

Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A 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

COOPERATIVE CONNECTION

Stay Away from Downed Lines



DOUG ROLES

DO YOU REMEMBER THE GAME SHOW “Are you smarter than a 5th grader?” This is the one where contestants would be asked up to 10 questions on subjects studied by students in elementary school classes. Contestants could win big or flunk out. They often relied on a “save,” a call for help from actual students who would provide an answer. Some of those kids were pretty sharp for their age!

I appreciate how much knowledge students have each time I present a tabletop safety demonstration to third and fourth graders. Many of them understand conductors and insulators — and they even know that humans are in the first category.

Our presentation focuses on safety around energized equipment, especially downed wires. We tell students that if they see a downed line, their next move should be to back away from the area and inform an adult.

Most of the time, the kids get it. Hopefully, adults do, too.

Over the past year, we’ve received several reports of people approaching downed lines or other utility equipment, either on foot or in a vehicle. Each time we receive those reports, I think the same thing: What can be gained by getting closer to a possible hazard?

We tell elementary school students that a downed-but-energized wire may or may not make sparks. Often, there is no visible indication that electricity is still flowing, and yet current could still be entering the ground. We teach them that to stay safe, they should always assume a downed line is energized and to stay at least 40 feet away from it.

We also tell them to be aware of objects in the area that might be energized, such as guide rails and tree limbs. We advise students to stay clear of branches in contact with power lines, and if someone is operating a large piece of equipment, they should be alert about overhead lines, too.

According to the National Institutes of Health, nearly 400 people are killed by high-voltage electrocution in the U.S. each year, and the most common cause of those deaths is coming in contact with a downed line.

Don’t become a statistic. Be just as smart as the elementary school students we speak with each year. Don’t be curious; be safe. Once you see a hazard, back away. And just like in the game show, a “save” call exists — just reach out to your local cooperative or dial 911. They’ll have the right answer. 📞

DOUG ROLES

VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBER SERVICES

Co-op Connections: Your Link to Savings

AS A VALLEY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE MEMBER, you can use the free Co-op Connections app or your free Co-op Connections Card to receive valuable discounts at local participating businesses listed on these pages — as well as at numerous national retailers.

Keep this directory handy to identify local participants. Also, keep an eye out for Co-op Connections Card decals on doors or cash registers where you shop.

For a current list of participating businesses and discounts, along with many other offerings and savings, visit valleyrec.com and click on the “Co-op Connections Card” icon on the homepage. Once on the Co-op Connections site, scroll down to get the app or sign up and log in to see all the benefits available to you.



AUTOMOTIVE/MOTORCYCLE

J&P Auto Mart

1906 Pleasant Valley Blvd., Altoona

Offer: \$1,000 off the purchase of any vehicle. Limit one per vehicle. Can't be combined with any other offer/sale. Not applicable for prior purchase.

Pro-Trans

2400 Commercial Blvd., State College

Offer: 5% off transmission service and repair

CONTRACTORS/BUILDING SUPPLY

Adams Electric, Inc.

870 31st St., Altoona

Offer: 10% off electrical estimates

Center Region Stone Supply

3462 Birmingham Pike, Tyrone

Offer: 10% off retail prices on Appleridge stone, FireRock fireplaces and Holland grills

Fink Brothers Supply

961 Pennsylvania Ave., Tyrone

Offer: 20% off in-stock PPG paints

G.B. Wineland & Son, Inc.

201 S. Railroad St., Martinsburg

Offers: 5% off Polaris insulated doors and/or 5% off five or more Polaris windows

Gary's Homes, Inc.

13270 Lincoln Highway, Everett

Offer: 10% discount on parts purchased in the parts store

ImPressive Floors, Inc.

118 S. Richard St., Bedford

Offers: 10% off any cash-and-carry item from the store; \$20 off any ordered special materials, 144 square feet or more; \$20 off any two or more Hunter Douglas window treatments. These offers cannot be combined with any other offer.

Joseph T. Berrena Mechanicals, Inc.

279 Standing Stone Ave., Huntingdon

Offers: 20% off Hydroflow S38 chemical-free

water treatment device; 10% off parts and service

Lewistown Floor Company

518 W. 4th St., Lewistown

Offer: 10% off any carpet purchase over 450 square feet (50 square yards)

Mount Union Lumber & Supply, Inc.

114 W. Poplar St., Mount Union

Offer: Receive a \$200 rebate on the purchase of any one of the following Fujitsu mini-split units: 9RLS3Y, 12RLS3Y, 15RLS3Y, 18RLXFZ dual-headed unit and 24RLXFZ triple-headed unit. Please notify us at the time of purchase about the Co-op Connections Card.

PJs Hearth & Home Heating

2447 Quaker Valley Road, New Paris

Offer: 5% off anything in the store, including installations and cleanings

Rick Worthy Contracting, Inc.

