
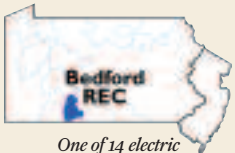


Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

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 Twps.

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Treasurer
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East Providence Twp., Bedford County, and Brush Creek Twp., Fulton County

Assistant Treasurer
William Howard Atkinson
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Napier and Harrison Twps.
John R. Koontz
Bedford and Cumberland Valley Twps.
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

Season's Greetings



Brooks Shoemaker
General Manager

Have you noticed the Christmas lights decorating the streets in Bedford and Everett? Beautiful, aren't they? They're always one of the first signs of the Christmas season, something that puts us in the Christmas spirit.

Bedford Rural Electric's linemen donate their time to make it all possible. They volunteer a weekday evening and a Sunday morning in November and January to put them up and take them down. It's a big sacrifice during a busy time of year, but it is also a prime example of one of the "Seven Cooperative Principles" that we model our business after — Concern for Community.

Thanks, guys!

Season's Greetings from all of us at Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

Board of Directors: Howard Atkinson Earl Garland
Wayne Hillegass Don Hoenstine Bob Koontz John Koontz
Reuben Lafferty Ned McDonald Owen Miller

Employees: Dave Allison Scott Bischof Corinna Browell Jim Clark
Adam Claycomb Barb Duvall Kathy Gates Ed Hankinson Al Hileman
John Karns Brent Kauffman Gary Lafferty Sara Mellott Tim Mellott
Wade Mellott Greg Miller Kathy Miller Troy Mock Dawn Mowery
Mary Perdew Mark Rowan Jim Seymour Brooks Shoemaker
Timothy Shook Christie Weaverling Cindy Wise Jim Wood

Office Closing

Bedford REC's office will be closed in observance of

Christmas Day – Dec. 25
New Year's Day – Jan. 1

Goat milk is for more than drinking

BY LINDA WILLIAMS

LIVING IN Newville, Pa., Dessie and Derrick Carpenter began to feel as though the world was crowding in around them, so they began looking for a new place to call home. They fell in love with Bedford County at first sight and soon moved to New Paris.

Dessie and Derrick's families love to visit Bedford County, and Dessie has found this is true of numerous people.

"I talked to a lot of people who were just visiting the area," she says. "Some came from the Springs, others were visiting the Village or just enjoying the rural atmosphere."

While Dessie had never lived on a farm, her husband was a 4-H member



MINDING THE STORE: Dessie shows off her booth as part of the farmers market.

who had raised sheep, goats and calves.

"I instantly loved the goats," Dessie says.

It didn't take long for the Carpen-

ters to have a small herd of goats and then wonder what to do with all of the milk. A computer whiz who also designs websites, Dessie researched products made from goat's milk.



LOTION LOCOMOTION: Dessie makes her own baskets to package her goat lotion materials.

“I did a full year of studying on the computer finding various recipes for using goat milk,” adds this hard-working gal.



CARPENTER GOAT: The Carpenters raise the goats that provide the milk for their line of skin-care products

She discovered people have been using goat’s milk for skin-care products throughout history. In fact, Cleopatra is said to have bathed in tubs full of goat’s milk to keep her skin beautiful.

Goat’s milk is the closest liquid to human milk, but it also contains caprylic acid, which helps to reduce the alkalinity of soap, making it a good skin-care product. The low pH helps to maintain the slightly acidic mantle that healthy skin generates naturally to protect against bacterial invasion. Allergies to goat’s milk soap are extremely rare.

More than anything, Dessie wanted to create a water-free, skin-care product.

“It is well known that water dries out your skin,” she says. “Next time you purchase a soap or lotion, look at the ingredient list. With most, the first ingredient is water.”

It took a lot of practice and patience to get the products just the way the couple wanted them. Once they had the recipe, they could add various fragrances. For a few years, all of their friends and relatives received their goat milk experiments for Christmas or other gifts.

“And, they loved them,” Dessie points out.

The Carpenters began their business in 2003, but it did not really take off until they moved to Bedford County. Working together many long hours, the couple has developed various lines of soaps, lotions, milk baths, bath fizzies, body sprays and natural lip balms. They are working to develop liquid hand soaps, body washes and shampoos.

Fragrances offered in goat milk products include: unscented, herbal essence, warm vanilla sugar, pink grapefruit, sage and lemon grass, and oatmeal milk and honey.

Derrick is employed at the Farm Bureau in Curryville, but gives many of his evening hours to the goat milk business. He helps at craft fairs when his schedule permits.


For the first time this year, Dessie set up a booth at the Bedford Farmers Market and found it to be a success.

“I got a lot of repeat customers,” she says, “especially with my foot-care products.” Her peppermint foot cream was an especially hot item.

In addition to the soaps and lotions, Dessie, a graduate of Art Institute in Pittsburgh, has created her own packaging labels. She weaves baskets and can package some of her products gift ready.

Homewood in Martinsburg provided another farmers market outlet and holiday craft fairs are her favorite. One of her most profitable is the event held at the old Replogle Elementary School in New Enterprise near the holidays. This year, she plans to try some of the events for elementary students to aid in purchasing holiday gifts for family.

Another venture is fundraisers for charity and community organizations.

Persons wishing to purchase gift baskets for the holidays could contact Dessie and Derrick at 839-4579 or visit their website at www.dndfarms.com 

DONATIONS FOR LOCAL FOOD BANKS

Bedford Rural Electric directors and employees are asking the members to join in and make donations to area food banks.



Those wishing to donate items should bring them to the Bedford Rural Electric office on Lincoln Highway before Dec. 22.

Items needed include canned goods, paper products, soap, hygiene-related items, and food products such as noodles, cake mixes, spaghetti or boxed foods of any kind. The items will be donated to local food banks throughout the county.

Your help and kindness will be appreciated during this holiday season.

All persons making a donation will have their names entered for a \$25 gift certificate toward their electric bill.

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: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

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 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 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 ...

John Karns	Week of December 8	977-5109
Troy Mock	Week of December 15	276-9759
Greg Miller	Week of December 22	839-0037
Al Hileman	Week of December 29	766-9971
Jim Seymour	Week of January 5	839-2848
Ed Hankinson	Week of January 12	733-2495

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.

Holiday gift certificates available

Make your gift giving easy this Christmas by purchasing an electricity gift certificate. The gift of electricity would be welcomed by anyone. If you would like to present a relative or fellow member with a gift certificate, just fill out the coupon below and return with payment enclosed to Bedford Rural Electric Co-op. We can send the certificate to you or if you wish to remain anonymous, we can send the acknowledgement to the member. If you have any questions, please call our office at 814/623-5101.



To: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

I would like to purchase a \$ _____ gift of electricity to be credited to the account of the above person(s).

From: _____

I wish to remain anonymous

Phone No.: _____ (If we have any questions)

Please remember to enclose payment.

Mail To: Bedford Rural Electric Co-op

P. O. Box 335

Bedford, PA 15522