




Paulding putnam
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

800-686-2357 | WWW.PPEC.COOP

401 MCDONALD PIKE PAULDING, OH 45879

MEMBER HANDBOOK


WELCOME TO YOUR NEW COOPERATIVE



Paulding Putnam
Electric Cooperative, Inc



Paulding, Ohio

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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A LOOK INSIDE

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HOW TO STAY IN TOUCH

It's our priority to make sure you stay as informed as possible with what's happening at PPEC. We deliver information to you using several methods.

Ohio Cooperative Living and Indiana Connection Magazine:

Your monthly magazine that contains all of the official and legal communications from us, and so much more.

Email Newsletter:

A monthly e-newsletter sent to members via email every month.

Social Media:



WELCOME TO THE CO-OP FAMILY

QUICK LINKS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE



Hello, my name is Randy Price, and I'm the CEO of Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative. Welcome to the co-op family! We provide electricity to around 13,000 members in Northeast Indiana and Northwest Ohio.

Being a member of a cooperative is not like being a customer of a typical utility. PPEC is not-for-profit and member owned. This means those who use our services are part-owners in the co-op. We were built by the communities we serve. This cooperative spirit is still alive today, as we maintain financial transparency and are governed by an elected Board of Trustees made up of members like you.

Thank you for being a member of your community cooperative. We look forward to serving you and showing you the power of the cooperative difference.



NEW MEMBER RESOURCES

PPEC has opportunities for you to get involved, save money, and experience the cooperative difference. Most of the following opportunities are explained further on in this guide, but here are some quick links to take you directly to our website for complete details.

- Office phone: 800-686-2357
- Pay-by-phone: 855-940-3918
- Address: 401 McDonald Pike Paulding, OH 45879
- Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Summer Office Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Website: ppec.coop
- Ways To Pay Your Bill: ppec.coop/payment-options
- Payment Assistance Resources: ppec.coop/bill-payment-assistance
- Account Manager: ppec.coop/smarthub
- Outage Information: ppec.coop/outages
- Rebate Programs: ppec.coop/rebate-programs
- Youth Programs: ppec.coop/brightfutures
- Magazine Issues: ppec.coop/local-magazine-archive

ABOUT US

A QUICK GLANCE AT WHO WE ARE

Year of incorporation: **1935** | Power Supplier: **BUCKEYE POWER, INC.**

Total meters: **13,634** | Total members: **13,491** | Miles of power lines: **1,707**

Employees: **43** | Board of Directors: **9 MEMBER-ELECTED DIRECTORS**

Counties served: **PAULDING, PUTNAM, DEFIANCE, VAN WERT,
AND ALLEN COUNTIES IN OHIO AND ADAMS AND ALLEN
COUNTIES IN INDIANA**

OUR STORY

The reason why we're different is the reason why we're here.

When electric cooperatives began operation in the 1930s, the organizers knew very little about running an electric company; they just knew how much this innovative product – electricity – was going to change their lives. Electric cooperatives were created because the big power companies said the distances were too far to make serving the rural communities economical. The rural people of Paulding County rose up to form their own power company, Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative (PPEC). The lines ran to rural areas, the lights came on, and life was never the same.

Before people signed up to be a member of a cooperative, they had to be taught how to use electricity and how it could benefit them. The “REA Circus” traveled and demonstrated lighting, laundry, and farm equipment.

One of Paulding Putnam Electric’s first office locations was on the corner of Perry and Main streets. Because the office was too small and trucks were not on site, PPEC decided to invest capital and purchase 4 acres of the land from Hal Gasser at the corner of Gasser and North Williams Street. After decades in that facility, PPEC outgrew their office on North Williams (now a gas station) and moved to their current location on McDonald Pike in Paulding in 2011.

When the power went off for whatever reason, it was common practice for a member to mail a postcard to the office and wait weeks for someone to come fix it. That’s hard to imagine now, since new software/equipment can restore power outages within 90 minutes or less, pending the situation.

In 1941, there were approximately 2,400 members. Now there are roughly 12,900 in NW Ohio and NE Indiana and 43 employees to serve their needs.

