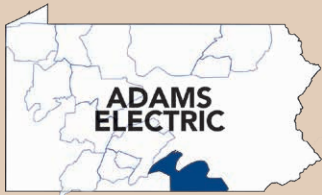




Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dale E. Myers, President
David A. Frey, Vice President
Glenn E. Bange, Secretary
Thomas J. Knaub, Treasurer
William M. French
Jay A. Herman
S. Eugene Herritt
Nadine M. Hubner
F.L. "Ray" Schwartz

Steve Rasmussen
CEO/General Manager

ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

1338 Biglerville Road
P.O. Box 1055
Gettysburg, PA 17325-1055
1-800-726-2324

GETTYSBURG DISTRICT

1338 Biglerville Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325

YORK DISTRICT

200 Trinity Road
York, PA 17408

SHIPPENSBURG DISTRICT

10 Duncan Road
Shippensburg, PA 17257

DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
7 a.m. - 5 p.m.*
*By appointment only

Check out adamsec.coop

Like us on Facebook at
[Facebook.com/AdamsEC](https://www.facebook.com/AdamsEC)

LOCAL PAGES EDITOR:
Kami Noel, CCC

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Powered by Purpose



STEVE RASMUSSEN

THIS MONTH, ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES ACROSS the country celebrate National Co-op Month and reflect on the unique advantages of this people-first business model. It's also the perfect time to say thank you to our members who make it all possible. For us, it's not just a celebration; it's a chance to reaffirm the values that guide everything we do.

As CEO of Adams Electric, I see purpose in action every day. Unlike investor-owned utilities, our cooperative doesn't exist to make profits for distant shareholders. We exist to serve you — our members, neighbors and communities. That purpose is what sets us apart. It's why we were founded, and it's what drives every decision we make.

At its core, being a cooperative means we are member-owned and -controlled. That's not just a tagline; it's the very heart of our business model, and a foundation of our seven cooperative principles. Members have a voice in how our cooperative operates.

You elect board members who live in our service area and who understand the unique challenges and opportunities our communities face. Decisions aren't made hundreds of miles away; they're made here at home, by people who care about the same things you do.

This local accountability means we stay focused on what matters most: delivering safe, affordable and reliable electricity.

We do that by investing in essential infrastructure upgrades and technologies that strengthen our local grid and improve electric service. We work hard to manage costs and keep rates low because we know rising prices affect families and small businesses in our area. When storms hit or outages occur, our crews are quick to respond because we live here, too.

Still, our commitment doesn't end at the power lines.

Whether we're supporting local schools, sponsoring youth programs, or partnering with volunteer organizations, we are always looking for ways to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve. Community support isn't an afterthought; it's part of our mission.

We also plan for the future. As electricity demand grows because of new technologies and economic development, electric cooperatives are working to ensure we continue to meet those needs with a balanced, reliable energy mix. We know our members care about affordability and dependability, and we're committed to delivering both.

That's the power of the cooperative difference. That's what it means to be powered by purpose.

During Co-op Month, I encourage you to take pride in your cooperative membership. You're not just a consumer; you're a member-owner, and a vital part of a larger effort to keep our community energized.

Thank you for the trust you place in us. We're proud to be your local electric cooperative. 

STEVE RASMUSSEN
CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

Shining Stars Program Shows Unbridled Commitment to Clients

KAMI NOEL, CCC, COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER RELATIONS COORDINATOR

HORSES NEED A JOB, and one herd is going to get busier when it relocates to its new home on cooperative lines.

The Shining Stars Therapeutic Riding Program recently purchased land and launched its Unbridled Capital Campaign to raise \$6.2 million for a new 38,000-square-foot facility on Bon-Ox Road in Adams County.

“People say why spend so much?” says Pam Hoffman, board president for Shining Stars. “That’s easy. The opportunity is twofold — build partnerships that showcase products of our own local businesses and stay client-focused to meet the real needs of the community we serve. This is where we want and need to be.”



BIG PLANS: Pam Hoffman, board president of the Shining Stars Therapeutic Riding Program, shows off a property map and artists' rendering of the new facility on Bon-Ox Road in Adams County, where the nonprofit will soon break ground.



