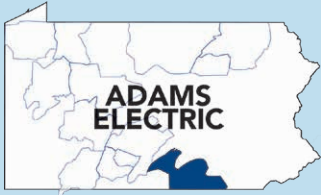




Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

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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.

Building for Your Future



ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ALWAYS HAS a plan for the future.

As a not-for-profit electric utility, we've learned to run lean. With just 76 employees, we must wear many hats and balance many responsibilities. Multitasking and cross-training keep us at our best. This is especially true with planning and budgeting.

With a new capital budget of just \$13.5 million, mostly for construction, we are theming 2024 a year of "Building for Your Future." Our 2023 capital budget was \$13.2 million. These investments all lead to growth and better service reliability.

Most of the prep work started in 2023 as we developed our long-range work plan. I'm sure you heard the word "infrastructure" a lot last year. That's because the ability to keep power flowing relies on a stronger, more resilient infrastructure.

One major accomplishment in 2023 was fully energizing a new metering point in Parkville, York County, in October. Many employees had a hand in that project and deserve to be commended.

Last year, we also completed another large project: the installation of three-phase underground cable throughout the Amblebrook development in Gettysburg, Adams County. This subdivision, expected to add more than 1,400 new accounts to the co-op's service area, sits between our Gettysburg and Lake Heritage metering points, so transitioning all our overhead facilities to underground was a major undertaking. In another notable project, we rebuilt the express feed circuit from parts of Fairfield and Carroll Valley to Ski Liberty, one of our largest accounts.


In our Shippensburg District, we revamped our McCrea substation, including replacing several poles, oil circuit reclosers, automated switches and underground cable. We also tied together our feeders near Bloserville, Cumberland County, to allow remote switching and replaced a 50-year-old service feeding another one of our key accounts, Beistle Company.

We also changed out numerous poles and crossarms on the dual-circuit going south out of our Rinely Substation in Southern York County. This was a result of the major storm damage in that area in August.

Building for the future, this year we plan to replace 15 aged poles on a transmission line near Fairfield, Adams County, with ductile iron poles and about 50 poles near Newville, Cumberland County, between our McCrea and Bloserville substations. We are also going to start a rehab project at our Abbottstown, Adams County, metering point, add a new feeder near Lake Heritage, Adams County, and upgrade service near Brodbeck's, York County. We'll also start preliminary preparations for a new Cleversburg substation in Cumberland County that will take shape in 2025-2026.

We're continuing our five-year plan to replace every meter in our distribution system by 2026. Each meter has a remote disconnect switch installed. So far, about 10,700 meters have been replaced. Another 6,000 meters are scheduled for 2024.

We know we can't just focus on the poles and wires; there's so much other technology we need to have functioning at high levels, too. We took steps in 2023 to increase our cyber and technical security, including changing our multi-factor authentication provider and upgrading our switch infrastructure. In 2024, we will also be replacing our phone system and relocating our disaster recovery site.

It all comes down to better, greater, and more reliable service. We're building our system for your future power needs, while staying within our means as a not-for-profit business. 

STEVE RASMUSSEN
CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

Co-op Past Helps Build Bright Future

SARAH FRANK, CCC, COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR

COLLEGE JUNIOR MAGGIE SCARBOROUGH comes from a long line of co-op enthusiasts. Maggie is no exception.

In the 1960s, Maggie's maternal grandparents moved into a house in Adams Electric Cooperative's service territory that did not have electricity. After joining the co-op and running electricity to their home, the family has since connected two other houses to the co-op's service on the same road.

Maggie's paternal grandfather was a lineworker for the cooperative until he retired in 1999. Her grandparents served as chaperones for the Rural Electric Youth Tour, and her parents and their siblings represented the cooperative as Youth Tour delegates.

"They all had the same 'wow' experience with the co-op and Youth Tour," Maggie says of her family's experience. "It's got to be good, right? All eight members of my family have said it's an awesome opportunity."

In 2019, Maggie and her twin brother followed in their family's footsteps and were accepted as Youth Tour delegates for the 2020 event. Unfortunately, that trip was delayed then canceled that year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It would have been so cool," Maggie says.