THE SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

HOW WE GUIDE OUR ACTIONS AS A CO-OP

- 1. VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP:** Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership without gender, social, racial, political, or religious discrimination.
- 2. DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL:** Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. Members have equal voting rights - one member, one vote.
- 3. MEMBERS’ ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION:** Members contribute equally to and democratically control the capital of the cooperative. The cooperative must maintain minimal margins each year to provide the internal equity financing necessary to maintain and improve the system. Any net savings achieved by the cooperative are assigned to members on the basis of their patronage. This money is eventually returned to the members in the form of patronage capital credits.
- 4. AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE:** Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If we enter into agreements with other organizations or raise capital from external sources, we do so on terms that ensure democratic control by the members and maintain our cooperative autonomy.
- 5. EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND INFORMATION:** Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute to the cooperative’s development. Public education, especially on electrical safety, is also important.
- 6. COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVE:** Cooperatives serve members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional, and even international structures.
- 7. CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY:** While focusing on members needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members. This includes economic development efforts, community service, and more.

BILLING

WHAT DOES YOUR BILL SAY

READING YOUR BILL

Your PPEC electric bill is issued monthly and includes charges for the electricity service provided during the prior month. Your bill will include your total charges, last month's billing, your payment, any past due balances

(if applicable), and special messages from the cooperative. Your board district and substation are also listed on your bill. A breakdown of each charge can be found on our website at ppec.coop/rates-billing.

pauding putnam ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. MEMBER NAME: JOHN DOE, Account Number: 999999999, Bill Date: 03/15/2024, Total due: \$175.00, Payment Due By: 04/15/2024.

Occasionally, the cooperative will offer opportunities for members to earn or win bill credits. These usually come from watching the annual meeting livestream, special contests being run by the cooperative, or first-time participation in certain cooperative programs or events.

WHEN IS MY BILL DUE?

Your due date can be found in the top section of your electric bill.

WHAT DOES THAT CHARGE MEAN?

The exact charges that appear on your bill every month can vary depending on which rate you are assigned. However, most residential member bills include the following items.

BASIC SERVICE CHARGE

This charge appears on all member bills, and it is your cost to be connected and have 24/7 access to PPEC's system. Think of it like property taxes. This charge allows the co-op to recoup our fixed costs. These are the costs we incur even if we were to sell zero kilowatt hours (kWh). These fixed costs can include maintenance to the system, equipment, and facility, bill processing, supplies, and employee compensation.

DISTRIBUTION CHARGE

The cost to bring the electricity from our substation to your home.

GENERATION & TRANSMISSION CHARGE (G&T)

The cost to produce and transport the electricity from the power plant to our local substations.

WHOLESALE POWER COST ADJUSTMENT (WPCA)

This is not directly a PPEC charge, it reflects changes in the cost we have to pay for the generation and transmission of electricity. This includes the cost of fuels to generate electricity; high voltage transmission to move the electricity; and peak demand costs when electric use is high for all members.

OPERATION ROUND UP

Operation Round Up is a voluntary program where participating members "round up" their monthly electric bill to the nearest dollar, with the extra cents going into a charitable giving fund. This money is dispersed quarterly by a separate board of directors, also made up of volunteer PPEC members, to local organizations in need that apply for funding.

OTHER CHARGES OR CREDITS

Some members may see items such as an outdoor light, PAC contribution, energy credits, and more depending on what services they have outside of the basic electric service.

BILLING

YOUR PAYMENT OPTIONS



IN PERSON: Members can stop by the PPEC office in Paulding during regular business hours to pay their bill in person with one of our member service representatives. The office is open Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. in the summer months. There is also a 24-hour night deposit box available.



BY PHONE: Members can call 855-940-3918 to use our secure phone payment system with a Visa, MasterCard, or Discover debit or credit card, or an electronic check, with no additional fees.



U.S. MAIL: PPEC provides a self-addressed business envelope to all members with their monthly bill, except for those signed up for AutoPay. PPEC is not responsible for payments that arrive late due to issues with the U.S. Postal Service.



AUTOPAY: Never worry about paying your bill on time every month again! By signing up for auto-pay, you can set recurring payments and simply let go of the thought of having to pay your bill on a certain date. Our system will automatically deduct the amount of your bill on the 9th of every month, so you don't have to do anything. Here's a way to set up auto-pay:

Call our automated pay-by-phone number (855-940-3918) and follow the prompts.



