

For the average residential member who uses 1,250 kilowatt-hours of electricity per month, the bill went up about \$10 in 2024. In 2023, those same average bills increased by about \$22. Those were the first rate increases in five years and are much lower than those of your neighbors who are served by a local investor-owned utility.

The cooperative makes it a priority to be more than just your electric distribution utility and keeping our finances stable translates to better service for our members. We are committed to bringing you, our consumer-members, the most reliable and affordable power. 🇺🇸

**STEVE RASMUSSEN**  
CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

## Ready, Set, Go ... Help!

**SARAH FRANK**, CCC, COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR

**ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE** and the Hunterstown Ruritans have a lot in common, including overlapping service territories. According to the Ruritans' mission statement, "Ruritan is a national organization dedicated to improving communities and building a better America through fellowship, goodwill, and community service." Adams Electric also prioritizes improving the quality of life in the communities we serve. So, it makes sense the two groups would work together on a project.

Adams Electric recently donated the materials and time to set four new poles at Hunterstown Speedway in Adams County. The Speedway is located on grounds owned by the Ruritans, and the profits from leasing the track go directly to the service club to benefit the community. The new poles, which replaced aging ones, are equipped with new LED lights.

Todd Pritt, a lifelong Ruritan, approached his good friend since childhood Tony Spangler, lead lineman at the co-op and a fellow Ruritan, about a possible pole donation for the track.



**LIGHTING THE TRACK:** Journeyman First Class Max Rinehart, on ground, and Journeyman Second Class Adam Waldron, on digger, set one of four poles at the Hunterstown Speedway, whose owners lease the land from the Hunterstown Ruritans. The organization uses the proceeds to benefit the community. Pritt Electric, owned by Ruritan Todd Pritt, will install new LED lights on the poles.



**COOPERATIVE TEAMWORK:** Hunterstown Ruritan Todd Pritt, left, and Adams Electric Lead Lineman Tony Spangler team up to get four new poles installed at Hunterstown Speedway in Gettysburg, Adams County.

Tony, who says he "grew up listening to the go karts and announcers" at the track, brought the request to the cooperative's donation review committee, whose members agreed it was a good fit for the co-op and wanted to help.

According to Todd, his family has been a part of the Hunterstown Ruritans for as long as he can remember and helped the group get started in the area along with local Clyde Little. Ruritan groups exist nationwide, but the Hunterstown Ruritans operate with just 10 members. Todd's family also helped create the speed track in 1962 and is still involved today.

Leasing the land to the Speedway owners provides the Ruritans with money to make community donations, host monthly community breakfasts and provide local students with scholarships.

The track draws crowds, numbering in the thousands, and has had up to 250 car entries. According to Todd, the track is considered a tough course for the East Coast, and many well-known sprint car racers got their start in Hunterstown.

"My dad helped build this track," Todd says. "I have been involved since I was a kid. In fact, when my son was 5, he wanted to get involved, too. It's a family event — my wife did announcing, and my two kids and I started competing in races."

In 2021, Todd's daughter, Elena, took home the championship title and won first place in a memorial race held in honor of Todd's brother.

"We took a little bit of a break, but my son and I will be back racing this year," Todd says. "This isn't just fun and games; these cars can go up to 75 mph!"

Check out the action in person at 224 Red Bridge Road on the outskirts of Gettysburg. The Speedway is open most Saturdays through October for competitive kart racing. 🏁

# May is Electrical Safety Month

**KAMI NOEL**, CCC, COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER RELATIONS COORDINATOR

**HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO** know about our meters and your safety and responsibilities.

## Cooperative-read meters

A meter reading allows the cooperative to bill each member for the actual amount of electricity used. The cooperative reads the meter on the first day of each month using an automated meter reading (AMR) system. An automated meter sends a reading electronically over the power lines to an Adams Electric substation. The reading is then relayed to the co-op's headquarters in Gettysburg and automatically recorded.

The AMR program allows the co-op to bill members more accurately. The meter can also assist in power restoration efforts. This translates to better service for all members.

## Meter accuracy

Electricity is measured in kilowatt-hours. The electric meter is a solid-state, non-mechanical instrument. The cooperative tests meters as needed to ensure accuracy.

Installed electric meters and cooperative services seldom need to be moved. But if a situation arises, you or your contractor need to contact the cooperative. We will assist in disconnecting and reconnecting power as needed so work can be done safely. Depending on the timing and nature of the situation, fees may be assessed. No one should repair or access an Adams Electric meter without first contacting the co-op.