But she didn't let the cancellation of the trip stop her engagement with the co-op. Maggie went onto apply for the Glenn English National Cooperative Leadership Foundation Scholarship, given by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. The scholarship is usually reserved for those who have gone on the trip, but Maggie is an official Youth Tour alumna after being accepted and starting the process.

"The scholarship was awarded based on a video submission," she says. "My video featured what Adams Electric means to my family. We have all been impacted by the co-op."

Maggie attends Virginia Tech, majoring in biological systems and engineering with minors in biomedical engineering and Spanish. Maggie spends her time working in labs and the library. She studied in Spain last year and hopes next year to travel to Nepal, where she and her classmates will work with villagers on irrigation canals as a service project.

"It meant the world to me that I received the award," she

says. "As an out-of-state student at Virginia Tech, the cost is a weight on my shoulders, and this is really impactful."

Maggie may not have traveled to D.C. for Youth Tour, but when asked about the opportunity, her response is a resounding, "Do it!"

"Absolutely, go for it. Apply," she insists. "It is an awesome opportunity that you would never otherwise experience, meeting people from all over the nation. It's so unique. My parents still talk about it. Make sure to check out the scholarships that go along with it, too. There's so much opportunity that comes with being a co-op member."

Do you have a high school junior interested in applying for this once-in-a-lifetime trip? The 2024 trip will be held June 16-21.

Selected delegates will visit the U.S. Capitol, tour historic landmarks and interact with more than 1,600 other high school juniors from across the nation.



MAGGIE SCARBOROUGH

Take the trip

There is a limited number of delegate positions for this all-inclusive trip. The deadline to schedule an interview is Jan. 10. Interviews will be conducted Jan. 15 at the cooperative's headquarters in Gettysburg. Students must reside in the cooperative's service territory, but DO NOT need to be related to a co-op member. To be considered for Youth Tour selection, visit the Adams Electric Youth Tour webpage and complete the online form at adamsec.coop/rural-electric-youth-tour.

Earn the scholarship

Maggie's story shows co-op engagement can pay off. The cooperative also offers scholarships to high school seniors, undergraduates and adult students. High school seniors can now apply for a \$1,500 scholarship at adamscountydfs.org. Applications must be received by March 15. The co-op will begin accepting applications for undergraduate and adult scholarships in February. Scholarships are available in varying amounts, up to \$5,000. Learn more at adamsec.coop.

"I'm just really thankful that my family moved to this area and got service to the house from the co-op," Maggie says.

"It's a really unique company, and I'm grateful to be a part of it." 📍

Rate Increase Takes Effect on February Bills

ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE IS COMMITTED to providing the most reliable power at the lowest reasonable cost for service. Your board of directors works diligently to minimize rate increases. To ensure the financial stability of the cooperative, your board voted in November 2023 to raise rates Jan. 1, 2024.

For the average residential consumer-member who uses 1,250 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity per month, we are projecting a \$10 a month increase. This adjustment could be higher or lower individually, depending on your electric usage and rate classification with the cooperative. The changes, which will appear on your billing statement received in February, include an increase in both the total energy supply and total distribution.

In simple terms, the energy charge is the cost for electricity being generated, or purchased, and delivered to the cooperative. This is directly passed through to the membership with no mark-up.

The wholesale power cost adjustment (WPCA), which the co-op uses each year to re-balance the over- or under-collection of energy charges for the previous year's billed amount is increasing by \$0.004 per kWh, per month.

The distribution side correlates to the cost of delivering

electricity from the co-op to each member home or business in addition to the cost of maintaining reliable poles, wires, and equipment. The monthly access charge will increase by \$3 per month, plus the per-kWh charge will increase from \$0.029 to \$0.030 per kWh, per month. The storm reserve is being increased to \$1.25 per month, to replenish the fund from its use in 2023.

Electricity rates across the country have gone up due to increased fuel and environmental costs. However, even with this adjustment, the co-op's rates are comparable to or below other neighboring utilities. Members are encouraged to consider how they may be able to help control their own energy expenses. We offer tips for saving energy on *adamsec.coop*, and we can also provide resources on energy efficiency incentives and money-saving programs, like U-Shift, U-Save.

If you would like to learn more, please reach out to our member services representatives or energy use specialists. You can also download the SmartHub app to track your energy use or sign up for various account notifications.