Wanted: more space

Shining Stars, which currently has a facility on Old Harrisburg Road in Gettysburg, offers horsemanship programs for children, adults, veterans and clients with special needs. In this non-clinical environment, clients and trainers work with horses to achieve their individual goals, which could include socialization or strength.

Last year, 213 clients, six paid staff, more than 200 volunteers and 18 horses (including a donkey and two minis) came through the stalls at Shining Stars. Looking to the future, the board and staff knew a change was in order.

“We’ve never turned anyone away for financial reasons, but over our 21 years, we’ve continued to grow,” Hoffman says. “We’ve now met our match in space.”

In 2022, the program had an opportunity to expand, but the options weren’t in line with the program’s end goal. The same day they turned down a land offer, Hoffman traveled by a “For sale” sign that changed everything.

“We found 60 acres at the former Xathus Farms property that was rectangular in shape, on a corner and easily accessible, with room to grow,” Hoffman says. “We met with the landowners, who gave us time to raise the money, and in four months, we paid cash for the property.”

Since then, the board and staff have been planning the new Bon-Ox Road facility while raising money to fund its construction. The capital campaign has raised \$2.3 million so far, and staff hopes to have another \$2 million secured before site work begins.

The nonprofit offers three, nine-week therapeutic riding sessions a year at \$30 each, but grants and fees seldom cover the cost of operations, let alone expansion. According to Hoffman, the average cost to put one horse in an arena is \$182 an hour.

“Between feed, vet bills, insurance, taxes and utilities, horses are expensive,” Hoffman says.

‘They did this for me’

The new facility will have a 32-stall barn, indoor and outdoor arenas, office and client space, accessible bathrooms, a volunteer lounge, and a playground. The barn will require wide-wash stalls to allow wheelchairs as well as

READY TO RIDE: Siblings Ben and Nicole Mitchell volunteer to help exercise Dorothy, a quarter horse mixed mare, on the farm at Shining Stars Therapeutic Riding Program in Gettysburg.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Adams Electric Cooperative celebrated its 85th year in business on Aug. 21 with a drive-thru event for members. During the celebration, more than 2 tons of food and personal care item donations were collected for distribution at New Hope Ministries' sites across the cooperative's service area. Thank you to those who contributed.

Four Ways Members Can Stay 'Cyber Safe'

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS

Month, and according to the National Cybersecurity Alliance — a nonprofit organization on a mission to create a more secure, interconnected world — “protecting yourself online doesn’t have to be complicated or expensive.”

While you can never be “hackproof,” you can become resilient in the online world. In fact, a few simple habits can reduce your risk of falling victim to cybercrime.

At the heart of online safety, there are four essential behaviors the alliance calls the “Core 4.” These simple steps can help shield your personal information, protect online accounts and keep electronic devices secure.

1. Use long and complex passwords. Your passwords are the first line of defense between a criminal and sensitive information. Here are some tips for creating them:

- ▶ Be unique.
- ▶ Don’t reuse passwords.
- ▶ Use a password manager to store and generate strong passwords.

2. Enable multifactor authentication (MFA).

Multifactor authentication, sometimes called 2FA, adds an extra security layer by requiring something more than your password to log in. This could be the following:

- ▶ A one-time code sent to your phone.
- ▶ A biometric scan like a fingerprint or face ID.

Enable MFA on your email, banking and social media. It’s a simple way to supercharge the security on your accounts. Also, never share MFA codes.

3. Keep software updated. Software updates don’t just

bring new features, they often fix security flaws that criminals exploit. It usually takes a few minutes, but updates are worth it. Here are some tips:

- ▶ Turn on automatic updates for your devices and apps, usually found in your “Settings” menu.
- ▶ Install updates promptly for your operating systems, browsers, antivirus tools and apps.
- ▶ Don’t click “Remind Me Later” because the extra security is worth it.
- ▶ Remember your phones, smartwatches and tablets are all computers — keep these devices updated, too.

4. Look out for phishing scams. Phishing remains the most common online threat. Criminals send fake emails, texts, or social media messages to trick you into revealing sensitive information or clicking malicious links. These messages are meant to encourage you to click before you think by playing on your emotions. Scammers will even call you. Here’s how to look out for scams:

- ▶ Be highly skeptical of unexpected messages, especially those urging immediate action or asking for personal details.
- ▶ Don’t click suspicious links or download unexpected attachments.

