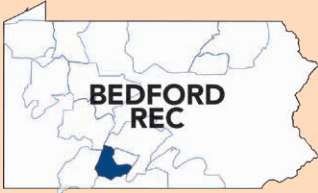


Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

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

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Attorney

James R. Cascio

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

We are Here to Serve You



WE'VE ALL HEARD THIS PHRASE countless times — “We are here to serve you.” These words may sound generic, but they mean everything to us. That is why we exist.

We were created to serve the community. Back in the 1930s, neighbors banded together and formed our co-op for the common good. In our case, it was the only way the community could bring electricity to the rural areas of Bedford County. In doing so, Bedford Rural Electric

Cooperative helped the community thrive. That mission-focused heritage is the golden thread that is woven throughout our history.

Today, we are continuing to power the community. While our focus has remained steady on providing reliable energy to our members, today's energy landscape and consumer expectations are far different than they were decades ago. That's why we are continually adapting, keeping pace with changing technology and meeting evolving needs and new expectations.

Serving as your trusted energy adviser means we want to help you save energy (and money) and provide advice and information on a broad range of energy topics. We help members save money by providing energy-saving tips and ideas to increase the overall efficiency of your home. By helping members better understand their home's energy consumption patterns, you can determine the best ways to modify energy use and thereby keep more money in your wallet.

If you're considering a rooftop solar installation, our team would be happy to give you an unbiased view of the pros and cons. Investing in a solar system is a major decision, and it's important to fully understand the costs, responsibilities and potential energy savings. Unlike a solar company that has one objective — to sell their products and services — we will look at the total energy picture and help you determine the best options for your home. We encourage homeowners to perform their due diligence before committing to a purchase. As always, we are here to help you through that process.

In a similar vein, we recognize folks are considering electric vehicle (EV) options. We are prepared to help members make educated choices about EV charging and the electrical implications and costs that may be associated with choosing a charger. Assessing all of these options before you buy an EV is the most effective avenue to long-term satisfaction.

So, the next time you hear the cooperative use the phrase “we're here to serve you,” we hope you know we mean it. Service is deeply ingrained into who we are. We continue to evolve with the times, and in return, we've found additional ways to serve you and provide more options for you to power your life.

Energy-saving projects for the weekend warrior

Here are three energy-saving projects you can easily tackle whether you're a weekend warrior pro or a DIY dabbler.

1. Get smart about cooling and heating your home because that accounts for a large portion of your energy bill. Smart thermostats can help keep your cooling and heating costs in check, with Energy Star®-certified models saving about 8% on annual energy costs and costing as little as \$70.

Continued on page 18D

Big Rigs, Big Hearts, Big Dreams: Local Family Forms Non-Profit to Help the Community

JENNA REFFNER

LISA AND BARRY JAY AND their two daughters, Lacy Decker and Marcy Smith, have been a part of a trucking family for more than 40 years. When deciding to form their own non-profit, they wanted to do something to celebrate truckers and give back to their community.

On Aug. 26, the Bedford County Convoy of Diesel Dreams will take place at the Bedford County Fairgrounds. A lot of planning goes into making this event happen. First, they had to start with forming their own non-profit organization. One of the biggest challenges has been going through the steps to be recognized as such.

"Another challenge has been bringing community awareness to our organization and our goals," Lisa says. "Our reward is seeing our drivers and sponsors all joining

together for our community."

Having their own non-profit organization gives them control over where the funds go and who they can help.

"Donations collected will be given to support our veterans, the 13 Bedford County fire companies and two scholarships," Lacy says. "We want to offer support to the individuals and organizations in our community."

The scholarships are open to students in Bedford, Blair, Somerset, and Fulton counties to help them with the rising cost of tuition, plus living and traveling expenses. The deadline to submit scholarship applications is July 21. All information can be found on their Facebook page, "Bedford County Convoy of Diesel Dreams."

There are big plans for the day of the convoy.

"Convoy day is filled with big hearts and shiny trucks," Lisa says. "We will have music, food, a basket raffle, 50/50 raffle and face painting in addition to our convoy."

There are five classes of trucks for the convoy — antique, bob-tail, combination, tri-axle and specialty. Drivers can sign up the day of the event or contact the convoy on Facebook to join the mailing list. The trucks who sign up for the event will be eligible to win a trophy on the day of the convoy.

"Trophies will be presented to the top three trucks in each class, along with the Best of Show and People's Choice," Lacy says.

Truck registration begins at 7 a.m. The event kicks off at



BIG RIG: Justin Hixson driving in the truck he will be bringing to the convoy.

9 a.m. The convoy will roll out at 1 p.m. and travel on Route 30 through Bedford and Everett.

"What the convoy means to us is a chance to help others," says Tammy Wakeman of James G. Wakeman, LLC, who will be participating. "We don't want to see people hurt or struggling. It's in our hearts to help."

Justin Hixson of Crystal Spring is a trucker who will be participating, too.

"The convoy to me is the opportunity to put smiles on faces that don't get many opportunities to have something to smile about," Justin says. "It can be kids riding along or kids along the route. It doesn't even have to be kids. It can be the elderly lady on her porch. It can be the Vietnam veteran on the sidewalk or it can be the family along the way grinning from ear to ear. I deliver freight all over the country, but convoy day, I deliver smiles!