## Meter repairs

For the safety of our members, employees, and your contractors, only cooperative personnel and the co-op's contracted workers are authorized and permitted to

access and perform work on any cooperative-owned equipment or facilities, including, but not limited to, the meter. Before any work begins that may affect the electric service or meter, contact Adams Electric. If co-op equipment needs to be worked on, a lineworker will safely disconnect power so work can be performed. Members are required to contact the co-op in advance to schedule these appointments. In the case of a power emergency, immediately call the cooperative for assistance.

Any time a meter base, main breaker, or service panel is replaced or relocated, the co-op requires an electrical inspection to be completed by a certified/licensed inspection agency. Following an approved inspection, the cooperative will reconnect power. All of these requirements are to keep members, contractors and Adams' employees safe. Failure to follow these requirements could result in fees, fines or legal action:

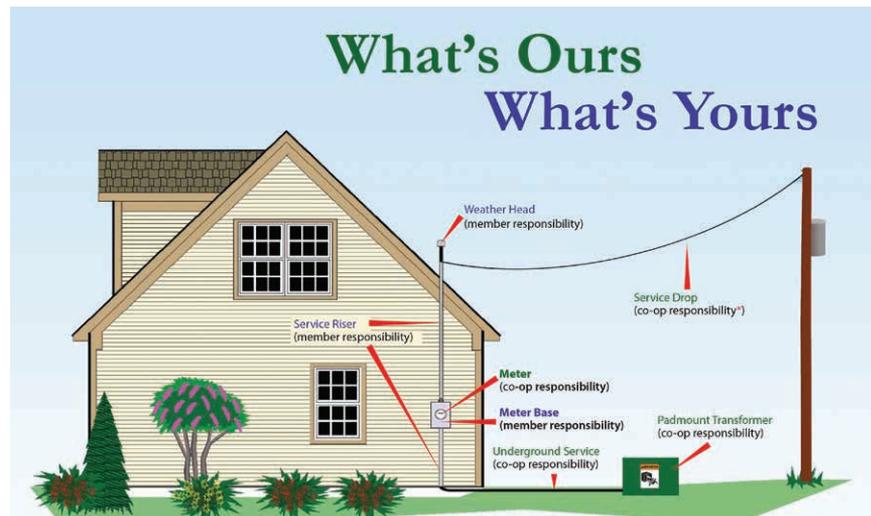
- ▶ While the meter base is owned by the member, the meter is owned by the cooperative.

- ▶ Never block the meter or access to the meter base.
- ▶ Never cut the metal tag on the meter base; also, alert the co-op if the tag has been cut or is missing.
- ▶ Don't enclose the meter in any type of cabinet or locked container and don't relocate the meter inside a building. The co-op requires full access to its device.

Our offices are open by appointment, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. In addition, Adams Electric can be reached for billing and member services inquiries by calling 800-726-2324.

After hours and on weekends, including Fridays, we use the Cooperative Response Center (CRC) for dispatch and member assistance. CRC is a nationwide, cooperatively owned and operated contact center.

If that network is unable to answer a member's question, it does leave open tickets, which our member services representatives respond to on the next business day. 📞



**MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES:** Your property is served by either an overhead service drop or underground service. This illustration shows both. Co-op members are responsible for keeping the service clear of vegetation and debris and making repairs when damaged parts are discovered during service inspections.

## Don't Miss the Annual Meeting

**THIS ANNOUNCEMENT CONSTITUTES THE OFFICIAL** notice of the Adams Electric Cooperative Annual (Business) Meeting to be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 16, on the Adams Electric Cooperative campus, 1338 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg.

Adams Electric invites its members to attend one of its annual meeting drive-thrus and/or the annual business meeting. Pre-registration is required for all events.

Drive-thru events will be held in Shippensburg and York at the district offices from 3 to 6 p.m. May 15 and in Gettysburg from 3 to 6 p.m. May 16. Participants will receive a membership gift, bill credit and a meal to take home for each registered member. Anyone who did not vote in the director election will have the chance to vote in-person at the drive-thru. There will be a pull-off space for members who have specific questions for the cooperative staff. Up to six expired lightbulbs may be exchanged for up to three new LED bulbs during the drive-thru.

Those who registered by April 26 should have received a postcard in the mail as a meeting reminder. Please bring that postcard with you for faster check-in and for your bill credit to be processed to your electric account.

At 6 p.m. May 16, the annual business meeting of the cooperative will commence at the Gettysburg District pavilion. There will be no meals served at the business meeting. The meeting includes the conclusion of the director election process with announced results, as well as a report from the board president and the cooperative CEO/general manager.

To register, call 800-726-2324 or visit [adamsec.coop/2024-annual-meeting](http://adamsec.coop/2024-annual-meeting).



