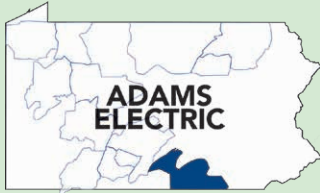




# Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Glenn E. Bange, President**
- Nadine M. Hubner, Vice President**
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**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](http://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.*

## Investing in Your Future



**STEVE RASMUSSEN**

**SCHOLARSHIPS OFFER OPPORTUNITIES THAT CHANGE** lives, and there's one out there waiting for you if your primary residence receives electricity from Adams Electric Cooperative. Maybe you're thinking scholarships are just for students fresh out of high school. But scholarships aren't just for the "young crowd" anymore. They're for anyone who's ready to pursue their dreams at the next level.

Our scholarships offer a step in the right direction. At Adams Electric, we are committed to empowering individuals to advance their education and skills. Our scholarship programs align with our mission to help improve the quality of life in the communities we serve.

We know many of our members are balancing responsibilities, such as work, family and educational aspirations. The cost of education remains a challenge, but scholarship programs provide an opportunity for financial support, making it possible for more of our members to reach their goals.

Since 2008, we have been offering scholarships to high school seniors. In 2011, we added adult-member scholarships, and then in 2019, we expanded again to include college undergrads. But we don't only support academic pursuits. Since 2018, we have also supported career, trade/technical and certificate programs.

This scholarship program has been a game-changer for many members. By providing financial assistance, we're helping to remove some of the barriers to education, allowing you to focus on what truly matters: gaining new skills and advancing your career.

I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. If you're a co-op member, or the child of one, and you've been hesitant about applying for a scholarship, stop waiting. It takes less than an hour to fill out an application. Think of it as another investment in your future.

Based on past experience with applications received, Adams Electric typically awards up to 50 scholarships annually to co-op members in varying amounts among the three programs, with a goal of 25 to 30 high school scholarships, up to 10 undergraduate scholarships and up to five adult scholarships.

The application deadline for high school seniors is March 15, so be sure to provide this information as soon as possible. For adults and undergrads, your application window just opened and extends through May 31.

And just so we're clear, none of these scholarships have any effect on rates. The funds come from patronage capital credits (Ownership Rewards) that have gone unclaimed and may now be used as member assistance.

If you have questions or need guidance, our team is available to help you through the process. More details are available at [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop).

**STEVE RASMUSSEN**  
CEO/GENERAL MANAGER



## Investing in Our Community

**SARAH FRANK**, CCC, COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR

**FOR NEARLY 30 YEARS**, Adams Electric Cooperative has been helping service agencies make big-ticket purchases with low-interest financing. The cooperative has helped to finance building renovations, fire engines, and even composting equipment.

The fund is available thanks to a \$400,000 grant from the Rural Business-Cooperative Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Adams County used the original grant to acquire land for a site-development project. Once the loan was paid back to the cooperative, the money was placed in a revolving fund to continue community development. With rates as low as 2.5%, the loans help the cooperative continue to improve the communities it serves by supporting local organizations.

The Community Development Fund provides low-interest loans that supplement other sources of funding provided by private lenders or economic development agencies. Eligible applicants include public and non-profit organizations located in parts of Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, Perry and York counties. Applicants do not need to receive electric service from the cooperative.

Curtis Vine, treasurer and past president of the Arendtsville Community Volunteer Fire Company, recalls working with the cooperative on different Community Development Fund projects throughout the years, including the most recent one: a building expansion.

The 5,000-square-foot expansion includes space for new fire engines, offices and a boardroom. It also serves as a

community emergency shelter.

“The fire department’s job is to help and support the community, whether it’s a fire call, a medical call, a middle-of-the-night call,” Vine says, “and Adams Electric put us in a position to keep our building, equipment, and our volunteer-members up to date. It helped us give our 100% volunteer crew a fire house to call home. And that supports our community.”

In addition to the 2018 Community Development Fund project, the fire department worked with the co-op to secure funding for a fire engine in 2003 and new pagers in 2022.

“Adams has supported the betterment of our community through these projects,” Vine says. “If we wouldn’t have been able to secure funding, we wouldn’t have been able to complete these purchases and projects. We couldn’t have done it without the co-op’s help.”

In recent years, the fund has not been actively used because project requests haven’t met the guidelines. This year, however, the cooperative would like to reignite the program.

