
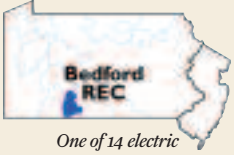


Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

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 and Snake Spring Twps.

Secretary
Donald Hoenstine
Kimmel and King Twps.

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
William "Howard" Atkinson
Monroe and West Providence Twps., Everett Boro

Wayne M. Hillegass
Napier and Harrison Twps.
John R. Koontz
Bedford Twp.
Ned H. McDonald
West St. Clair, Pavia, and Lincoln Twps.

John J. Dirienzo Jr.
Attorney

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

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Theft jeopardizes lives and electric service



Brooks Shoemaker
General Manager

IN RECENT YEARS, the theft of metal, particularly copper, has become a growing problem. During the past two years, Pennsylvania cooperatives have experienced losses of more than \$200,000. Rising scrap metal prices are the reason for the thefts, which have targeted construction sites, plumbing in vacant homes, telephone lines and wires used by your

cooperative to deliver electricity.

Thefts from our system can result in expensive and time-consuming repairs. In the end, YOU are paying for these needless criminal acts. To add insult to injury, YOU are also inconvenienced by the outages caused by these crimes.

Furthermore, thieves targeting electric systems endanger not only their own lives, but more importantly, the general public and our linemen. We carefully and professionally engineer our system to provide a safe and reliable source of electricity. It depends on proper grounding and protective devices that work in a split second. Stolen copper leaves a void that can hinder or prevent the system from operating properly, possibly exposing energized cables or pieces of equipment, which could have disastrous consequences to an innocent, unsuspecting person or employee.

Bedford Rural Electric takes this situation very seriously and will prosecute thieves. But, we need your help if you see suspicious activity, such as individuals climbing poles, backing their vehicles or ATVs up to poles, using flashlights, spotlights, hatchets, shears, saws, cutters or other tools near co-op poles or substations. Do not confront thieves; instead note the individual's physical description, vehicle type, license plate number, time and location. Immediately contact our office or the Pennsylvania State Police. Together, we can stop this problem!


Project BudBurst

Want to have a little fun? Check out www.ProjectBudBurst.org. According to the website, it is a national campaign for "citizen scientists," designed to encourage people to collect climate change data based on the timing of leafing and flowering of trees and flowers. BudBurst volunteers record the first bud burst, first leafing, first flower, and seed or fruit dispersal of a variety of trees, flowers, weeds and ornamentals. The citizen scientists' observations are entered into the BudBurst database so scientists can learn about the responses of individual trees and plants to local, regional and national climate changes, helping to detect the long-term climate impact by comparing to historical averages.

Interesting tidbit

The Energy Star program was developed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by promoting superior energy performance. Apparently it is working. Consumers can now find Energy Star-labeled products in more than 50 categories. Homes themselves can even earn the designation. According to the Cooperative Research Network, during 2006, the program saved 170 billion kilowatt-hours of energy, roughly 5 percent of the United States' electric demand for the year!

Energy efficiency tip of the month

When replacing incandescent bulbs with a compact fluorescent lightbulb (CFL), the Energy Star label makes it easy to select a replacement that produces an equal amount of light. Commonly, the packages are labeled "Soft White 60" or "60 Watt Equivalent." To ensure the bulbs are truly equivalent, check the lumen rating on the label. The higher the lumens, the greater the light output. If the lumens are comparable, the light output will also be the same. 

Newest Bedford County industry thinks GREEN



BY LINDA WILLIAMS

BEDFORD COUNTY'S newest industry believes its future success is tied to its current way of doing business, and it also believes in an environmentally friendly “green” outlook and a people-friendly approach to both its employees and the community in which it is located.

Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI), located along I-99 just north of Bedford, is a distribution center for REI products, including all types of outdoor gear, clothing and travel items. The Bedford center, which is a Bedford Rural Electric consumer, will improve delivery time for East Coast ecommerce customers and allow REI to replenish stock more quickly and efficiently in eastern region stores.

Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI), located along I-99 just north of Bedford, is a distribution center for REI products, including all types of outdoor gear, clothing and travel items. The Bedford center, which is a Bedford Rural Electric consumer, will improve delivery time for East Coast ecommerce customers and allow REI to replenish stock more quickly and efficiently in eastern region stores.

REI opened on Nov. 30, 2007, in a 525,000-square-foot building planned with the latest environmentally friendly outlook. There are special parking spaces for car-pooling and fuel-efficient vehicles. Lights, controlled by motion detectors, turn off when no one is in the area and electric lights burn on lower voltage on sunny days when skylights allow for natural light. There are no lights aimed toward the sky, which prevents night-time light pollution.

By 2020, if REI plans work out, the center will not be sending any items to the local landfill. Currently, all unus-

NATURE WALK: An outside shot of the REI building. A team of employees takes a walk around the building.

able cardboard boxes are baled and sent out to a recycling company (just 40 tons of cardboard pays for the baler). REI has 33 box sizes, allowing for postage savings. And, all boxes sent out are marked “Return to REI.” Retailers, at no cost to them, return the boxes to REI for recycling.

The firm’s focus on the environment started way back in the design phase.

“When we built this building, we always thought ‘green,’” says Tom Sydnor, REI support services manager. “We had our own concrete batch mix plant to keep trucks from tearing up the road and to save on fuel. We have facilities here to eventually have some solar supplemental heat.”

Along with REI’s intense interest in the environment is a focus on its employees and the community in which it is located.