SMARTHUB: Create a SmartHub account and pay your bill anytime from a web browser or mobile device using our free SmartHub app. After you set up your SmartHub account, you will be able to quickly pay your bill every month.

SMARTHUB

ONLINE ACCOUNT MANAGER



SmartHub is PPEC's secure, online account management program that allows members 24/7 access to view and pay their monthly bill. It also provides payment history information, bill comparisons, energy consumption graphs, and other tools to understand your energy use. The

co-op recommends all members sign up for SmartHub, even if they still choose a more traditional bill payment method, because the energy data available can help track your energy use and save you money in the long run. Home Energy Analytics will also give you estimated breakdowns for each appliance in your home, along with tips on how to reduce your energy use.

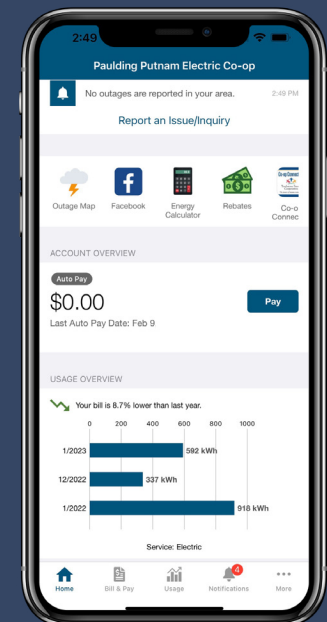


SmartHub is downloadable from the app store for use on smart phones and tablets, or available through a web browser on your desktop computer.

SIGN UP FOR NOTIFICATIONS IN SMARTHUB:

Get notifications for everything PPEC related. Some of our common notifications include when your bill is available, bill is due, payment confirmation, credit card expiration, peak alerts, and power outage.

If you enroll in outage notifications by text or email - we'll contact you when your power is out, give you an estimated restoration time, and let you know when power is restored. More information for how to sign up for notifications can be found on our website at www.ppec.coop/how-to-sign-alerts-smarthub.



COMMUNICATION

HOW PPEC COMMUNICATES WITH YOU

MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Part of the cooperative difference is keeping you informed. One way we do this is through a monthly magazine. Depending on if you live in Indiana or Ohio will determine if you receive *Indiana Connection* or *Ohio Cooperative Living*. Both magazines have the same content from PPEC but have different geographical content that is customized to that state.



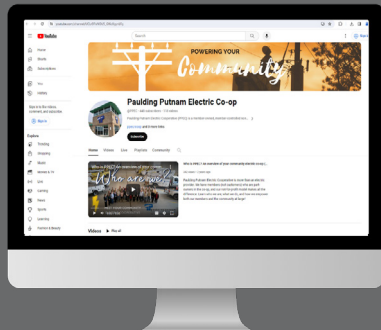
The magazine is how we share legal and co-op updates with all of our members. In addition to this, the magazine also includes delicious recipes, exciting travel ideas, features on co-op members, and more.



SOCIAL MEDIA

We also share information with our members through social media. We can be found on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn. Here you can find time sensitive information for event updates, the annual meeting broadcast, and outage restoration updates (Facebook only).

We also hold various contests through our social media pages. These contests often have opportunities for you to win tickets to local events, prize packages to local businesses and bill credits. Follow us on social media so you won't miss out on these opportunities.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ELECTED TRUSTEES WHO REPRESENT YOU

PPEC is governed by a board of nine members, democratically elected by their peers. This means they're members just like you, with the same desire to ensure the co-op keeps operating in the best interests of its members. Each board member serves a three-year term, after which they can run for re-election.

Voting takes place each year prior to the annual meeting if there is a contested election for the available district seat. According to the PPEC Code of Regulations, uncontested elections (only one eligible candidate) do not need to hold a balloted election, and the sole candidate is automatically elected to the board.



If an election is necessary, official ballots will be mailed to all PPEC members. Votes can be cast by mail-in ballot or by voting online prior to the annual meeting where winners of the election will be announced.

At their monthly meetings, the PPEC board of directors review the financial state of the cooperative, discuss policies, evaluate new opportunities, and address issues the co-op may be facing. They are also responsible for representing the needs and interests of the entire membership, including setting the electric rates and creating the strategic direction of the co-op.