Subject to qualifying criteria, projects that create or improve community facilities that enhance public safety, health services, economic conditions, or education may be considered. These may include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Public or non-profit ambulance or fire stations, and the acquisition or refurbishment of their emergency services vehicles
- ▶ Distance learning
- ▶ Medical link projects
- ▶ Educational or job-training projects
- ▶ Business incubators
- ▶ Water- or sewer-improvement projects
- ▶ Technical assistance for plans, environmental reviews or grant preparation

Certain projects do not qualify for assistance from the fund, including but not limited to the following: for-profit business activities; refinancing of existing debt; incorporation expenses; or administrative costs.

The application process requires a statement of the intended purpose of the loan, references to the organization’s planning or spending authority, financial history and commitment, and a project timeframe. If your organization is interested in applying for a loan, send an email to [communications@adamsec.coop](mailto:communications@adamsec.coop) to receive additional information. 📧



**FIRST CALL:** The Adams Electric Community Development Fund helped Biglerville Hose and Truck Company No. 1 purchase this new fire engine in 2012.

## SEVEN WAYS TO GO GREEN FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY

### 1. Replace your HVAC filter

When was the last time you replaced your filter? If you can't remember, there's a good chance now is a good time to do it. Generally, filters need to be replaced every three months, but factors such as climate, having pets and the age of your system can cause this to vary.

### 2. Install a smart thermostat

A smart thermostat can add convenience, generate savings and help you go greener. You can set it to adjust your home's temperature based on your schedule, and many thermostats can detect when no one is home and automatically reduce use.

### 3. Analyze your energy bill

Review past bills to better understand your energy consumption patterns. Understanding these patterns can help you decide when to operate appliances, whether to pursue energy-efficiency upgrades and how to start reducing your usage.

### 4. Cut energy use during peak hours

Join U-Shift, U-Save! In the springtime, the peak hours for electricity tend to be in the evenings. Consider going out to a park, restaurant or theater during this time to lower your electricity use.

### 5. Upgrade to energy-efficient appliances

Look for appliances that are Energy Star®-certified. These appliances use 10% to 15% less energy and water than standard models, according to [energy.gov](http://energy.gov).

### 6. Look for energy savings rebate programs for electric vehicles (EV)

This could be your year to go electric. The co-op offers a one-time EV incentive to help make these technologies more accessible.

### 7. Consider converting to geothermal for your heating and cooling needs

Geothermal systems are literally powered by the earth. These systems heat and cool your home using a piping system, referred to as a loop. Water circulates in this loop to exchange heat between your home, the ground source heat pump and the earth.



## Don't Get Stuck in the Dark

**IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT PAYING** your winter heating bills, help is available. Apply now to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Members in low-income households can apply for cash grants or crisis assistance.

The cash grant is a one-time payment of up to \$1,000 sent directly to Adams Electric on behalf of a member. The payment is credited toward your electric bill.



Households in immediate danger of being without heat may also qualify for crisis grants of up to \$1,000.

Emergency situations include:

- ▶ Broken heating equipment or leaking lines that must be fixed or replaced
- ▶ Potential service termination for overdue or unpaid bills

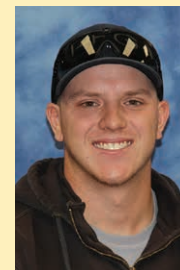
Apply at [compass.state.pa.us](http://compass.state.pa.us) or call 800-726-2324 to request a paper application. 📄

## Apprentices Earn Promotions

Congratulations to **Wesley Graham** of Shippensburg, who earned a promotion to fourth-year apprentice in the operations department at the Shippensburg District, effective Jan. 13. Also, congratulations to **Wyatt Taughinbaugh** of Hanover, who earned a promotion to third-year apprentice in the York District, effective Jan. 27. Wesley and Wyatt both joined the cooperative in January 2023. 📄



**WESLEY GRAHAM**

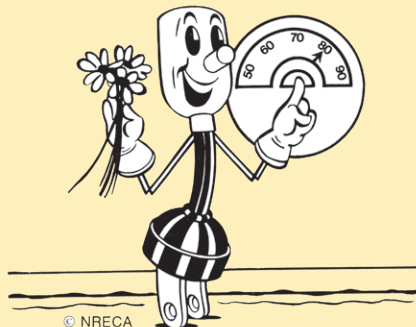


**WYATT TAUGHINBAUGH**

## 85 YEARS: THEN AND NOW

Meet Willie Wiredhand®, the cartoon mascot and “spokes plug” of electric co-ops who was created in 1950 to promote rural electric service as the farmer’s hired hand. His head is a lightbulb socket, his body a wire, and his hips and legs are a two-pronged power plug.

Willie quickly became a symbol of affordable, universal electric service for all rural residents. While his popularity has waned, he is still a corporate advertising icon, having appeared in many disguises and on many promotional items over the years.



