


**Valley
Rural Electric
Cooperative, Inc.**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
10700 Fairgrounds Road
P.O. Box 477
Huntingdon, PA 16652-0477
814/643-2650
1-800-432-0680
www.valleyrec.com

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Monday - Thursday
7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

OUTAGES & EMERGENCIES

1-800-432-0680

FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

**Is a job with an electric co-op
in your future?**



by **Wayne Miller**
President & CEO

I MIGHT be biased, but in my opinion, electric cooperatives are great places to work. And at a time when retirements are on the rise, I wanted to take a moment to share the advantages of working with our team.

We at Valley Rural Electric Cooperative are here to serve our members not only with safe, affordable and reliable electric power,

but also with community support and programs that help you save energy and money. Because we make a difference in people's lives, those of us who work here tend to be a happy bunch.

In general, not-for-profit, consumer-owned co-ops offer interesting and diverse jobs and a stable work environment. In fact, many employees start here and stay here throughout their careers.

While our line personnel remain our most public figures, it takes more people (and departments) to run an electric cooperative. In addition to line workers, we employ professionals in accounting, billing and customer service, communications and public relations, engineering, information technology, and purchasing and warehousing. We even have a forester on the payroll who handles one of our largest expenses — tree-trim-


ming around electric lines.

The average electric co-op in the United States has 48 employees. Due to our vast territory and sheer number of members (more than 2,900 miles of line and nearly 22,000 consumers), Valley currently employs 63 hard-working local folks. Our largest group of employees is line workers, followed by engineering and operations personnel.

In the next 10 years, a substantial percentage of trained workers in our industry will be retiring or preparing to retire. So I strongly encourage young people to consider career opportunities within the electric cooperative network.

If you think a career at an electric co-op like Valley might be for you, now is the time to sharpen your skills, obtain the necessary training and education, and prepare a resume that will allow you to compete in our nation's tough job climate.

We believe working at a cooperative is a pleasure and a privilege, and we're going to continue to look out for our members by recruiting the best and brightest employees to serve our consumers.

You can learn about national co-op job opportunities at www.TouchstoneEnergy.jobs. For more information about positions at Valley, visit www.valleyrec.com and click Job Openings. 

Valley Rural Electric Cooperative awards 25 \$1,000 scholarships to local students

BY LUANNE H. ECKENRODE
Vice President, Consumer Services & Public Relations

VALLEY RURAL ELECTRIC Cooperative recently awarded 25 \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors as well as students already enrolled in post-secondary institutions and returning adult students.

The co-op's Brighter Future Scholarship Program was established last year to assist eligible students who are cooperative members or their dependents. Selection criteria include academic achievement, financial need and community activities.

The money to finance this initiative comes from unclaimed capital credits refunds that previously had to be turned over to the state treasury. But now, thanks to the efforts of the cooperative's political advocates, these resources can be kept in co-op communities and used to assist consumers facing financial hardships and to fund educational scholarships.

The following 20 high school seniors were awarded scholarships from Valley REC:

Blair County: Bishop Guilfoyle High School – Jenna Zetler, daughter of Paul and Beth Zetler of Duncansville, attending Mount Aloysius College; Central High School – Marissa Witkovsky, daughter of Paul and Julie Witkovsky of Roaring Spring, attending Ohio Wesleyan University; and Sarah Ormsby, daughter of Craig and Nina Ormsby of Martinsburg, attending Geneva College; Claysburg-Kimmel High School – Kalee Harten, daughter of Thomas Harten and Penny Harten of Claysburg, attending Indiana University of Pennsylvania; and Anne Mauro, daughter of Guy and Rose Mauro of East Freedom, attending Mount Aloysius; Holidaysburg Area Senior High School – Nicole Dengler, daughter of Walter and Leanne Dengler of Duncansville, attending Juniata College; and Ryan Ickes, son of Randy and Patricia Ickes of Portage, attending Saint Francis University; Williamsburg Junior/Senior High School –

Tanya Umstead, daughter of Timothy and Kimberly Umstead of Williamsburg, attending Duquesne University.

