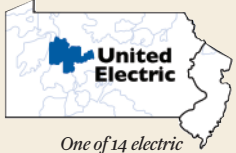




United Electric Cooperative, Inc.



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

United Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Post Office Box 688
DuBois, PA 15801-0688
Customer Service: 888/581-8969
www.unitedpa.com
Outage: 800/262-8959

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Stephen A. Marshall, District 5
1030 Donahue Rd.
Luthersburg, Pa. 15848
814/583-7320

Vice Chairman

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5059 Hamilton Markton Rd.
Punxsutawney, Pa. 15767
814/938-7991

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505 Trout Run Rd.
Shawville, Pa. 16873
814/765-6458

DIRECTORS

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502 Pine Run Rd.
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814/365-5646

Eileen Pisaneschi, District 2
1964 River Hill Rd.
Frenchville, Pa. 16836
814/263-4491

Richard Petrosky, District 3
P.O. Box 612
DuBois, Pa. 15801
814/371-8672

David W. Walker, District 4
631 Olanta Rd.
Olanta, Pa. 16863
814/236-3321

CONSUMER ADVOCATE

Paula Pascuzzo, ext. 8501
Richard Heverley, Editor

FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Co-op power: reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible



Brenda Swartzlander
President & CEO

AT UNITED Electric Cooperative, we have three top priorities: provide you safe, reliable electricity; offer that service as affordably as possible; and do both of those things in a fiscally and environmentally responsible fashion.

Because United is a not-for-profit cooperative, which means your money

stays local, we don't have to worry about distant shareholders. We are well-positioned to make the necessary decisions to ensure safe, reliable and affordable electricity our members. However, fulfilling our commitment to meet environmental concerns in a fiscally responsible manner has become more challenging. Today, many environmental laws that were adopted by Congress decades ago are being used by federal agencies and the courts to address issues for which they were never intended.

For example, the federal Clean Air Act is now 40 years old and was last amended in 1990 — more than two decades ago. Much has changed in the intervening years, including technology, our understanding of the environment and the electric utility industry.

Today, officials with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) — often under court order — are trying to modify the Clean Air Act to fit new circumstances. Without a doubt, new EPA rules being issued will wind up back in the courts — and lengthy litigation will ensue.

Although United Electric and our fellow Pennsylvania cooperatives receive the bulk of our power from hydro and nuclear sources, we are not totally immune from increasing costs due to more stringent regulation of fossil fuel (coal, oil and gas) generation. According to a report from the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, which oversees the nation's bulk power grid, EPA mandates affecting cooling water intake structures, coal ash disposal, interstate transport of pollutants, and hazardous air pollutants, including mercury, could force electric utilities to retire or retrofit between 33,000 megawatts to 70,000 megawatts of generating capacity by 2015 — power that will need to be replaced in some way during a period of rising construction costs.

Although I think we can all agree we all have to do our part to address environmental issues that can affect us both now and into the future, I think we can also agree it has to be done in a reasonable and affordable manner. People can and will disagree over how to find a balance between protecting the environment, guaranteeing a reliable supply of power, and keeping electric bills affordable. Congress will eventually have to revisit the Clean Air Act and update it to fit the needs of the 21st century. In the meantime, United Electric will keep you updated on our efforts to encourage lawmakers and regulators to strike the proper balance on these environmental concerns while bearing in mind that the cost to electric consumers must be a part of the conversation. ♻️

Celebrate cooperatives by knowing the facts -

2012 IS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF COOPERATIVES

From eggs and milk to the electricity that powers your home, cooperatives play a big role in your everyday life. And this year, everyone in the United States will get to know co-ops a little better.

The U.S. Senate unanimously passed a resolution designating 2012 as the International Year of Cooperatives. The measure – building off similar action by the United Nations General Assembly – recognizes the vital role cooperatives play in the economic and social well-being of the United States.

FOLLOWING ARE SOME FUN FACTS ABOUT CO-OPS:

- In the United States, the nation's 900-plus electric co-ops:
 - ▶ Serve about 42 million people in 47 states – that's 18 million businesses, homes, schools, churches, farms, irrigation systems and other establishments in 2,500 of 3,141 counties.
 - ▶ Employ 70,000 people.
 - ▶ Retire more than \$500 million in capital credits annually.
 - ▶ Own assets worth \$130 billion.
 - ▶ Own and maintain 2.5 million miles (42 percent) of the nation's electric distribution lines, covering three-quarters of the nation's land mass.