10321 Sugar Grove Road, Huntingdon

Offer: 5% discount

Superior Floorcoverings & Kitchens, LLC

393 Beddington Blvd., Suite 101B, Chambersburg

Offer: 7% discount; cannot be combined with other discounts.

DINING/FOOD

Allegro Restaurant

3926 Broad Ave., Altoona

Offer: Buy one dinner entree and receive \$5 off the second dinner entree. Not applicable for alcoholic beverages, lunch menu, family-style menu and dinner-for-2 menu. Maximum value \$5. Not redeemable for cash.

Couch's Subs & Groceries

13605 Greenwood Road, Huntingdon

Offer: 5% discount on any menu item

Hobo's Restaurant

180 Hyndman Road, Hyndman

Offer: 10% off daily special or dinner entree (dine-in only)

J.P. Edward's Grill and Bar

203 S. Logan Blvd., Burnham

Offer: 10% off, excluding alcohol and specials

Jethro's, LLC

417 Parkview Lane, Altoona

Offer: 10% off. Not valid after 4 p.m.

Fridays and Saturdays, on holidays or with any other discount. Excludes tax, alcohol and gratuity.

Queen City Fruit & Produce

125 E. Central Way, Bedford

Offer: 50 cents off product not already discounted

Speck's Deli & Gourmet Pizza

12144 William Penn Highway, Huntingdon

Offer: 10% off menu-priced items. Value meals and promotions excluded.

Wild Annie's

300 Lowry Drive, McConnellsburg

Offer: 10% off any menu item

ENTERTAINMENT

Holiday Bowl

11862 William Penn Highway, Huntingdon

Offer: Free shoe rental

Isett Heritage Museum

11941 Stone Creek Ridge Road, Huntingdon

Offer: \$1 off admission

Lincoln Caverns & Whisper Rocks

7703 William Penn Highway, Huntingdon
Offer: \$1 off all adult tickets during regularly scheduled tours. Not valid during special events or in combination with other discounts.

Rockhill Trolley Museum

430 Meadow St., Rockhill Furnace

Offer: Buy one ticket, get one free. Not valid for special events.

HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS

Angelina's Spa Motion

250 1st Ave., State College

Offer: \$5 off any massage service and/or product order or gift card of \$35 or more

HMJ PATCH Program

900 Bryan St., Suite 5, Huntingdon

Offer: Free quit-tobacco program — free support, resources and nicotine patches/gum

Huntingdon Vision Center, Ltd.

828 Washington St., Huntingdon

Offer: 5% off total bill when paid with cash or check at time of service; excludes vision plans

Modern Family Dentistry

3195 Cold Springs Road, Huntingdon

Offer: \$75 off new patient exam, cleaning and X-rays (must be a new patient of record)

S'Hair-Eng Styling Salon

139 Kelly Alley, State College

Offer: 10% discount on all chemical and color services

HOME, GARDEN & FARM

Antietam Iron Works &

Powder Coating, LLC

201 Lincoln Way West, Suite 100, McConnellsburg

Offers: 10% off powder coating order for first-time customers; 10% off iron fence or railings (maximum discount \$200); and 10% off gift shop items. Must mention Co-op Connections Card when placing order.

BluAcres, LLC

12 Black St., Williamsburg

Offers: \$250 discount on pond dredging and permit plan; \$100 discount on wetland delineation

CCI Cleaning Connection, Inc.

1107 Locust St., Chambersburg

Offers: Save 20% on initial services with signed contract; save 10% on any other service. Not valid with coupon offers.

Chimney Doctor

7737 Main Road, Bedford

Offers: \$20 off chimney sweep; \$50 off chimney repair

Envinity, Inc.

25 Decibel Road, Suite 205, State College

Offer: \$100 toward a comprehensive home energy audit. Audit includes a blower door test, thermal imaging, a solar

site assessment and a comprehensive report on all energy-saving opportunities in your home.

Hines Feed Store

210 S. Juniata St., Hollidaysburg

Offer: 5% off, excluding feed and fertilizer

Mid State Chimney Sweeps, LLC

595 Calhoun Road, Everett

Offers: \$10 off any chimney cleanings; 10% off any chimney liner installed

Mill Hill Farm Supply, Inc.

161 Mill Hill Road and 618 Canal St., Williamsburg

Offer: \$5 off any \$25 purchase

Potted Memories Greenhouse

5118 Piney Creek Road, Williamsburg

Offer: 10% off purchase of \$50 or more

Raystown Decorator Fabric

7163 William Penn Highway, Alexandria

Offer: 20% off fabrics in stock

Roberts Four Season Power Equipment

613 N. Logan Blvd., Altoona

Offer: 5% off purchase of new mower

OFFICE/PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Fatal Attractionz (D-Signs)

2816 U.S. Highway 522 South, McVeytown

Offer: 10% off all purchases

The Film Center

3415 Pleasant Valley Blvd., Altoona

Offer: Fifty 4-by-6-inch photo-lab quality prints from your digital camera for \$10. Next day pickup required.