ADAMS ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE, INC.

## Membership Survey Planned for June

In June, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) market research team will be reaching out to randomly selected Adams Electric members with residential accounts to measure their satisfaction with the co-op.

The survey will make this assessment by using the American Customer Satisfaction Index, an economic indicator that measures the satisfaction rates of consumers across the nation, based on goods and services consumed.

Participation in the survey is voluntary, but the results help the cooperative make decisions about member engagement and satisfaction. It takes an average of 10 minutes to participate in the survey.

The NRECA team will contact approximately 400 members by phone or email. Calls will come from 844-291-3410. Emails will look like they are coming from the co-op but the email address [MarketResearch@nreca.coop](mailto:MarketResearch@nreca.coop) is the reply to email and will be shown in brackets after the co-op name. One way to know that the survey is legitimate is that if you respond, it will be addressed to the MarketResearch email. Another is to hover over the "take the survey" link so that the url shows up. We hope you will choose to participate if you are contacted.

## Wind Causes Major Outages

Heavy winds caused major outages for the co-op's membership in mid-March. Several larger outages with longer durations ended up causing a major event day on March 11, with 17.6 minutes of System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) being accumulated.

SAIDI is commonly used as a reliability index by electric power utilities. It measures how long, on average, each customer was without power in the last year. A major event day occurs when the SAIDI passes 14.5 minutes.

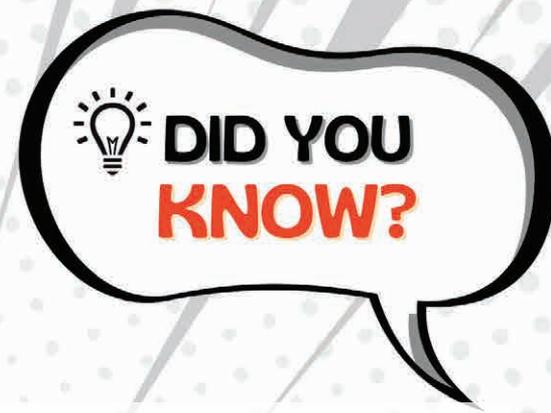
Members served from our Valley and Lake Heritage metering points in Adams County were impacted the most.

Valley started with a power supplier outage at 3:56 a.m., affecting 2,039 members. The co-op was able to get all members back in power after 16 minutes through backfeeding. Just 19 minutes later, a large tree fell, causing an outage that knocked a feeder offline (876 members) and required nearly seven hours to restore.

At 11:40 a.m., the main feeder at Lake Heritage (1,546 members) lost power, also due to a fallen tree. We were able to mitigate some of this outage with backfeeding (reducing impacted members to 515), but this restoration took more than five hours to complete.

# Co-op Spotlight

## Getting to know your employees and directors



### Brad Varner



**Who I am:** Line serviceman. I've been here for 12 years, and my job responsibilities are to work with the members and electricians on any service issues. I also run trouble calls and do inspections.

**Family life:** I have a wife and son who I love to spend time with, plus I enjoy hunting, fishing, and some golf.

**Favorite part of the job:** Working with the members.

**Co-op stands out because:** Quick response time to most outages.

### Mike Hawbaker



**Who I am:** I've worked at the co-op for 11 years, currently as a systems administrator. I do network and server administration, custom report development and some programming.

**Co-op difference:** I think the profit motive of a lot of businesses leads to worse service and products. Being a member-owned, non-profit organization keeps the focus on service instead of profit.

### Mike McKinney



**Who I am:** I have been with the co-op for 11 years and began my career as a first-year apprentice in the York District. In 2015, I moved to staking and have been in that department ever since. As a staker, I meet with members for new services and/or upgrades, and I also play a part in the design and redesign of co-op lines. I am currently enrolled at Harrisburg Area Community College to obtain a degree in business administration, and prior to being hired, I received a certification from the Northwest Lineman College in Denton, Texas.

**Family life:** I enjoy staying active, whether it's hiking, going to the gym or riding my Peloton bike. My girlfriend and I are expecting our first child in July. Other than that, we have three dogs and a cat at home.

**Favorite part of the job:** My favorite part of working for the cooperative is working with the members and being able to play a role in fixing issues for not only the members but also the co-op.

**Co-op future:** To continue to provide reliable power and grow into the new world of electric demands.

### Jordan Hoke



**Who I am:** First class journeyman; 10 years in August.

**Family life:** I spend time with and take care of my wife and our two kids.

**Favorite part of the job:** Getting our members' lights back on.

**Co-op difference:** We have members, not customers!

**Co-op stands out because:** Our response time is better for having our members back in power.