AROUND THE WORLD, CO-OPS:

- ▶ Boast nearly 1 billion members in more than 90 countries.
- ▶ Account for 80 to 99 percent of milk production in New Zealand, Norway and the United States.
- ▶ Generate 100 million jobs.
- ▶ Are represented by close to half of all residents of Finland and Singapore; 33 percent in Canada, Honduras, New Zealand, and Norway; and 25 percent in Germany, Malaysia, and the United States.
- ▶ Under the umbrella of the World Council of Credit Unions, serve 177 million members in 96 countries through 49,000 credit unions.

To learn more about cooperatives, visit www.go.coop.

Energy assistance may be available to you

Many area residents are eligible for assistance with their energy costs. There are programs available through county agencies that can help low-income residents through these cold winter months.

One such program is the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). LIHEAP helps low-income families pay their heating bills through grants that do not have to be repaid. The Cash Grant program pays eligible families' heating costs directly to their utility company. Crisis Grants are also available to residents who may have exhausted their Cash Grant amount. LIHEAP recommends you call your local county assistance office if you have a heating emergency. You can make an

application for LIHEAP assistance online at www.compass.state.pa.us or by calling a hotline at 866/857-7095. Or you can call or visit the county assistance office to obtain an application.

United Electric has established the Members United program, which is also administered through the local county agencies to assist only United Electric members who may be experiencing problems paying their energy bills. This program is funded by United members who have donated funds or signed up for our Round-Up program to help fellow members in need of assistance.

Below is a list of the county agencies you can contact for more information on programs that may be available to help:

CLEARFIELD COUNTY:	LIHEAP	800/862-8941
Members United — Administered by Community Action		
Clearfield	814/765-1551	
Houtzdale	814/378-5120	
Philipsburg	814/342-0404	
Salvation Army — Clearfield	814/765-4981	
Salvation Army — DuBois	814/371-5320	
Good Samaritan Center	814/765-6880	
Clearfield Ministerium	814/765-6880	
JEFFERSON COUNTY:	LIHEAP	800/242-8214
Members United — Administered by Salvation Army		
Community Action	814/938-3302	814/938-5530
ELK, CAMERON, MCKEAN, POTTER COUNTIES:	LIHEAP	800/847-0257
CAPSEA	814/772-3838	
CLARION COUNTY:	LIHEAP	800/253-3488
Salvation Army	814/221-0796	
CAMBRIA COUNTY:	LIHEAP	814/553-2253
Catholic Social Services	814/535-6538	
St. Vincent De Paul	814/535-8521	
FORREST, WARREN COUNTIES:	LIHEAP	814/723-6330

Use your space heater safely

Many people turn to space heaters — both electric models and those powered by kerosene or even wood — as a convenient source of warmth in winter months. However, space heaters can be dangerous if not used properly.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) estimates that more than 25,000 residential fires every year are associated with space heaters. More than 300 people die in these fires. In addition, an estimated 6,000 people annually receive hospital emergency care for burn injuries connected with space heaters.

Space heater hazards stem not just from fires caused by contact with or close proximity to heating elements. They also include fires started by flammable fuels used in the heaters; defective wiring in the appliance; and carbon monoxide poisoning caused by improper venting or an incomplete combustion of fuels.

Here are some tips for using your electric space heater safely:

- ▶ Keep the heater at least 3 feet from flammable items such as curtains, furniture or bedsprings.
- ▶ Select a space heater with a guard around the heating element.
- ▶ When buying a heater, choose one that has been tested and certified by a nationally recognized testing institution such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).



- ▶ Buy a heater that can handle the area you want to heat.
- ▶ Read and follow the manufacturer's operating instructions.
- ▶ Keep children and pets away from space heaters.
- ▶ Never leave a space heater unattended.
- ▶ Never go to sleep with a space heater on.
- ▶ Never use or store flammable liquids near a space heater.
- ▶ Do not use a heater in a bathroom — it's a high-moisture area that could cause damage. It is recommended that you install permanent heaters designed for bathroom areas.
- ▶ Keep heaters away from water to prevent electrocution.
- ▶ Do not use an extension cord with a

space heater.

- ▶ Do not use the heater to dry clothes.
- ▶ Be sure the heater's plug fits snugly in an outlet. The cord and plug may feel warm when operating since the unit draws so much power, but they should not feel hot. If they do, unplug the heater and have a qualified repair person check for problems.
- ▶ Do not attempt to repair a broken heater yourself. It should be checked and repaired by a qualified appliance service center. ☀

Source: *The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)*

2012 Youth Tour

ATTENTION — High school juniors

It's time to start planning for the 2012 Youth Tour. This is an educational, all-expense-paid excursion that draws nearly 1,500 rural high school juniors from across the country to Washington, D.C., for sightseeing, education and fun in the nation's capital. The 2012 Youth Tour will be held the week of June 17-22. Interested high school juniors may call United Electric Cooperative at 888/581-8969, extension 8507, for more information and an application.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Switch to energy-saving halogen incandescent lightbulbs to cut lighting energy use by 25 percent. These bulbs last three times longer than traditional incandescent bulbs and can easily be dimmed. Want to save more? Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and light-emitting diodes (LEDs) cut lighting energy use by at least 75 percent. Learn more at energysavers.gov.