As always, if you have any questions about the co-op, our rates or the rate you are currently paying for electricity, please give us a call at 800-726-2324. 📞

Rate Increase	Average Bill in 2023*			Average Bill in 2024*			Difference
	1250	\$0.082	\$102.50	1250	\$0.082	\$102.50	
Energy Charge	1250	\$0.082	\$102.50	1250	\$0.082	\$102.50	\$0.00
WPCA	1250	\$0.00	\$0.00	1250	\$0.004	\$5.00	\$5.00
Total Energy Supply			\$102.50			\$107.50	\$5.00
Access Charge			\$36.75			\$39.75	\$3.00
Storm Reserve			\$0.50			\$1.25	\$0.75
Distribution Charge	1250	\$0.029	\$36.25	1250	\$0.030	\$37.50	\$1.25
Total Distribution			\$73.50			\$78.50	\$5.00
Total Basic Charges			\$176.00			\$186.00	\$10.00

*Average based on 1,250 kwh for standard residential rate.

COST OF SERVICE: This rate adjustment illustration shows the rate increase for a residential co-op member who consumes on average 1,250 kilowatt-hours of power each month.

Applications Available for Open Board Seats

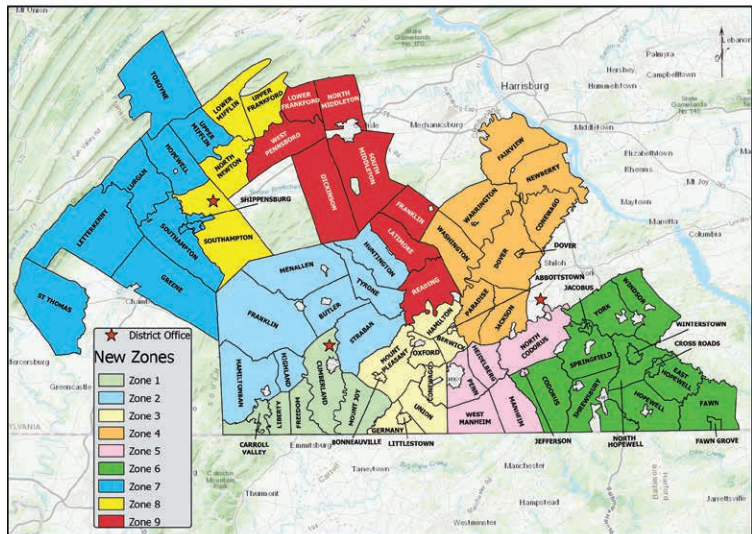
DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES to be a director of your local rural electric distribution cooperative?

Now is the time to get engaged in the director election process if you are a cooperative member in good standing who resides in Zone 1, 5 or 8.

Director candidates must meet all membership qualifications as set forth in the co-op's bylaws. The full membership will then elect one director each from Zones 1, 5 and 8 to help direct the business of the cooperative for the next three years.

Each candidate must complete a petition packet, including a personal profile and statement of candidacy, among other requirements. Candidates must also secure signatures and addresses of at least 15 Adams Electric Cooperative members on an official petition.

Candidate packets may be picked up, by appointment only, at any Adams Electric office. All required paperwork must be "actually and physically received" at the co-op's



headquarters office in Gettysburg before 5 p.m. Jan. 31. For more information, contact the co-op's communications department at 800-726-2324 or visit adamsec.coop/director-responsibilities.

Get Account News on the Go

ARE YOU TAKING ADVANTAGE OF all the communication services available to you as a co-op account holder?

Several options are available, including billing, payment, account and outage notifications. Members must have an active SmartHub account to receive these notifications. Selections can be turned off or on based on user preference.

To sign up to receive text or email notifications and alerts, do the following:

- ▶ Register for a SmartHub account at the top of the home screen at adamsec.coop or log into your SmartHub account at adamsec.smarthub.coop.
- ▶ From SmartHub, hover over "Notifications" in the green menu bar and select "Manage

Contacts" in the drop-down menu.

- ▶ Add your email address or cell-phone number as a new contact.
- ▶ Again, hover over "Notifications" in the green menu bar and select "Manage Notifications."
- ▶ Set your preferences for each type of notification available, including account updates, outage alerts, U-Shift (water heater and subpanel interruption) notifications, or co-op announcements.