## Aerial Patrols Beginning Soon

**EACH YEAR, ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE** surveys its power system by helicopter, looking for damage that’s hard to spot from the ground, especially in remote locations. The co-op will be initiating these aerial inspections in late March/early April, weather permitting.

In the Gettysburg and Shippensburg districts, only critical line feeds will be evaluated. In the York District, a comprehensive review of all lines and feeds will be conducted.

Adams Electric serves in Adams County, as well as parts of lower Cumberland, upper Franklin, and western and southern York counties. There are also a few accounts in Perry County.

Pine Bottom Aviation of Martinsburg will pilot the helicopter patrols. The flight crew will also include one of the co-op’s experienced lineworkers. From the air, our lineworker will be on the lookout for broken cross arms, damaged or floating wires, and other electrical issues, such as burnt pole tops and tree interference.

Aerial inspections can take several weeks to complete, depending on the weather and other schedule interruptions. Mike Feathers, the cooperative’s manager of operations, says the crew will fly an average of six to eight hours a day when conditions are appropriate and will attempt to avoid flying over congested areas or hovering over agricultural operations.

If you see a problem with a power line, pole or electrical equipment, never attempt to correct the issue. Report problems immediately to 800-726-2324. 📞

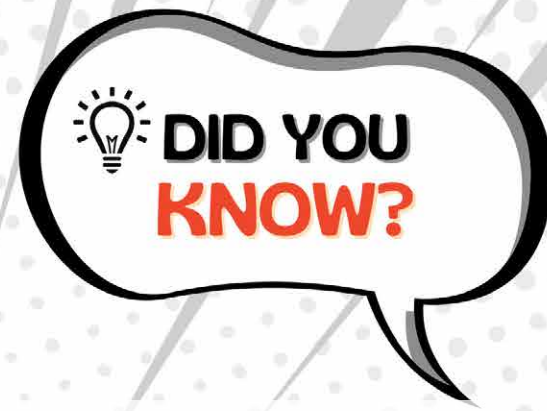
## Pole Inspections Slated for York County

**ADAMS ELECTRIC HIRES OSMOSE UTILITY Services Company** to inspect approximately 10% of its utility poles each year for damage, decay and structural reliability. This year’s inspections are scheduled around York County and will continue throughout the year.

Members with poles on or near their property will receive a postcard notification about the inspections. Once an inspection crew is on-site, you may see them digging at the base of the utility pole and placing identification markings on it. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the cooperative at 800-726-2324. 📞

# Co-op Spotlight

## Getting to know your employees and directors



### Kennedy Muchimba



**Who I am:** I am the cybersecurity specialist in the IT Department at the co-op. My responsibilities include enhancing security on IT infrastructure, providing solutions that will reinforce the IT security posture of the co-op, conducting risk assessments, penetration testing and vulnerability assessments. I have a certificate in cybersecurity and a bachelor's degree in cybersecurity.

**Family life:** I am a family-oriented person by nature. My life outside the cooperative is filled with family unions,

taking walks to the park, watching movies with family, and hanging out with friends and church members.

**Co-op difference:** Co-ops are quite different from other businesses because they share a bond or attachment with their members to provide good quality services. Co-ops are invested in engaging with their members to enhance a strong and consistent relationship and to always keep them informed through member meetings. They look at good service above making profit.

### Wesley Graham



**Who I am:** I'm a fourth-year apprentice, and I've been with Adams Electric Cooperative since January 2023.

**Family life:** Outside of the co-op, I like to golf and hang out with friends in the spring/

summer and hunt in the fall.

**Co-op difference:** I think the biggest difference between us and other businesses would be that we are relatively small compared to most businesses, and we are member-owned.

### Wyatt Taughinbaugh



**Who I am:** At the co-op, I am a third-year apprentice with two years of service. My responsibilities at the co-op include maintaining the system and handling outages.

**Family life:** Outside of work, I enjoy

anything outdoors — hunting, fishing, you name it. I also enjoy kicking back and watching football.

**Co-op difference:** I think what makes the co-op so different is the family-like atmosphere and community-first attitude everyone at the co-op has.

### Adam Willman



**Who I am:** My job title is field service person B. My day-to-day responsibilities consist of inspecting single-phase services and changing out meters to our new Standard Deviation Score meters. I have been with the cooperative for one and a half years.

**Family life:** When I am not at work, I am spending time

with my wife and our 3-year-old golden doodle, Phoebe. We enjoy taking her on hikes and spending time outdoors.

**Co-op stands out because:** I think our members really appreciate our reliability and how quick we are to respond to outages. I also think they appreciate our strong sense of community.