Franklin County: Fannett-Metal High School – Ruth Effland, daughter of Samuel and Karen Effland of Fort Loudon, attending Lancaster General College of Nursing; Greencastle-Antrim High School – Sarah Jansen, daughter of Arnold and Laura Jansen of Fort Loudon, attending Penn State University.

Fulton County: Southern Fulton Junior/Senior High School – Morgan Mills, daughter of Walter and Catherine Mills of Needmore, attending Penn State; and Mariah Hill, daughter of Rod Hill and

Thomas of Mapleton Depot, attending Penn State.

Juniata County: Juniata High School – Jeffrey Burdge, son of Michael and Kristi Burdge of East Waterford, attending Penn State Harrisburg.

Four students currently enrolled in post-secondary institutions were also awarded scholarships from Valley REC for the 2011-12 academic year. They include:

Elaina Truax, daughter of Larry and Susan Truax of Needmore, a 2009 graduate of Southern Fulton Junior/Senior High School attending Elizabethtown College; Lindsay Berkstresser, daughter of

Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

brighter  future
Scholarship Program

Dawn Hill of Needmore, attending Duquesne.

Huntingdon County: Huntingdon Area High School – Samuel Reitman, son of Robert and Carol Peters Reitman of Huntingdon, attending Allegheny College; and Shelby Matthews, daughter of Michael and Amy Matthews of James Creek, attending Liberty University; Juniata Valley High School – Krista Hawn, daughter of William and Lisa Hawn of Petersburg, attending Juniata; and Nathaniel Otjen, son of Lewis and Nora Otjen of Alexandria, attending the University of Iowa; Mount Union Area High School – Brittany Taylor, daughter of James and Rebecca Taylor of McVeytown, attending Messiah College; Southern Huntingdon County High School – Emily Carbaugh, daughter of William and Pamela Carbaugh of Orbisonia, attending Huntington University; and Faith Thomas, daughter of Roger and Rhonda

Dwayne and Betsy Northcraft of Waterfall, a 2009 graduate of Forbes Road High School attending Penn State; Kelsey Morgan, daughter of Dale and Cynthia Morgan of Mapleton Depot, a 2010 graduate of Southern Huntingdon County High School also attending Penn State; and Stephanie Jones, daughter of Michael and Marie Jones of Fort Loudon, a 2008 graduate of James Buchanan High School attending the University of Phoenix.

In addition, one returning adult student received a scholarship from Valley REC. She is Brenda Miller, wife of Todd Miller of James Creek, a 1990 graduate of Huntingdon Area High School attending Juniata.

For more information about Valley Rural Electric Cooperative's Brighter Future Scholarship Program, call 800/432-0680 or visit www.valleyrec.com and follow the Programs and Services link to the Scholarships section.



COURTESY OF UNDERWRITERS LABORATORY

Treat tools with care

BY MAGEN HOWARD

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

BEFORE you fire up that handy power tool for your next do-it-yourself home project, remember that these electrical devices must be treated with care.

Even though many tools are equipped with built-in safety mechanisms, it's still important to proceed with caution. Follow these tips from the U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) when using power tools:

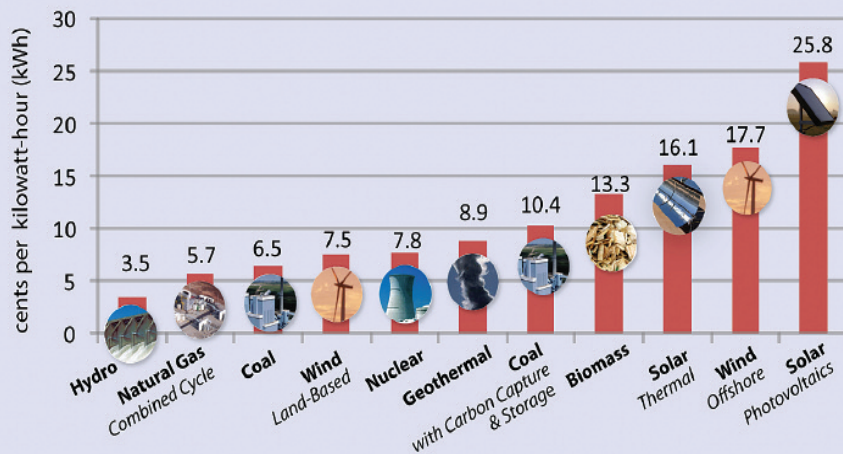
- ▶ Do not carry tools by their cords.
- ▶ Pull the cord out of the outlet by the plug, not by pulling on the cord.
- ▶ Never use power tools in wet or damp job conditions, unless the tool is specifically approved for these conditions. Store them in a dry place when they are not in use.
- ▶ To avoid accidental starts, do not touch the switch or trigger that operates a tool while you are carrying it.
- ▶ Ensure your work area is well-lit.
- ▶ Unplug tools when cleaning or fixing them, while changing other parts such as blades or bits, and when not in use.
- ▶ Check to make sure extension cords are not worn or frayed.
- ▶ Wear proper clothing — no ties, jewelry or other loose items that could get caught in equipment.