To learn more about utility scams, visit adamsec.coop/scams. 📧



low shelves so students can reach the grooming tools.

“So much thought has gone into creating an environment and not just a space for the animals and the clients,” Hoffman says. “Everything has to be adaptable. We want our clients to think, ‘They did this for me,’ and we did.”

While Shining Stars has secured such in-kind donations as lighting fixtures, flooring and some site work, it has a long way to go in reaching its capital goal. The group will be hosting an open house at its farm at 3175 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, on Oct. 25. Kicking off at 10 a.m., the event

will feature demonstrations and learning opportunities. The group will also accept campaign pledges.

“We need the help and support of our community to continue our important mission, whether that’s therapeutic riding, cart driving, the Stars and Stripes veterans’ program, Equine Connections or Silver Stars for seniors,” Hoffman says.

To learn more about Shining Stars or to support its capital campaign, visit shiningstarstr.org. 📧

Cooperative Committee Volunteers Needed

ADAMS ELECTRIC NEEDS MEMBERS to serve on its volunteer committees, specifically Scholarship and Credentials & Election.

This fall, postcards and letters will go out to members whose names are on their bill and who have added their name to the cooperative's volunteer list. This group of members will be invited to our special invitation-only PAC and volunteer dinner.

We're always looking for members to serve on our membership committees. As members rotate off the system, homes become vacant and current volunteers accept other obligations, we need to grow our pool of potential volunteers. Out of nearly 34,000 electric accounts, we have a pool of only 75 accounts that we can turn to when recruiting.

We know everyone has commitments, but the knowledge you can gain about the cooperative is boundless compared with the minimal contribution of time. Plus, once your name is on the list, if a meeting or committee doesn't fit your schedule, you can defer and wait to be asked again during another round of selections.

The Member Engagement Group meets only once a year in October, and there's only one requirement: You must register as a volunteer. You will then be part of a focus group that offers suggestions when new products or services are rolled out to the membership.

The Scholarship Committee meets two to three times a year between January and August, though it does have responsibilities for reviewing applications outside the meetings. This group is probably the most time-consuming, but also the most rewarding as you select the recipients of the cooperative's continuing education scholarships.

The Credentials & Election Committee typically meets three to five times between February and May. This 12-member team helps run the annual director elections, which start with petition certifications and end with the announcement of the new or returning directors who will take office.

All volunteers receive mileage reimbursement for their trips to meetings. These are issued as a credit on their electric bill.

To add your account to the volunteer list, complete the web form at adamsec.coop/be-co-op-volunteer. For more information, call 800-726-2324. 📞

Collecting Cold-Weather Outerwear

IT'S CO-OP MONTH AND WE'RE getting in the spirit. Help Adams Electric be there for our members and communities in need with winter-weather items. New and like-new coats, hats, gloves and scarves will be collected in our office foyers through Nov. 3. Drop off your donations in our collection bins.

The project is being led by our Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Council Student Delegate Kendall Woods of New Freedom. Items, which are being collected at electric cooperatives statewide, will be donated to Coats of Friendship, based in York County, before being distributed throughout its region.

Woods previously participated in the coat drive through her school in southern York County. Coats of Friendship has been collecting coats and warm clothing items since 2015 and hopes to distribute more than 10,000 coats during the 2025-2026 winter season.

The initiative, started by and often run by students, encourages donors to add a handwritten note to their donation. We encourage you to do the same. 📝



Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.
A Yorkshire Energy Cooperative

Give the Gift of Warmth

This season help make a difference by participating in our Winter Outerwear Drive. Donate your gently used or new coats, gloves, and hats and help someone stay warm during the cold winter months.

Donation Deadline: NOV. 3, 2025

DROP OFF AT ANY DISTRICT LOCATION

1-800-726-2324 adamsec.coop

ADAMS HIRES IT SPECIALIST

Adams Electric Cooperative has hired Daniel "Dan" Seibert of Hanover as an information technology specialist, working in the Gettysburg headquarters.

Seibert started at the cooperative Aug. 18. Before coming to Adams, he worked for Treysta Technology Management as a client technology manager. He holds an associate degree from York Technical Institute and graduated from South Western High School.



**DANIEL
"DAN" SEIBERT**

Electric cooperatives provide
power with a purpose



Adams Electric
Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

NATIONAL
CO-OP
MONTH