Outage notifications can include a message if the power is out at a member's home, as well as an estimated restoration time. Also, whenever the restoration time is manually updated by the co-op or power is restored, the member will get an update.

The newsletter services focus on trending energy topics, including

energy efficiency, beneficial electrification and keeping your monthly energy bill low. Directed to the average residential member, the bi-monthly newsletter, "Member Power," empowers members to take their energy use into their own hands and make smart, energy-conscious decisions while continuing to power their lives and homes. Aimed at helping key accounts and small businesses keep their energy bills stable, the "Watt's Trending" newsletter offers co-op-specific trends, as well as energy-saving tips and recommendations.

You can unsubscribe from emails at any time and stop texts by responding "STOP" to any text message received from the co-op. For more information or help registering for a notification, call 800-726-2324.

Co-Op Adds Employees, Promotes from Within

WELCOME ABOARD TO Angela “Angie” Phillips of East Berlin, a member services representative in the York District. Angie joined Adams Electric Cooperative Oct. 2, 2023. Before coming to Adams, she worked as a loan processor with Envoy Mortgage, LTD. Angie is a graduate of North Carroll High School.

Welcome also to **Alexis Coscia-Kranias** of Gettysburg, a member services representative in the Gettysburg District. She started Oct. 16, 2023. Before coming to Adams, she worked as a server/bartender at the Dobbin House Tavern. Alexis is a graduate of

Gettysburg Area High School.

October also brought promotions to co-op employees. Effective Oct. 12, 2023, **Dru Hartman** of York moved to second-year apprentice at the York District. Effective Oct. 17, 2023, **Wyatt Taughinbaugh** of Abbottstown moved to second-year apprentice at the York District. Both started with the co-op in January 2023.

In mid-November, **Jennifer “Jenn” McCleaf** of Aspers accepted a position change to administrative specialist within the Human Resources/Communications/Member Services Department at the co-op headquarters

in Gettysburg. Jenn will retain some of her current duties as a member services representative. Before coming to Adams in August 2022, she worked as a relationship director for the Gettysburg Adams Chamber of Commerce. Jenn obtained her associate of applied science degree from Central Pennsylvania College in Summerdale.

Also in November, **Ryan Gelnett** of Shippensburg was promoted to journeyman second class at the Shippensburg District. He started with Adams in 2019 as a first-year apprentice in the operations department. 🇺🇸



ANGIE PHILLIPS



ALEXIS COSCIA-KRANIAS



DRU HARTMAN



WYATT TAUGHINBAUGH



JENN MCCLEAF



RYAN GELNETT



EMPLOYEES HONORED: CEO/General Manager Steve Rasmussen, middle row at left, and board President Glenn Bange, at right, congratulate all Adams Electric 2023 Service Award recipients at the Employee and Board Recognition Banquet in October. Those receiving awards include, front row, from left: Brian Shearer, 35 years; Mark Cramer, 25 years; Jayme Hawn, 20 years; and Director Dale Myers, five years. Middle row, from left: Rasmussen, Meredith Miller, five years; Kami Noel, 15 years; Lisa Willet, 15 years; Karen Harner, 15 years; Guy Gorman, 30 years; Mike Chamberlin, 15 years. Back row, from left: Jim Chiaruttini, 10 years; Mike McKinney, 10 years; Kyle Smith, 15 years; Tony McCauslin, 15 years; Andrew Mummert, five years; and Adam Waldron, 10 years. During a dinner at the Adams County Historical Society, employees, board members and their guests congratulated recipients for a combined 275 years of service. Recipients not shown are Director Nadine Hubner, 10 years, and Craig Mummert, 20 years.

A Reminder to Rental Property Owners

WHETHER YOU ARE: 1) a new owner of rental properties on the Adams Electric Cooperative distribution system, or otherwise own rental properties that are new to our system, and/or 2) are a continuing owner of rental properties on the Adams Electric system, the co-op wants to remind you of certain procedures for electric service to rental properties.

When electric service is in the name of a tenant and that tenant moves out of the rental property, the cooperative will do the following:

- ▶ If a new tenant moves in upon the departure of the former tenant AND the new tenant properly notifies Adams Electric, we will place the service in the name of the new tenant(s). “Properly” notifying us means the new tenant is responsible for providing the cooperative with the new occupancy information as well as all necessary and completed co-op membership information and documents.
- ▶ If a new tenant does not move in upon the departure of the former tenant OR the new tenant fails to timely or properly notify Adams Electric, we will place service in the property owner’s name.