A full list of current board members, plus contact information, is available at www.ppec.coop/board-trustees. Members are encouraged to voice any suggestions, ideas, or concerns to their board representatives.

HOW TO BECOME A DIRECTOR

Each November, the cooperative prepares director petition packets for the district that is up for election (three districts each year, on a rotating, three-year cycle). Any member residing in one of those districts can fill out a packet within the petition timeframe and then must collect at least 20 valid member signatures from within their district.

CAPITAL CREDITS

GIVING BACK TO YOU

PPEC is a not-for-profit cooperative owned by the members it serves. That's you! Our goal isn't to earn excessive profits for investors and shareholders. Instead, our rates are set at a level to recoup the costs of operating the cooperative and to meet any debt obligations. Any revenue we collect throughout the year that's over those costs is considered margins.

What do we do with those margins? We give them back to you! Members who purchased electricity during the year that the margins are earned receive a portion of those margins. The amount you receive depends on the amount of capital you contributed to the cooperative during that year. The longer you're a member, the more you'll get back over time.

Capital credit accounts may be transferred, or discounted and paid out, only to estates without a surviving spouse.

Capital credits appear as a credit on your December bill. Former members who are owed capital credits will receive a check. That is why it is important to keep your address up to date if you move.

Being a member of the co-op is the reason you receive capital credits. Other people who are customers of investor-owned utilities, like AEP (American Electric Power) or I&M, do not.

DONATE BACK

You can also allocate your capital credits to Operation Round Up and help support local nonprofits. Another option you have is to reinvest capital credits into our political action committee to ensure your voice is heard by lawmakers. To do so, complete the form on our website at www.ppec.coop/capital-credits.

Members pay their electric bills, and PPEC tracks how much you pay each month.

PPEC covers operating expenses and debt obligations, and allocates any leftover revenue.

If financial conditions permit, the PPEC board votes to "retire" or refund, capital credits to the members.

PPEC sends members their capital credits via a bill credit or check, depending if they are a former or current member.

OPERATION ROUND UP

GIVING BACK TO ONE ANOTHER

Created in 2010, PPEC's Operation Round Up has granted local organizations funds to improve the lives of our community members throughout the cooperative's service territory in NW Ohio and NE Indiana.

Funds are gathered by participating members "rounding up" their monthly electric bill to the next dollar. New members are automatically enrolled but can opt out anytime. The average cost of participation is around 50 cents per month. Organizations that can apply for a grant include emergency services, schools, churches, and other local charitable causes.

Members of the Operation Round Up board, are PPEC members who volunteer their time to review and approve these applications.

The board meets once a quarter in January, April, July, and October. To find out more about Operation Round Up, visit www.ppec.coop/operation-round.



ENERGY EXPERTS

YOUR FRIEND IN THE ENERGY WORLD

As an PPEC member, you now have access to a personal energy expert. We at the cooperative want our members to know they have access to the best energy efficiency information possible in any situation, so we employ knowledgeable energy experts who can provide tons of energy advice on a variety of topics.

Our advisors bring a range of experience and background to their jobs, and they pass that information on to co-op members through energy walkthroughs, inspections, or just a simple phone call to the office. Their goal is to make sure members are using their energy – and their money – as wisely as possible.

As a cooperative, PPEC is providing electric service to you, but we also want to make sure the amount you're paying each month is reasonable, affordable, and as low as it possibly can be. It's part of what makes being a co-op member unique. High bill concerns make up a majority of the phone calls and questions our experts receive, and they are often able to pinpoint areas in a member's home that could use some additional energy efficiency help.



LOAD MANAGEMENT

PEAK ALERTS

WHAT IS LOAD MANAGEMENT?

The cost of electricity increases during periods of peak demand. PPEC and Buckeye Power, the wholesale power supplier for the cooperative, have used a load management system for more than 30 years to help members save energy and money during these peak periods.

Managing peak demand on the hottest and coldest days of the year helps keep electricity costs in check by temporarily shutting off devices such as water heaters, air conditioners, geothermal heating and cooling systems, and electric thermal storage units. The cooperative has the ability to control these units via a radio-controlled switch, at the member's request, and installation comes with a **\$25 bill credit and a \$5 bill credit during peak months (June - August).**

***If you have moved into a house on PPEC lines, you may have one of these switches installed already. You can call the cooperative to verify your participation status.**

Management periods occur on weekdays only and typically occur during the summer months. Summer management hours typically occur between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. It is unlikely you will even notice when this is occurring because the units are cycled to maintain comfort in your home.