"My deliveries are not paid that day with dollars, but with clapping, cheering, smiling, a lot of big thumbs up, and most of all, the youngster that is giving me the arm pump to blow the horn," he continues. "Little do they know, but when they are startled by the truck horn, I'm just rolling through with all my friends with our loads of smiles to deliver. If you ever see me out and about and you're ever down and out, you're only an arm pump away from a smile that day. I always keep a few extra with me."

Lisa and Lacy welcome everyone to follow the event on Facebook, where the public can contact the family about sponsor information. The public can also make donations on convoy day.

"Our drivers have big hearts and donate their time and trucks for the day," they say. "Drivers come from surrounding counties and states. Their willingness to help others is unmatched.

"We invite you to join us on convoy day and fill the streets as the trucks roll through town," they add. "It has been proven, if you come once, you won't miss another." 📍



TRUCKING ALONG: James G. Wakeman, LLC will be participating in the convoy.



BENEFITING THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Event Includes

- + Food
- + 50/50 Drawing
- + Music
- + Basket Raffle
- + Trophies

All Trucks Welcome

Show open to all trucks. Commercial trucks participate in convoy only.

SATURDAY
AUG. 26 • 2023

7:00 AM — REGISTRATION

9:00 AM — EVENT STARTS

1:00 PM — CONVOY

Bedford County Fairgrounds
Rte. 30 & I-99 / 220 South
Bedford Exit



BIG RIGS.
BIG HEARTS.
BIG
DREAMS.

FOR MORE INFO



Bedford County Convoy Of Diesel Dreams

Lisa Jay 814.207.0690

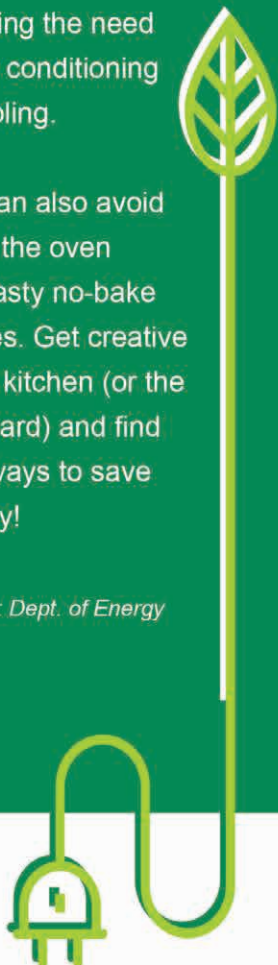
Lacy Decker 814.935.4454

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Summer is a prime opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors. To reduce home energy use, avoid using your oven and use a grill instead. Not only will cooking outdoors eliminate the electricity used to power the stove, but it will also avoid raising the temperature inside your home, reducing the need for air conditioning or cooling.

You can also avoid using the oven with tasty no-bake recipes. Get creative in the kitchen (or the backyard) and find new ways to save energy!

Source: Dept. of Energy



FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER & CEO

Continued from page 18A

2. Go green and install a rain barrel. Rainwater is free of minerals, salts and treatment chemicals found in tap water or groundwater. It also contains helpful macronutrients to foster healthy plant growth. Most residential rain barrels range in size from 50 to 90 gallons, so the size you purchase will depend on your watering needs.

The simplest way to install a rain barrel is to position a plastic or wooden barrel directly under your gutter downspout. Basic piping may be required, but this is an easy way to harvest rainwater, and the barrel won't take up much space. Consider a cover for the top of your rain barrel to keep insects and small debris out of your harvested water.

3. If you have enough outdoor space available, installing a clothesline is another great way to save energy. Not only will you save on dryer costs, but in the summer, you

can also save on cooling costs since unwanted heat from the clothesdryer won't be added to your home. Air drying is much gentler on fabrics and will keep your clothes and linens looking fresh longer.

You can create your own clothesline with two T-posts, wire, hook-and-eye turnbuckles and a bag or two of fast-drying cement to set the posts. A typical load of laundry requires about 35 feet of line, so keep this in mind as you're determining the best location.

Alternatively, you can create an indoor drying rack that folds to save space. Home improvement websites offer step-by-step tutorials for a variety of indoor clothes racks.

These are just a few simple ideas to help you save energy and money. So, get out there, roll up those sleeves and tackle a few projects. 🛠️

BROOKS SHOEMAKER
GENERAL MANAGER & CEO

OUTAGE REPORTING

In case of an outage...

- 1** Check your fuses or circuit breakers.
- 2** Check with your neighbors, if convenient, to see if they have been affected by the power failure.
- 3** Call the 24-hour number, 814-623-7568, OR call 800-808-2732* during office hours.

**(Please help us save money – only use this number if toll charges apply.)*

Please give the person receiving the 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.

**To report an outage call:
814-623-7568**

During widespread power outages, many members are calling to report power failures. You may receive a busy signal, or in certain cases, your call may go unanswered. This occurs in after-hours outages when the office is not fully staffed. Please be patient and try again in a few minutes.