By early February, the center was up to 173 employees, split nearly evenly between men and women. Ages range from 18 to 63, with about 20 percent being 25 to 45. The goal is to bring at least 300 jobs to Bedford County.

“We have found a lot of talent in this area,” Sydnor reports. “Out of the first 1,500 applicants, we would have gladly hired half of them if the need was there. We brought people in from

“When we built this building we always thought ‘green.’”

Tom Sydnor, Support Services Manager

across the country for interviews and to study the resumes and feel we got the best of the best!"

Listed by *Fortune* magazine as one of the top 10 employers in the United States, REI attempts in every way to provide a positive workplace culture. Health, life, disability and dental insurances are paid by REI at 100 percent for both full-time and part-time employees. There is a profit-sharing program for both employees and REI members. For a \$15 membership fee, participants get a return of the profits each year based on their purchases.

There is an on-site store where REI products are available to employees at discounted prices, and there is a workout room (with showers) that can be used before or after work. Computers are available to employees during lunch hours and breaks. The building itself is designed with the comfort

of the employees in mind. It allows as much natural light as possible into the building and sound levels are kept at a comfortable level.

Employer-sponsored activities and events are held throughout the year.

"We have been kayaking and white-watering in the short time we have been here," says Chris Joyce, director of operations. "And we encourage employees to come up with ideas for events."

Community-minded in every way, REI has sponsored a Habitat for Humanity house in Fishertown. Employees have picked up trash and cleared hiking and biking trails at Shawnee, Blue Knob and Tenley Park in Everett. A \$10,000 check was presented to Pennsylvania Forest and Parks Foundation to support Shawnee State Park; it will be used to purchase and plant red and white oak trees. A \$15,000 donation was given to the Mid State Trail Association to be used for trail work in Tenley Park. It will be used to match dollars for constructing a footbridge over Yellow Creek.

REI products are available in retail stores, online at REI.com and through catalogs. All catalog and online orders are filled through the Bedford warehouse. Started in 1938 by mountain-climbing buddies, REI has taken advantage of the global market, but manufactures as many products in the United States as possible. ☀



GET A GRIP: Mary Ann Troy, an REI employee, grabs the handle to open the door. The handles, manufactured by REI, are made of ice-climbing axes.



BREATHER: Ashley Means, Lee Nachtman and Michael Teeter smile on the job at REI.



OUTGOING: Wendy Smith, Denise Jackson and Carrie Deily work at the conveyor belt.



GREEN TEAM: The "Split to Store Team" uses the conveyor belt to divide merchandise that is shipped out to stores throughout much of the East Coast.

GEOTHERMAL COMFORT
Harnessing the Energy of the Earth...

\$250 per Ton Rebate Available "Geothermal Systems"

Geothermal systems offer a safe, renewable energy resource by transferring solar energy from the earth to your home. Open-loop geothermal heat pumps use supply and return water wells, while closed loops (either horizontal or vertical) use fluid-filled underground vertical, horizontal, slinky or pond piping to transfer geothermal energy. They produce up to 5 times more energy than they consume, resulting in unparalleled energy efficiency and reduced utility bills. Your family will enjoy comfortable, constant temperature, healthy, clean air all day and night, during both summer and winter, with no more blasts of hot or cold air. Plus, built-in humidity control will even make your basement recreation room luxuriously livable.

There are several different types of systems shown on the right. Each one designed specifically for different preferences or situations.

Why choose a Geothermal System?

1. Enjoy both heating and cooling
2. Warm, comfortable air flow from supply ducts
3. More economical than oil, gas, or propane systems
4. Long Life—average 20-25 year span
5. No unsightly outdoor unit to maintain
6. Environmentally friendly—no explosive fuels, flame, smoke, soot or other pollutants
7. Low maintenance—just clean the filter periodically
8. Increases resale value of home
9. Bedford Rural Electric offers a \$250 rebate per ton of capacity installed



Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
 "People You Can Count On" Phone: 623-5101
 www.bedfordrec.com



Contact Us At:

Phone number
814/623-5101

E-mail address
support@bedfordrec.com

Web site address
www.bedfordrec.com

Trading Post

SERVICE: Custom Poultry Butchering. Phone Gerald Mowry, Osterburg 276-3952.

FOR SALE: Fresh dressed chickens. Phone Gerald Mowry, Osterburg 276-3952.

WANTED: Local farmer looking for land to lease in Bedford County area. Phone 484/797-2670.

Emergency Power Needs

During outages, as a service to our members with special needs (specifically members who need continuous electricity for life support apparatus or farming operations), Bedford Rural Electric attempts to prioritize service restoration. If a special need exists, we need to be aware of the situation. Please provide the following details:

Reason: _____

Type of life support machine: _____

Doctor's name (please print): _____

Doctor's signature: _____

Name, address, and telephone number of the person Bedford REC may contact about this form, or in an emergency.

Unfortunately, service restoration may take several days, especially during severe storms. Therefore, we recommend that our members with special needs consider stand-by back-up 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 1-800-808-2732 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 ...

Troy Mock	Week of April 7	276-9759
Greg Miller	Week of April 14	839-0037
Al Hileman	Week of April 21	766-9971
Jim Seymour	Week of April 28	839-2848
Ed Hankinson	Week of May 5	733-2495
Scott Bischof	Week of May 12	839-4640

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, so you may receive a busy signal. Please be patient and try again in a few minutes.