WHAT ARE PEAK ALERTS?

Peak alerts are times of high demand for electricity where cooperative members are asked to delay or reduce the use of large appliances. This saves the co-op and members money because high demand is when electricity is most expensive. These alerts are usually issued on the hottest and coldest days of the year. We post announcements on our social media platforms, the co-op website, and in SmartHub to notify members when a peak alert is likely to occur. Enrolling in a load management program helps PPEC reduce peak power demand, keep our rates stable, and save you money during the peak.



HOW CAN YOU HELP CONTROL PEAK DEMAND?

- In the summer, raise the thermostat to 72 degrees or higher.
- In the winter, lower the thermostat to 68 degrees or lower.
- Turn off lights and appliances you are not currently using.
- Delay doing laundry, running the dishwasher, or other major appliances use until the evening.
- In the summer, take advantage of using the outdoor grill to keep cooking heat outside.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

REBATES & INCENTIVES

PPEC provides rebates and incentives to our residential members for a variety of energy-efficient equipment purchases and upgrades. Rebates are only for new ENERGY STAR certified equipment. A copy of the receipt or proof of purchase is required for all rebates.

Currently, we offer the following rebates:

- \$350 Water Heater rebate
- \$300 Heat Pump/Air Conditioner rebate
- \$25 Initial + \$5 each peak month Radio-Control Switch rebate
- \$1,000 - \$1500 New Home Construction rebate
- \$200-\$400 Insulation & Air Sealing rebate
- \$100 ENERGY STAR Appliance rebate
- \$450 Geothermal Equipment rebate
- \$200 Level 2 electric vehicle charger rebate



For more information on the available rebates, visit www.ppec.coop/rebate-programs.

ENERGY CALCULATORS

Want to know how much a certain appliances are costing to operate? Try using [energy calculators located on our website](#). Here you can check how much your television, refrigerator, HVAC system, and more are costing you on a yearly basis.



ELECTRIC VEHICLES

If you own an electric vehicle, please inform PPEC so we can better manage and optimize the electricity grid. By knowing the number of EVs in our service area, we can anticipate the increased demand for electricity and plan accordingly to ensure a reliable and efficient power supply. We also offer a \$200 EV rebate for members who install a level 2 charger at their address.

If you own or are considering getting an EV, please complete the form on our website at www.ppec.coop/EV.

ENERGY PROGRAMS

SPECIAL RATES & RENEWABLES

TIME-OF-DAY RATE

Time-of-day rate is a special rate for residential members. With time of day, the price per kilowatt-hour is dependent on the time of the day that you purchase it. It is intended to give PPEC members a financial advantage when they shift their power usage to low demand (off-peak) hours.



The time that kilowatt-hours are purchased at the on-peak price is 2 - 8 pm, Monday through Friday. Off-peak is all other times, including the entire weekend and holidays (New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day).

*NOTE: You will only save money if you are willing to change the time at which you use energy. If you use 3x more electricity during off-peak hours than on-peak hours you will save.

To sign up for the time of day rate, contact our office.

RENEWABLES

Interested in installing a renewable system? Ask for a consultation with our energy advisor before starting the installation process to avoid costly mistakes.

If you'd like to install a wind or solar system on your property, our team will walk you through the process. We do not sell renewable systems but we can direct you in the correct direction. Renewable systems involve a significant initial investment and vary greatly depending on the system you choose and your home's setup.



Is solar right for you? Learn more on our website at www.ppec.coop/renewable-energy.

OUTAGES

WHAT TO DO IF THE LIGHTS GO OUT

PPEC's top priority is to provide you with the most reliable power possible, but occasionally vehicle accidents, storms, or animals get in the way.

Outages should be reported via telephone by calling 855-940-3918 or via the SmartHub mobile app.

Please do not report outages via email or social media, as these channels are not monitored 24/7. When reporting an outage, provide your physical address and as many details about the outage as possible, including damaged equipment, downed lines, loud noises, or if your neighbors have power.

