

Warren Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Warren Electric Cooperative

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 Software Engineer*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dave Turner
Chairman

James Marshall
Vice Chairman
Robert August
Secretary
Jeffrey Sedon
Treasurer

Edgar Burris Jr.
James Goodrich
John Hagberg
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Emergency Outage Number
 814-723-9460

Office Hours
 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

From the General Manager/CEO

Storms and trees

By Gary W. Franklin

CAN you see our electric pole? A 15-foot right-of-way may seem like enough, except during storms.

Trees make this area an aesthetically pleasing place to live, but they are also the main cause of outages. The cooperative maintains a 15-foot right-of-way on each side of the electric line.

Trees in this area average more than 60 feet tall. When strong winds, snow and ice storms move through the area, trees will come in contact with the electric lines and cause blinks or outages. We are now spending over \$800,000 a year on right-of-way cutting. Our right-of-way clearing program is projected to get around the system every five years to trim and cut trees away from the line.

On Aug. 11, heavy rain and high winds hit our areas. Over 3,000 members lost power, mainly because of trees. This weather continued for the next several days, causing more outages. Our crews worked throughout the storm restoring power and cutting downed trees like this one with our lineman standing under it. Also during this weather, Penelec had four of our areas out because of problems on their electric lines that serve our substations.



Monthly brain teaser

A fellow encountered a bear in a wasteland. There was nobody else there. Both were frightened and ran away. Fellow to the north, bear to the west. Suddenly the fellow stopped, aimed his gun to the south and shot the bear. What color was the bear?

(The answer is on this page somewhere.)

“Co-ops Vote” is a nonpartisan project of America’s electric cooperatives designed to inform members of the



key issues facing electric co-ops and encourage them to vote and support their co-ops and the

communities they serve when they go to the polls. We do not endorse or recommend any candidates for election. Go to www.vote.coops for more information.

Backup generation safety

If you use a standby generator, the National Electric Safety Code requires you to have a manual or automatic disconnect/transfer switch that disconnects the generator from the main pow-



er line. If the *white* generator is not disconnected from the main power line, it will backfeed power into the electric lines causing a very dangerous situation for both our linemen and for the member. ⚡

Don't be fooled by common energy myths

By Abby Berry

EATING carrots will greatly improve your eyesight, cracking your knuckles leads to arthritis and watching too much TV will harm your vision. We've all heard the old wives' tales, but did you know there are also many misconceptions about home energy use? Don't be fooled by common energy myths.

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 HVAC system to heat or cool to a certain temperature. Drastically adjusting the thermostat setting will not make a difference in how quickly you feel warmer. The same is true for cooling. The Department of Energy recommends setting your thermostat to 78 degrees during summer months, and 68 degrees during winter months.

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 that dish you're cooking in the oven, 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 dish and, more importantly, costing you additional money. If you need to check the progress of a dish, try using the oven light instead.

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

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

Myth: Reducing my energy use is too expensive.

Many consumers believe that reducing energy use requires expensive up-front costs, like purchasing new, more efficient appliances or construction 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. Learn more about ways to save energy by visiting http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2013/06/f2/energy_savers.pdf. 



Cooking Efficiency Tip

Every time you open the oven door to check on a dish, the temperature inside is reduced by as much as 25 degrees, increasing cooking time - and energy use! Try using the oven light instead.

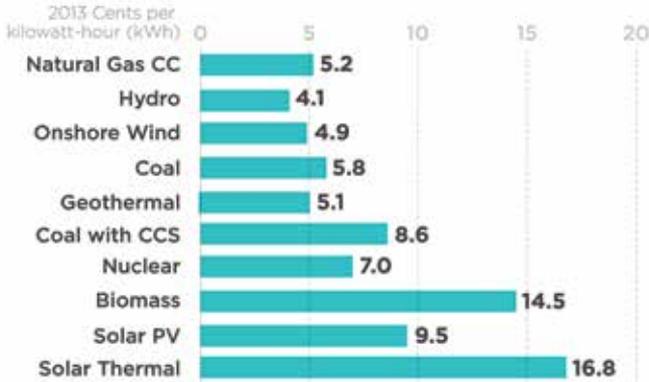


AMERICA'S ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVES

Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

THE COST OF NEW GENERATION

The cost to build new power plants can vary widely. Each type of generation carries a ballpark price tag. The costs shown below, based on each kilowatt-hour produced, take into account plant construction, fuel, operating and maintenance costs, operating performance assumptions, expected operating life, and general tax and financing assumptions.



NOTE: Wind and solar generation are not directly comparable to other technologies because their power production varies based on weather conditions. These costs also do not reflect tax incentives or grid integration costs.

Source: Estimates developed by NRECA using U.S. Energy Information Administration data from 2015.



OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH



The ELECTRIC CO-OP CONNECTION

Discover the meaning of membership!

ALERT TODAY, ALIVE TOMORROW: HEADS UP FOR FARM SAFETY



Stay safe around downed power lines. Consider all lines, equipment and conductors to be live and dangerous.

If you must exit the machinery...

If you can safely drive away...

40 ft. radius safe distance

If you are inside farm machinery that makes contact with a downed power line, know what to do!

If you can drive safely away from the power source without bringing down the utility pole and lines, travel at least 40 ft. before exiting.

If you are unable to drive the machinery due to injury, obstacles or it is inoperable, do NOT exit. Call for help and warn anyone nearby NOT to approach.

If the vehicle is on fire, or you must exit for other safety reasons, follow these steps:

1. Jump clear of the vehicle. Do not let any part of your body or clothes touch the ground and the machinery at the same time.
2. Land with feet together and hop away in small steps to minimize the path of electric current and avoid electric shock.
3. Keep going until you are at least 40 ft. away.
4. Call for help. Make sure no one gets within 40 ft. of the downed line.
5. Do not re-enter the area or vehicle until emergency responders and your electric co-op crews determine it is safe.

ENERGY VAMPIRES ARE LURKING IN YOUR HOME



Save energy in your home by locating energy vampires!
These are the electronics and appliances that consume energy even when they are not being used. *Circle the energy vampires below, and use the key to check your answers.*



OVEN



CELL PHONE CHARGER



CABLE/SET TOP BOX



LAPTOP CHARGER



DISHWASHER



LAMP



Answer Key:
Cell phone charger, Cable box, Laptop charger, Lamp