Remember: It is the property owner’s responsibility to notify their tenant(s) of the need to properly and timely contact Adams Electric, if the property owner wants to avoid the electric service defaulting to their name.

As an alternative, if a new tenant is not moving into a rental property, and you do not want the electric service placed in your name (as the owner), you may choose to have the electric service disconnected. To do so, you must: 1) instruct Adams Electric in writing (signed by you) to

disconnect the service and 2) timely notify Adams Electric before the service defaults to your name. This must be done each time you want a service disconnected.

If you choose to disconnect the service: a) You or anyone else (whether a tenant, new owner, or otherwise) who contacts Adams Electric to reconnect electric service and establish an account shall be required to first pay all applicable fees, including without limitation, a re-establishment fee, a reconnection fee, and any other applicable fees and costs; AND b) you must acknowledge that such disconnection shall be at your own risk, and you assume any and all risks whatsoever regarding potential damage and/or injury from any consequence thereof (including but not limited to injuries to any person, any property damage, pipes freezing, etc.), and that Adams Electric shall not have any liability for any such damage, injuries, claims, or consequences thereof.


If you have questions, please call our member services representatives at 800-726-2324. 📞


ENERGY EFFICIENCY
TIP OF THE MONTH

During winter months, ensure your home is well sealed to reduce the need for excessive heating. Seal air leaks around your home and add insulation where needed to save up to 10% on annual energy bills.


Install weather stripping on exterior doors and apply caulk around windows. Check attic insulation levels and hire a qualified contractor if additional insulation is required.

Source: energystar.gov





New Year's
Energy Savings
Resolutions



Resolutions You Can Afford to Keep!

It costs nothing to...
Set the water heater temperature to 120 degrees.
Run only full loads in the washer or dishwasher.
Turn off lights when you leave a room.
Unplug electronics and chargers not in use.
Adjust your thermostat when going to bed or leaving the home.
Spend a few dollars to save a lot more ...
Get a water heater blanket.
Use a programmable thermostat.
Seal air leaks around windows, doors, plumbing, etc.
Replace regular bulbs with CFL or LED lightbulbs.
Use a smart powerstrip for electronics.
To generate more energy savings, visit SafeElectricity.org

Making Note of Your Medical Needs

IF YOU RESIDE ON THE cooperative's lines and have a resident in your home who requires life support equipment, Adams Electric would like to know.

Please have your physician send us a signed letter that can be filed with your account. This letter should include your personal information related to your electric account and what life support equipment is necessary for your survival in the event of a power outage.

This letter can be mailed to Adams Electric at P.O. Box 1055, Gettysburg, PA 17325-1055. We do not provide a sample letter.

Even with the life support information on file, we cannot guarantee power will never be interrupted to an account, and we also can't predict the time or length of any outage, especially during major storms.

This also does not prevent an account from going through the disconnect process.

With this in mind, we strongly suggest members with serious health problems take these steps to prepare for power emergencies, if you have

not already done so:

- ▶ Determine who you can call (friend, family member, neighbor, local social service agency, etc.) and where you can go in the event of an extended power interruption.
- ▶ Stock up on prescriptions and medical supplies when you hear a major storm is approaching.
- ▶ Keep a battery-operated radio nearby to get the latest information on power restoration efforts and emergency shelter locations.
- ▶ Keep your electronic devices charged with a full battery, when able, in case power does go out.
- ▶ Report your outage as soon as the power goes out.
- ▶ If you have internet access, visit Storm Central at adamsec.coop for more information on preparing for storms and related power interruptions.

If you have a social media account, follow the cooperative on Facebook for real-time updates. If you have any questions, please call our office at 800-726-2324. 📞



RESTORING YOUR POWER



Powering Medical Equipment During an Outage

If you or a loved one use assistive technology or medical devices that require electricity to operate, power outages can be dangerous if you're unprepared. Stay safe by planning ahead and taking these actions before an outage.