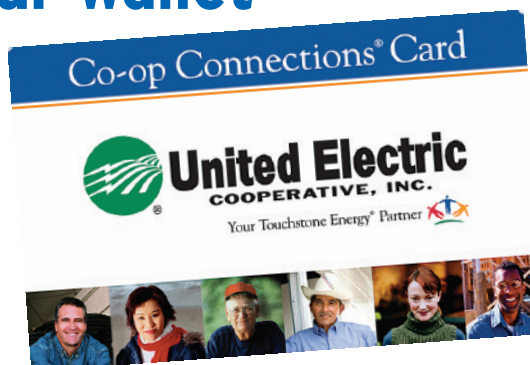
Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Co-op Connections card is like money in your wallet

Your Co-op Connections card provides value to United Electric members and our community, especially during these tough economic times. The card connects you with discounts on everything from hotel stays to prescription drugs, HVAC maintenance, furniture, a day on the golf course, and even on your favorite subs and pizza. By simply going to our website at www.unitedpa.com and clicking on the Co-op Connections card link, you will have access to all the special deals available just for being a United Electric member.

Thanks to the local area businesses participating in the Co-op Connections card program, you can save on those things you buy every day. We encourage you to frequent these establishments that have decided to provide special savings to United Electric members. (See the listing below.)

The next time you are out shopping, or maybe just looking for a convenient meal for your family, look for the Co-op Connections card sticker on the window. It's your key to savings.



Be prepared for storms

Predicting the weather can be difficult, but being prepared for it is easy. It is that time of year again when we all need to be prepared for the chance of unavoidable power outages that can accompany storms and high winds. Here are some readiness tips:



- ▶ Prepare an outage kit that contains a battery-powered radio, fresh batteries, a flashlight, candles, matches, and a battery-operated or wind-up clock.
- ▶ Listen to weather forecasts every day so you'll know when high winds, lightning, or heavy snow or ice are on the way. That kind of severe weather is most likely to affect power lines.
- ▶ Keep a stock of canned food in your cupboard, along with a manual can opener. Consider buying a camp stove fuel that you can use (outdoors only, please) if you can't cook on your electric stove. Also stock up on bottled water, and paper plates and plastic utensils.
- ▶ Keep United Electric Cooperative's outage report phone number — 800/262-8959 — on your refrigerator so it will be handy if you must report an outage.
- ▶ Pile a few extra blankets and sweaters together so you can find them easily if the heat goes off. Dress in layers to stay warm.
- ▶ Teach everyone, especially children, to stay away from fallen or sagging power lines. They could be energized and dangerous, even if the power in your home is out. NEVER ASSUME A LINE IS DE-ENERGIZED!

Our hope is that the weather will spare us and we won't have any outages this winter, but just in case, United Electric is prepared to respond to outages as quickly as possible. We all know winter in Pennsylvania can bring severe weather conditions and it is good to be prepared for whatever Mother Nature sends our way. ☀

Co-op Connections local participating businesses

Fezell's Shop N Save, Galbraith's Furniture, Gary & Sons Inc., Arrowhead Restaurant, Audio Video Appliance Center LLC, Cooper Tire & Auto, Dutch Pantry Restaurant, Eagles Ridge Golf Club, Coolsprings Sand & Gravel Co. Inc., Cooper Farm Market & Greenhouse, Travelab Service, Merle Norman Boutique, Scotto's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant, Shiloh Resort & Mama Doe's Restaurant, Sid's Super Submarines, Wood Creations Pa, LLC, Victorian Loft Bed & Breakfast – Cedarwood Lodge, The Forest Nook, Baker Pizza & Subs, Cook Riverside Cabins Inc., Minns Gas

Check out the full details of discounts from these businesses and many more at: www.unitedpa.com

Prescription savings add up big for United Electric members

Since United Electric first started distributing the Co-op Connections card, our members have already saved over \$40,000 on prescriptions alone. United members have used their Co-op Connections card to fill 2,533 prescriptions at 27 area pharmacies (most area pharmacies participate in this program), saving about 33 percent off what they would have normally paid for these prescriptions. The prescription discount is just one of the many discounts available to United Electric members with your Co-op Connections card. Check for a pharmacy near you and the other savings available at: www.unitedpa.com.

