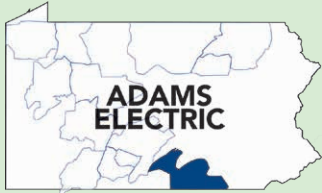




# Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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)

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[Facebook.com/AdamsEC](https://www.facebook.com/AdamsEC)

LOCAL PAGES EDITOR:  
**Kami Noel, CCC**

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

## Safety as a Priority



**AT ADAMS ELECTRIC, WE RECOGNIZE** Electrical Safety Month every May, but we also know the importance of practicing safety year-round. From our co-op crews to you, the member-consumers we serve, we recognize everyone has a part to play in prioritizing safety.

According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International, thousands of people in the U.S. are critically injured or electrocuted because of electrical fires and accidents in their own homes. Many

of these accidents are preventable.

To me, safety is more than a catchphrase — it's a culture. As CEO, it's my responsibility to ensure safe work practices are followed each and every day. Additionally we want to help keep you and all members of our community safe. That's why you'll see Adams Electric hosting safety demonstrations at our district locations and in schools throughout the year to demonstrate the dangers of electricity. We discuss emergency scenarios, such as what to do in a car accident involving a utility pole and downed power lines. We caution students on the dangers of pad-mounted transformers and overloading circuits with too many electronic devices. We conduct both high- and low-voltage demos for first responders, school students and the community.

Electricity is an integral part of modern life. Given the prevalence of electrical devices, tools and appliances, I'd like to pass along a few practical electrical safety tips.

**Frayed wires pose a serious safety hazard.** Power cords can become damaged or frayed from age, heavy use, or excessive current flow through the wiring. If cords become frayed or cut, replace them, as they could cause a shock when handled.

**Use extension cords properly.** Never plug an extension cord into another extension cord. If you "daisy chain" them together, it could lead to overheating, creating a potential fire hazard. Extension cords should not be used as permanent solutions. If you need additional outlets, contact a licensed electrician for help. Also, don't hide cords under rugs and furniture which could cause fire hazards.

**When thunder roars, go indoors!** Have a plan in place for when bad weather strikes. Keep a storm "survival" kit in a closet with batteries, a weather radio, non-perishable foods, bottled water, medications, baby supplies and warm blankets. Also, stay off the roads. Give first responders, including utility workers, time to clear debris and respond to emergencies.

**Use generators wisely.** Never connect a portable generator into your home's electrical system. Set up and run your generator outside in a space away from doors, windows, and vents.

I also encourage you to talk with your kids about playing it safe and smart around electricity. Look up and around before climbing ladders and trees or flying kites. Make them aware of the dangers of overhead power lines near where they play outdoors.

Our top priority is providing an uninterrupted energy supply 24/7, 365 days a year. But equally important is keeping our employees and community safe around electricity.

Contact the co-op for additional electrical safety tips, visit [adamsec.coop/storm-central](http://adamsec.coop/storm-central) for storm preparation and reporting instructions, or if you would like us to provide a safety demonstration, call 800-726-2324. 📞

**STEVE RASMUSSEN**  
CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

## Spend Your Summer Vacation in a Historic Structure

**KAMI NOEL**, CCC, COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER RELATIONS COORDINATOR

### “A LIVED-IN HOME LIVES BETTER.”

According to Gettysburg National Military Park Communications Specialist Jason Martz, that could be the new slogan for a program the park is venturing into after a successful pilot program pre-COVID-19.

“Before the pandemic, we opened the Bushman house to visitors to stay as an experiment of sorts, and the public loved it,” Martz says. “We ran it for about a year, then during the pandemic shut-down we stopped and used the time to evaluate the program process and success. We realized we were in favor of the idea but needed to take a step back to make it work the right way.”

This summer, the park will once again host guests to stay overnight in the historic home that was on the front lines of the Battle of Gettysburg. But that’s not all, there are now three additional historic homes that will be available to residential visitors for weekend get-aways and vacation stays.

“We’ll continue to add the other three homes gradually,

as they are ready for guests,” Martz explains.

Once the final contracts are in place, the homes will become available for short lease, starting with the Bushman Farmhouse, updated in 2017, which is close to famous landmarks like Little Round Top and Devil’s Den.

The Slyder Farmhouse will come next after a few furnishings are added. Then the Althoff Farmhouse, which also needs furnishings plus some exterior paint and attention, and finally the Rose Farmhouse.

“The Rose house really needs the most work and likely won’t be ready until sometime in 2024,” Martz says. “An immersive stay in any historic structure that witnessed a battle is really an indescribable, emotional experience.”

Staying in historic, federally owned properties is not new. In fact, the practice has been in existence since 1980. Last year alone, more than 400 historic structures of the National Park Service were in use, typically either lived in by park staff or used as office space.

“When these historic structures are lived in, they often live better because instead of someone just keeping eyes on the place, we’re reporting maintenance issues faster, cleaning more regularly, and helping with the general upkeep,” Martz says. “In a sense, we’re helping with the preservation.”