Huntingdon Offset Printing Company

1515 Penn St., Huntingdon

Offer: Buy 500 full-color, one-sided business cards, get 500 free. Must be the same card.

Julie's K-9 Kuts

14310 Croghan Pike, Mount Union

Offers: 10% off merchandise (except those sold on consignment); 5% off all grooming services

MJH Services

126 E. Pitt St., Suite 2B, Bedford

Offer: \$10 discount on tax return preparation

One-Stop Communications

101 E. Market St., Lewistown

Offers: \$10 off any wireless phone; 20% off standard phone accessories

Paul Prough Photography

59 Lower Country Club Road, Mount Union

Offer: 10% discount on all orders

Tiny Tots Childcare and Learning Center, LLC

22965 Croghan Pike, Shade Gap, and

55 N. Riverside Drive, Mount Union

Offers: 5% discount for families that are enrolled Monday through Friday; \$25 per child for date night care or "Parents Night Out"

RECREATION/SPORTS

Bear Creek RV

17481 Raystown Road, James Creek

Offer: 10% off regular-priced items

Freedom RV Rentals

360 Travelers Road, East Freedom

Offer: 15% discount

Saxton Outdoor Supply

10520 Raystown Road, Saxton

Offers: 15% off any in-stock bait; 10% off any in-stock Carhartt item (one item only per purchase)

RETAIL

Prospector Jewelers

1514 Cove Lane Road, Martinsburg

Offer: 10% discount

Raystown Electronics, Inc.

14188 Croghan Pike, Mount Union

Offer: Discount varies with product

Vintage Jewelry Chest

8493 Woodbury Pike, Hollidaysburg

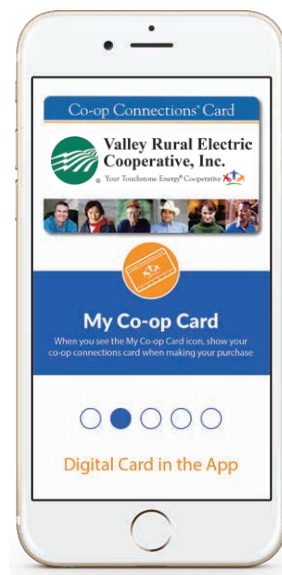
Offer: 20% discount

TRAVEL

The Penn Stater Conference Center & Hotel

215 Innovation Blvd., State College

Offer: Complimentary guestroom upgrade (based on availability)



DIGITAL SAVINGS: Search "Co-op Connections" in the app store and download the app, which will enable you to use your member benefits when shopping, dining out and hiring vendors.

Meet Your Employees

OWEN WINTER JOINED THE VALLEY Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) team in October 2023 and now works as a second-year apprentice lineman at the Huntingdon district office.

Owen lives in Three Springs and is the son of Ed and Karen Winter, also of Three Springs. He is a 2023 graduate of Southern Huntingdon County High School, where he played football and basketball and ran track & field. In the summertime, he worked on a farm.

No stranger to hard work, Owen helped make hay and take care of beef cattle. He also did carpentry work for a local contractor. Upon graduating high school, Owen obtained his commercial driver's license (CDL) after he completed a course at Huntingdon County Career & Technology Center.

Owen's interest in line work stems from his father, who was a lineman for 35 years for Henkles & McCoy. Ed worked in York, and Owen often traveled with him, developing an understanding of the demands of utility work.

After he received his CDL, Owen explored getting into union utility work. Through that process, he heard that Valley REC was hiring because of upcoming employee retirements.

At that point, Owen was familiar with the cooperative because he completed a one-day job-shadowing at Valley during his junior year of high school. He was hired as an apprentice.

Now, as a second-year apprentice, Owen's responsibilities include a mix of ground work and working from a bucket on deenergized line. He also runs a digger derrick truck.

"I just like being outside," Owen says. "Every day is a



READY FOR ANYTHING: Owen Winter joined the Valley Rural Electric Cooperative team in October 2023 and works in the co-op's Huntingdon district.

new day. You learn something new. I like being around the guys and I like working outages."

His goal is to complete the cooperative's required school courses and become a journeyman lineman. The four- to five-year process includes completing courses offered through the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association's Job Training & Safety program.

When not working, Owen enjoys hunting, fishing, and hanging out with family and friends. His family lives in the southern Huntingdon area.

"We kind of all stuck around the area," he says.

We hope Owen will stick around the cooperative for a long and successful career. He's one of the people you can count on. 🍷

MAKING THE CUT

James Storm Vaughn, a Valley Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) journeyman lineman, cuts a notch into a felled tree near the cooperative's Huntingdon district office on Aug. 13. Linemen from seven electric cooperatives in Pennsylvania and New Jersey attended the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association's Advanced Chainsaw School, hosted by Valley REC Aug. 12 to 14. Trainers with Penn Line Service, Inc. covered topics such as rigging, cutting under tension and operating pole saws.