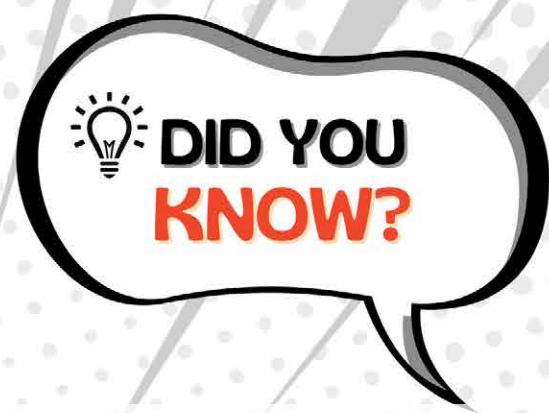
-  Inform your energy company and fire department that you have power-dependent medical equipment.
-  Plug your medical device into a surge protector to keep it safe from sudden increases of electrical voltage.
-  If your device can run on a backup system — like a generator or batteries — learn how the backup system works and how long it will last.
-  Keep a cooler and ice packs nearby to store medications that need to be kept at a certain temperature in case the refrigerator loses power.
-  Prepare an emergency kit with any additional supplies you may need to last up to three days without power.
-  Create an emergency file with instructions for device usage, who should help in case of an emergency, medical records and other essential information.

With a backup plan in place, you can keep yourself and your loved ones safe in the event of a power outage.



Co-op Spotlight

Getting to know your employees and directors



Georgie Drowsky



Who am I: Member services representative — I take care of all our members' needs, questions and concerns. I answer all questions concerning billing, all areas of the field service, high bill concerns, payment arrangements, outage calls, service orders, property

owner information, transfers, disconnect, reconnect and many other member needs. We also handle all tracking of service orders and new service paperwork. I have been with Adams Electric for 17 years. I am a Pennsylvania notary and have my supervisor training.

Family life: I live in Gettysburg with my husband, our twin boys and two sheltie puppies. We love going camping and traveling as much as we can. I also enjoy scrapbooking, reading books, hiking, and walking in our beautiful

Sheila Neil



Who am I: I have worked for Adams Electric for 18 years. My current title is billing associate, but most of my time here has been as a member services representative in the Shippensburg District office.

Family life: I enjoy spending time with my son and daughter, traveling — especially to the beach — long rides with my husband on our Harley, and watching football. GO EAGLES!

Favorite part of the job: Talking with the members — listening to their concerns, answering questions and hearing what we are doing right and what we may need to improve on — although I do not get a chance to do this much since

Dina Topper



Who am I: I have been with Adams Electric for 16 years. Presently, I work in the accounting department. My main responsibility is to enter all invoices to be paid. I also help with the delinquent processes.

Family life: I have three grown sons: Ryan, Zach and Seth. They have blessed me with seven beautiful grandchildren who are my life. I spend a lot of time with them. I also work at Granite Hill Camping Resort on weekends. I love to read and work on my quilts when I actually have free time.

area and spending time with family and friends.

Favorite part of the job: We have a different relationship with our members at a cooperative; we are part of the community, and it makes dealing with our members more of a personal experience. My favorite part is having that close relationship with our members, knowing we are here to make a difference in their lives and in our community.

Co-op difference: Co-ops are different from other businesses because we are here in your community, and it makes it more of a personal experience. You can make an appointment to stop in to talk to us, or you can call us on the phone and talk to us. We also have member meetings two times a year to keep everyone involved in what is going on at the co-op.

moving to billing. I look forward to our zone meetings and annual meeting each year.

Co-op difference: One of the very first things I learned when I started at Adams Electric Cooperative: Our consumers are NOT customers; they are our members!

Co-op stands out because: I believe in having that local, hometown feel. When our members call or stop in, they know they are talking to someone from their own community. Our members see us at the grocery store, restaurants or community events. Our kids play sports with their kids or grandkids. We go to the same churches or volunteer for the same organizations. It definitely makes a difference.

Favorite part of the job: I love helping our members. I am a people person, so I enjoy attending our zone meetings, annual meetings, etc. I like to meet people in person after I have talked to them several times on the phone.

Co-op stands out because: I am proud to say I work at Adams Electric. We do a lot of things for the community. We help our members out when they are having a hard time paying their bills. I love attending the member meetings and getting to meet the members, and I know it means a lot to them that they can speak to a live person on the phone.