"Whether you're on the job or working at home, staying safe around power tools is a must," says Glenda Strong, Valley Rural Electric Co-op's safety and compliance specialist. "Following a few rules could mean the difference between a successful project and an accident."

Source: OSHA

The Cost of New Generation

The cost to build new power plants can vary widely. Each type of generation carries a ballpark price tag. The costs shown below, based on each kilowatt-hour produced, take into account plant construction, fuel, operating and maintenance costs, operating performance assumptions, expected operating life, and general tax and financing assumptions. Wind and solar generation are not directly comparable to other technologies because their power production varies based on weather conditions.



Estimates by National Rural Electric Cooperative Association using U.S. Energy Information Administration data from April 2011



STOCK PHOTO

'Sole' service

Employees and family members from Valley Rural Electric Cooperative raised more than \$1,500 this year for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life campaign. Co-op fundraising efforts (in addition to garnering sponsors) included a round-the-clock walking team, a Christmas basket raffle, sales of coupon booklets and bracelets, and participation in the Huntingdon County Relay for Life Jail 'n Bail and Miss Relay competitions.



Will you help us find these consumers?

LATE LAST YEAR, more than \$945,000 in capital credits refunds was distributed to eligible members and former members of the cooperative. Since then, more than 50 checks have been returned to us by the post office.

We are making every effort to get this money to the rightful owners. Listed on this page are the names of consumers

whose checks cannot be delivered. If you recognize a name and can provide an up-to-date address (or information about the executor of the estate or nearest relative if the member is deceased), please call 800/432-0680, email capitalcredits@valleyrec.com or write to: Capital Credits Department, Valley REC, PO Box 477, Huntingdon, PA 16652-0477.

PENNSYLVANIA

ALLISON, JOAN, 118 GREENLEAF RD, MARTINSBURG, PA 16662
ANTONUCCIO, DAVID, 151 S BISHOP AVE, APT L5, SECANE, PA 19018
BARRETT, BRIAN, 1120 MOUNTAIN RD, PORT ROYAL, PA 17082
BEHRENDT, WILLIAM, 1 MIDDLELAND AVE APT 601, CHARLEROI, PA 15022
BEWARD, CHALMER, 132 S MAIN ST APT 105, LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
BILGER, JEAN, 6051 OLD STAGE RD, MC CLURE, PA 17841
BRANT, ANNABELL, 120 S DIVISION ST APT 72, MOUNT UNION, PA 17066
BROWER, RICHARD, RR 1 BOX 29E, EAST FREEDOM, PA 16637
CAMPBELL, MICHAEL, 512 DEROSE DR, DUNCANSVILLE, PA 16635
CLARK, ELMER, 104 CROPTHORNE LN, YORK, PA 17402
CREAGER, JOHN, 3301 SHELLERS BND # 917, STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801
DEBARTOLOME, JOHN, c/o GEORGIA CHILCOAT, 4043 5TH AVE, ALTOONA, PA 16602
DIEHL, DOTTI, PO BOX 58, RIDDLESBURG, PA 16672
DODSON, MINNIE ESTATE, c/o GLADYS WIESINGER EXECUTRIX, 1048 WILLET DR, JOHNSTOWN, PA 15905
DRASS, SYLVIA, PO BOX 625, HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA 16648
ENCK, JUNIOR, 5455 BOSSLER RD, ELIZABETHTOWN, PA 17022
FLEETWOOD HUNTING CAMP, c/o EARL HAWKINS, 127 N FRANKLIN ST, FLEETWOOD, PA 19522
FOCHT, THEODORE, 1104 MAPLE AVE, N CAMBRIA, PA 15714

