

Warren Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Warren Electric Cooperative

320 East Main Street
Youngsville, PA 16371
814-563-7548
OR
1-800-364-8640
FAX
814-563-7012

Email: wec@westpa.net
Website: www.warrenec.coop

Staff

Gary W. Franklin,
General Manager/CEO
Gwf.wec@westpa.net

Todd M. McClain,
Data Processing/Finance/Administration

Steve C. Sampson,
Line Superintendent

Christopher N. Evans,
*Engineering & Operations Manager/
Right-of-Way*

Alan D. Fuller,
*Load Management/Special Projects/
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
Richard Harrington
Dean Johnson

Emergency Outage Number
814-723-9460

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

From the General Manager/CEO

To call or not to call?

By Gary W. Franklin

IF YOU do not have electricity, you must call the office during normal working hours and the outage emergency number after hours to report the outage. The cooperative does not know you do not have power unless you call in to report it. Some members assume we know they do not have power or they assume someone else called to report the outage.

PLEASE, call in all outages. Do not assume someone else called. We welcome all calls on outages. During the initial minutes of the outage, you will probably get a busy signal. When several hundred members are all trying to call at the same time, it will tie up the phone lines. Just wait and be patient. Try again in 15 or 20 minutes. But please call in to report the outage.

There are two ways to contact the answering service to report an outage. After hours, you can call 814-723-9460, or if you have a touch-tone phone, you can call 814-563-7548 or 1-800-364-8640 and follow the instructions for reporting an outage. Be sure to have your account number handy.

Monthly brain teaser

Which word if pronounced right is wrong?

But if pronounced wrong is right?
(The answer is on this page somewhere.)

Office happenings

The cooperative welcomed 41 new members in June, bringing our membership to 7,637 and total connected accounts to 8,739.

Safety

Please remember when working

outside with ladders and long-handled tools to look up and watch out for electric lines. Never trim limbs or remove trees around electric lines.

Energy conservation

Now is the time to check and replace your furnace filter and have your heating system cleaned, inspected, and tuned by a qualified service professional. Cold weather is just around the corner.

South for the winter?

It's early, but time is flying by. If you are planning to leave for warmer climates for the winter months, please call the office and make arrangements with JoAnn for your electric bill and meter readings.

Electric line safety video

The cooperative has a safety video on CD available for schools, fire departments, first responders, townships, etc. There is no cost for the CD; simply contact the co-op for your copy.

For your information

Just a reminder! *Penn Lines* is a magazine for and about the members of Warren Electric Cooperative. If you have interesting stories, businesses you want featured, or have ideas for *Penn Lines* articles, just call or drop me a note. We also have a local cooperative "Commercial Highlites" section on our web page where we will feature your business. Please call or email. wrong@wec.com

A little bit of humor?

Doubt not your wife's wisdom,
look who she married! 

Stay focused on safety during harvest

DURING harvest season, many farmers reap the benefits of advancement in agricultural technology. With the help of GPS auto-steer devices, farmers are able to decrease driver error and maximize productivity. Yet despite these advances, safety risks remain. To help farmers stay out of harm's way, Safe Electricity shares tips for a safe harvest.

GPS with auto-guidance provides farmers with real-time location data about a field, which can be used for crop planning, map making, navigation assistance and machinery guidance. During harvest, this technology allows drivers to have their hands off the steering wheel as the combine maneuvers itself through the field. Thanks to this technology, farmers can more easily and efficiently maintain accuracy even during low-light conditions, which enhances productivity.

"One critical part of safety around electricity is awareness," explains Kyla

Kruse, communications director of the Safe Electricity program. "It's important to remember that farm machinery is vulnerable to hitting power lines because of its large size, height and extensions. Being aware of the location of overhead power lines and planning a safe equipment route can help reduce accidents."

In equipment with auto-guidance systems, less focus is needed on steering, which may lead some drivers to think that they do not need to be as aware of navigation issues. However, even while using a GPS with auto-steering, farm workers need to keep safety in mind and stay focused on their surroundings.

Putting safety first requires alertness, focus and knowledge of potential hazards and safety steps. Varying pass-to-pass accuracy levels and potential issues, such as power poles not being correctly plotted in the system, reinforce the need for drivers to stay

focused on the location of the farm equipment while in the field and to be ready to take action if necessary.

Regardless of the technology used on the farm, keep the following electrical safety guidelines in mind:

- ▶ Use a spotter when operating large machinery near power lines.
- ▶ Keep equipment at least 10 feet from power lines — at all times, in all directions.
- ▶ Look up and use care when moving any equipment, such as extending augers, or raising the bed of grain trucks around power lines.
- ▶ Inspect the height of farm equipment to determine clearance.
- ▶ Always set extensions to the lowest setting when moving loads to prevent contact with overhead power lines. Grain augers should always be positioned horizontally before being moved.
- ▶ Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.
- ▶ If a power line is sagging or low, contact Warren Electric Cooperative.

If your equipment does make contact with a power line, do not leave the cab. Immediately call 911, warn others to stay away and wait for the utility crew to cut the power.

The only reason to exit equipment that has come into contact with overhead lines is if the equipment is on fire, which is rare. However, if this is the case, jump off the equipment with your feet together and without touching the ground and machinery at the same time. Then, still keeping your feet together, hop to safety as you leave the area.