By federal regulation, the properties can’t be “undercut or oversold” in price. So, interested renters should expect to find rental fees in line with other Adams County bed-and-breakfast or hotel establishments, based on number of bedrooms, bathrooms, amenities, etc.

While none of the properties are on local vacation destination sites yet, you can find lots of history about each site that adds to the flavor of staying in the structure. Meanwhile, each has been or is being updated with all modern-day flairs, like up-to-date kitchens and appliances.

“Guests won’t be ‘roughing-it,’” Martz jokes. “They all have heat and air-conditioning and indoor plumbing — no outhouses here! Just bring your suitcase and some groceries and you’re set to stay.”

And after your stay, you will have helped with preservation and restoration. All the money paid for these rentals stays in Gettysburg and with the National Military Park for the maintenance and upkeep of the historic structures. The revenue is restricted.

“The benefit to our guests is these sites are easy to get to, easy to find, but still secluded with a unique view of the battlefield few get to see,” Martz says. “Our goal is to keep the history, but through an immersive experience that’s unparalleled.”



**RESTORED RETREAT:** The historic Bushman Farmhouse is located within the Gettysburg National Military Park. The house offers three bedrooms, including a first-floor master bedroom; 1.5 bathrooms; a fully equipped and updated kitchen with a coffeemaker, stove, microwave, dishwasher, and refrigerator; a dining room and sitting room.



**PEACEFUL VISTA:** Gettysburg National Military Park & Eisenhower National Historic Site Communications Specialist Jason Martz sits on the porch of the Bushman Farmhouse. The historic structure, which overlooks Little Roundtop on the Gettysburg Battlefield, will be available this summer as a vacation rental for locals and travelers.

# Efficiency Upgrades to Help You Save this Summer

**SPRING AND SUMMER ARE OPPORTUNE** times for home upgrades and DIY projects. If you're planning to make improvements to your home, consider upgrades that promote better efficiency.

Here are a few projects that can help you save energy and money — and increase the comfort of your home.

Installing a smart thermostat is one of the simplest ways to manage home energy use and keep summer bills in check. Smart thermostats are easy to install and allow you to control your heating and cooling system from your phone. You can purchase an EnergyStar®-certified smart thermostat for as low as \$100, which can save you 8% on annual heating and cooling costs (about \$50 per year). This upgrade will quickly pay for itself, and you'll gain insight into better ways to heat and cool your home.

Speaking of smart, additional devices like smart LED bulbs also offer convenient control and help boost energy savings at home. With smart lighting, you can set a schedule for when and how your lights should be turned on or off. And the next time you head out to run errands and realize you left the lights on, all you have to do is turn them off through your phone. Smart lights come in a variety of shapes, colors, and brightness levels, and you can purchase bulbs for indoor or outdoor use. Schedule outdoor smart lights to illuminate your home at night and when you're out of town for better security.

While it's not as trendy as incorporating smart technologies, sealing air leaks around your home is a simple, effective way to save energy and lower your bills. Applying new (or replacing old) weather stripping around doors and windows can instantly make your home more comfortable and reduce energy waste. Applying caulk to fill gaps can also improve the seal of your

home. Caulk can be applied to a variety of areas, including windows, doors, bathtubs and sinks.

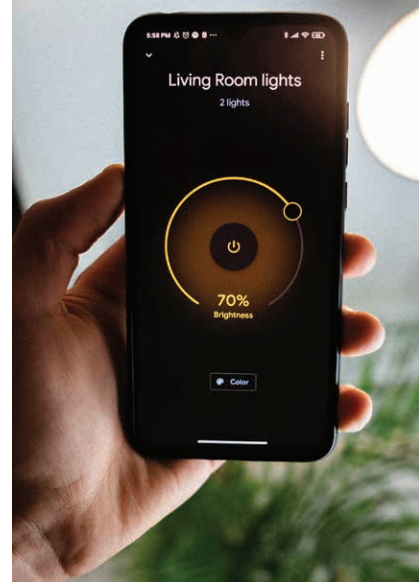
If your home feels too warm during summer (and too chilly during winter) after you've sealed air leaks, your home may need additional insulation. Insulation is considered a more expensive efficiency upgrade, but if your home is under-insulated, additional insulation can make a big impact on reducing energy use and costs. The cost of new insulation depends on a variety of factors like materials, size of the home and whether you use a contractor. Typically, the project costs can be recouped in a few years, and your home will immediately feel more comfortable.

Of course, there are additional efficiency upgrades that can make a big impact on energy use, like replacing old appliances with EnergyStar® models or replacing old, leaky windows with new, energy efficient windows.

But these upgrades can be a bit pricey.

If you want to make your home more energy efficient, but you're not sure where to start, your best bet is to enlist the help of an expert to conduct an energy audit of your home.