FRITZ, T SCOTT, 7498 SUNSET DR, THREE SPRINGS, PA 17264
GARDNER, DAVID, 110 SHIRLEY DR, MIDDLETOWN, PA 17057
GARNER, KATHRYN, 17050 COUNTRY VIEW LN, SHIRLEYSBURG, PA 17260
GERHOLT, PENNY, PO BOX 134, MAPLETON DEPOT, PA 17052
GLADFELTER, LEROY, 115 COTTONWOOD AVE, SAINT THOMAS, PA 17252
GUSTAFSON, CHERYL, 750 TOFTREES AVE APT 321, STATE COLLEGE, PA 16803
HARDY, MILDRED, c/o BROOKLINE MANOR, PO BOX 463, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
KANAVICH, MICHAEL, 205 ORCHARD ST, JOHNSTOWN, PA 15905
KITCHEN, WILLIAM, 60 NAILOR RD, DILLSBURG, PA 17019
LONG, DALE, HC 71 BOX 665, ORBISONIA, PA 17243
MARTZ, MICHELLE, c/o MARANTHA, PO BOX 507, CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201
MCCONAUGHEY, JOHN, 19916 HILL VALLEY RD, THREE SPRINGS, PA 17264
MIERLEY, CLEO ESTATE, OR CONNIE HOMOLOSH EXECUTRIX, 2206 WOODED WAY, HUNTINGDON, PA 16652
MUSSELMAN, RICHARD, 118 E JULIAN ST, MARTINSBURG, PA 16662
POLLARD, CAROL, 2626 OLD ROUTE 22, DUNCANSVILLE, PA 16635
RICHARDS, JACK, 319 HOOT OWL LN, DUNCANSVILLE, PA 16635
RITCHEY, JUNIOR, 819 WAYNE AVE, PORTAGE, PA 15946
ROSE, EMMA, c/o SHIRLEY MUSSELMAN, RR 1 BOX 1060, CLAYSBURG, PA 16625

ROSE, EMMA, 3861 PINE HOLLOW RD, CLAYSBURG, PA 16625
SMITH, DANIEL, PO BOX 314, PINE GROVE MILLS, PA 16868
SNYDER, RUBY, c/o RHONDA MCKEE, RR 1 BOX 29B, EAST FREEDOM, PA 16637
SPECK, CLYDE, RR 1 BOX 29AA, EAST FREEDOM, PA 16637
STRALEY, E, 551 MAIN ST STE 220, JOHNSTOWN, PA 15901
TRINDLE, MARGUERITE, 600 OLD STREET RD, APT 214, FEASTERVILLE-TREVOSE, PA 19053
VORHES, DAVID, PO BOX 515, CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201
WEYANDT, JAMES, PO BOX 421, CLAYSBURG, PA 16625
WILSON, JEFFREY, PO BOX 1123, STATE COLLEGE, PA 16804

OUT OF STATE

BLACK, BETTY, PO BOX 3549, OCALA, FL 34477
COPPOCK, GEORGE, 5745 E RAMADA RD, CORNVILLE, AZ 86325
GUBACK, STEPHEN, 7442 SPRING VILLAGE DR APT 104, SPRINGFIELD, VA 22150
QUARLES, OWEN, c/o TINA MITCHELL, PO BOX 20174, ROANOKE, VA 24018
REED, MARC, 7259 FOUNTAIN PALM CIR, BRADENTON, FL 34203
SHARP, TISCHA, 1621 LAKESHORE CT APT B, HOMEWOOD, AL 35209
STANEK, JOSEPH, c/o AUDREY STANEK, 437 DELAWARE AVE, LORAIN, OH 44052
WALLS, SUSAN, 1500 S JUPITER RD, ALLEN, TX 75002