For more information on electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.

The Energy Education Council is a non-profit membership organization providing consumer safety and energy efficiency materials to more than 400 co-ops.



Electrical safety lessons for kids

By Meghaan Evans

WE ALL know electricity plays a major role in our everyday lives, and it is a powerful resource that should be respected. Unfortunately, our children often do not understand the dangers of electricity. At Warren Electric Cooperative, we encourage you to share electrical safety tips and lessons with your little ones as often as possible. We also understand their attention spans run short, so here are a few creative ways to get them involved.

Depending on the age of your child, consider designating an “electronics deputy.” The deputy should be responsible for pointing out electronics in your home that are not in use and keeping appliances safe from liquids. Reward your deputy for pointing out overloaded outlets or other potentially dangerous situations.

Emphasize the importance of fire prevention with your children, and create a family fire drill plan as an extra precaution. Incentivize your children by rewarding those who followed the plan and made it safely out of the home.

While it is fun and engaging to turn safety into a game, it is important to ensure your children understand the risks they are facing if they do not practice electrical safety.

One of the most important safety tips you can give your kids is to avoid any downed power lines. In fact, it is best to avoid power lines, transformers and substations in general. A downed power line can still be energized, and it can also energize other objects, including fences and trees. Make sure your kids understand the potential dangers of coming in contact with a downed power line or low hanging wire. And, if they encounter a downed power line, ask them to tell you or another adult to call Warren Electric Cooperative.

Here are a few other safety tips you can share with your kids:

- ▶ Never put metal objects in outlets or appliances.
- ▶ Do not overcrowd electrical outlets.
- ▶ Never mix water and electricity.

No matter how you choose to get your kids interested in staying safe around electricity, Warren Electric Cooperative is here to help. To learn more about electrical safety, visit www.warrenec.coop 

Meghaan Evans 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.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Use small electric pans, toaster ovens or convection ovens for small meals rather than your stove or oven. A toaster or convection oven uses one-third to one-half as much energy as a full-sized oven.

Source: energy.gov

How to Clean Up a Broken Compact Fluorescent Lightbulb (CFL)



A CFL's glass tubing contains about 4 milligrams of mercury. While this isn't much (classic thermometers contained 500 milligrams) consumers should still take precautions if a CFL breaks.

-  Ventilate the room, then wait 5 to 10 minutes. 
-  Scoop up powder and glass fragments using stiff paper or cardboard. Seal in a plastic bag. 
-  Use duct tape to pick up any fragments or powder.
-  Immediately place all materials used to clean up and the plastic bag in an outdoor trash container. Remember to wash your hands. 
-  Not all recycling centers accept broken CFLs. Check with your local and/or state waste authority for disposal requirements, or visit Earth911.com.

To learn more visit epa.gov/cflcleanup. 

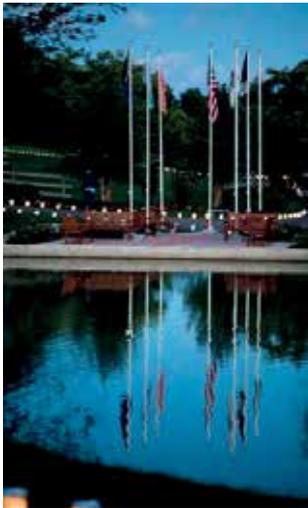
Source: Electrical Safety Foundation, Environmental Protection Agency

The 2016 Warren County September 11 Project

Sponsored by Warren County United Veterans Council, Warren County Emergency Service Organizations & Warren County Memorial Park



Refreshments following each service.



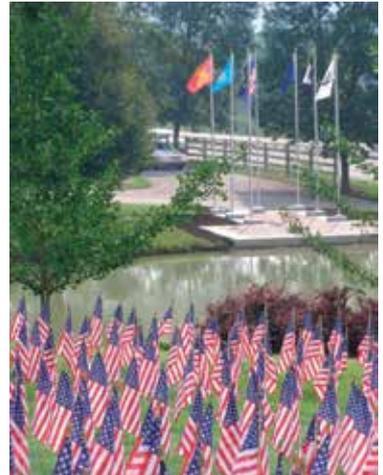
11th Annual MEMORIAL FIELD OF 3,000 FLAGS

To be placed at 9 a.m.

Sat., Aug. 27

(Join us for cocoa/coffee & donuts, help assemble the field!)

Includes 300-Flag Tribute to PA troops killed in action



Seating available — or bring a lawn chair!

9/11 MEMORIAL SERVICE Sunday, Sept. 11 2 p.m.

- *Remember the Tragedy
- *Honor Area First Responders
- *Honor U.S. Armed Forces
- *Remember Fallen Heroes



***Lighted* On-Site PARKING**
with Shuttle Service
& **Food Booth**
beginning at 4:30 p.m.

~ **Memorial Bike Run** ~
departing from
Warren Mall
at 1p.m. led by
Patriot Guard Riders
"Ride to Remember"

Your participation is encouraged and greatly appreciated!

All events and activities will take place at

Warren County Memorial Park

20050 Route 6, Warren (Route 6/62 1/2 mile west of Warren)

Call 723-1540 for more information