Adams Electric offers energy audits online at [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop) and by our in-house energy specialists; call 800-726-2324 to request an appointment. An energy audit can easily identify areas to boost efficiency, and then you can determine the projects you want to tackle first based on your budget and needs. 📍



**A BRIGHT IDEA:** Smart LED bulbs can be controlled from your phone and help boost energy savings at home.

## Apply Now for an Adult or Undergraduate Scholarship

### ADAMS ELECTRIC OFFERS COLLEGE

scholarships to undergraduate students or adult members working toward advanced education or training.



Children of co-op members who are already enrolled and have completed one semester at a post-secondary school or accredited training program may apply for a \$1,000 scholarship. Up to 10 will be awarded. Cooperative members with their name on the account who have been accepted into (or are attending) a post-secondary or accredited training program may also apply for one of up to ten, \$1,000 scholarships.

Scholarship criteria and guidelines can be found at [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop). Applications will be accepted online through July 15, 2023.

The co-op works in partnership with the Adams County Community Foundation to administer these scholarships. Applications are reviewed and recipients are nominated by Adams Electric's Scholarship Committee each August and then recommended to the board of directors for final selection. Winners are typically announced in early September.

Scholarships are awarded from unclaimed Ownership Rewards monies and do not affect rates. For details, eligibility and to apply, visit [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop). 📍

## Co-op Returns Ownership Rewards

**ADAMS ELECTRIC'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS** voted in February to return \$2.4 million in capital credits, known by co-op members as "Ownership Rewards." That brings the amount returned for all years to nearly \$52 million.

"We call it Ownership Rewards at Adams Electric because being a consumer-member really means something at the cooperative," board President Glenn Bange says. "We exist because of our consumer-members, and they are at the forefront of everything we do. We're pleased to be able to return these margins to them."

Issued as a check mailed in March, Ownership Rewards are a benefit of being a current or former member of the cooperative. For more than 50 years, members have received a return on their investment in Adams Electric based upon their share of the cooperative's net margins. Members who move off co-op lines will continue to receive Ownership Rewards until their investment is completely returned. Each investment is based on a member's total use of kilowatt-hours over the lifetime of their membership.

Recipients may choose to donate these rewards to other cooperative members in need through the co-op's Project Helping Hand (PHH) program. Current and former members may forward their Ownership Rewards checks by signing the back, indicating for deposit to ACCF PHH, and returning the check to Adams Electric. All PHH donations will receive an acknowledgement letter at year's end from the Adams County Community Foundation, which helps administer the program funds.

Adams Electric is a not-for-profit, member owned electric distribution utility serving 34,000 member-accounts in Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, Perry and York counties. For more information on Ownership Rewards or the cooperative, call 800-726-2324.



**JOB SHADOW:** Gettysburg Area High School senior Jayden Cramer pulls secondary wire for a new connection from a lift pole to a meter base in Fairfield, while shadowing a line crew from the Gettysburg District in March. Cramer is the grandson of deceased Adams Electric lineman Charles Kitzmiller, who retired from the co-op in 1994.

## Co-op Promotes Lineman

**EFFECTIVE MARCH 18, ADAM WALDRON**, of Aspers, moved to journeyman second class at the Gettysburg District. He started with Adams in 2013.



Adam Waldron

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

The location of your thermostat can impact your HVAC system's ability to maintain an ideal indoor temperature. For maximum accuracy, thermostats should be placed in the center of the home, away from air vents, plumbing pipes and exterior doors. Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near your thermostat, which can cause the HVAC to run longer than necessary. Avoid installing thermostats in rooms that tend to feel warmer or colder than the rest of the home. Do not place furniture in front of the thermostat, which can block air flow and result in inaccurate readings.



# MAY IS ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

**Always assume lines are energized and dangerous. If you see a downed line, call the co-op at 1-800-726-2324. Never attempt to move the line or tree or branch that brought it down.**

**Summer storms with their thunder and lightning can be as dangerous and destructive as winter storms. Always be prepared to weather the storm and have a storm safety kit ready.**

## **Items to include:**

- ✓ **A cord-based telephone or cell phone**
- ✓ **A cooking source that can be used outdoors**
- ✓ **Battery-powered/portable clock**
- ✓ **Battery-powered/portable radio, TV or NOAA weather radio**
- ✓ **Blankets**
- ✓ **Bottled water (three-day supply)**
- ✓ **First-aid kit with current supplies, including needed medications**
- ✓ **Flashlight and fresh batteries**
- ✓ **Non-perishable foods, non-electric can opener**
- ✓ **Small cooler**
- ✓ **Specialty items, such as baby items or extra clothing, or battery backup systems for medical equipment**
- ✓ **Surge suppressors to protect sensitive electronic equipment**
- ✓ **Tool kit**



**Adams Electric  
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**1-800-726-2324 | [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop)**

**Visit Storm Central at [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop)  
to learn more storm and electrical safety tips.**