If you use medical equipment that requires electricity, have an alternative plan for if the power goes out. Outages can occur unexpectedly, and being prepared can alleviate much of the stress and potential danger. Read our [outage preparedness](#) page on our website for guidelines to help you prepare.

SmartHub users can also sign up to receive outage alerts via text or email. Easy sign up instructions are available at www.ppec/smarthub.



ELECTRICAL SAFETY

BEING VIGILANT AROUND LIVE WIRES

POWER LINE & SUBSTATION SAFETY

Always assume power lines are energized and deadly, even if they are on the ground, and never touch downed lines or anything they have come into contact with.

Be aware of the location of power lines and keep yourself and objects clear of them, like ladders or irrigation pipes. When an object comes in contact with a power line, electricity travels through it and into the person holding on, resulting in electric shock or even death. Electricity can also travel through tree limbs that come in contact with power lines, so remind children to never climb trees near power lines, or play near PPEC's equipment.

Similarly, never enter a substation for any reason. The high-voltage equipment is extremely dangerous. If you see an issue at a substation, or with any of PPEC's power lines, contact the cooperative immediately and a trained crew will be dispatched to safely correct any issues.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Prior to doing any digging, you must [call 811](#) to identify any underground utilities located on your property. Digging without calling can lead to a widespread community outage, result in fines/repair costs, and most importantly, harm you and those around you. This free service prevents you from damaging any underground electric, gas, or other buried utilities, and helps keep you safe.

SAFETY EDUCATION

PPEC is available for safety demonstrations and trainings for emergency services personnel, schools, community organizations, and other events. Utilizing both a tabletop display and a live line safety trailer, PPEC personnel illustrate the effects electricity can have on various objects, including the human body. Contact our office to schedule a demo.



YOUTH PROGRAMS

EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION



PPEC believes in recognizing the talent and potential of the youth within our service territory. As such, we coordinate and support several programs for the children of PPEC members that encourage leadership and growth.

CAMP KILOWATT

Camp Kilowatt is a fun and unique camp experience for sixth grade students going into seventh grade. Each year, the camp is held at Camp Tecumseh in Brookston, Indiana. Kids get the chance to learn more about energy while making new friends and enjoying fun activities and games. This dynamic three-day camp includes activities such as horseback riding, bucket truck rides, rock climbing, archery, alternative energy education, internet safety, zipline, live line safety demonstrations, swimming, and much more. Learn more about Camp Kilowatt on our website at www.ppec.coop/BrightFutures.



YOUTH TOUR TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

Each June, approximately 40 students from around the state attend The Electric Cooperatives Youth Tour. This weeklong, all expense-paid leadership experience takes high school sophomores or juniors on a fun and unique trip to Washington, D.C., where they meet other co-op teens from around the country.

While in D.C., students learn about the unique cooperative business model, visit Capitol Hill to meet with legislative leaders, and experience the sights, sounds, and rich history of our nation's capital. More information and application deadlines can be found on our website at www.ppec.coop/youth-tour.



SCHOLARSHIPS

EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION

Applications are available in early December of each year. Watch our *Ohio Cooperative Living* and *Indiana Connection* magazine and our Facebook page for additional details.

JOB SHADOWING AND INTERNSHIPS

Interested in possible internship or job shadow opportunities for you or your student? PPEC offers a variety of careers like:



- Line Work
- Marketing and Communications
- Member Services Representative
- Information Technology
- Human Resources
- Engineering
- Equipment Operator

Contact PPEC's HR Manager at 800-686-2357 for more information. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

COMMUNITY

A COMMITMENT TO HOME

We're a community-focused organization aimed at improving the lives of those around us. Why? Because we're a part of the community, too. Our families are living and working in the same

places you are, so we're dedicated to making sure we all have the best opportunities and support possible. That's why PPEC invests money each year back into our communities through donations, sponsorships and active participation in local events. From local festivals and fairs to school programs and **economic development efforts**, we support endeavors that support you.



CO-OP CONNECTIONS

EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS



As a member of the cooperative, you get exclusive discounts on everyday expenses through Touchstone Energy's Co-op Connections Program. Take advantage of our co-op discounts by shopping online through www.connections.coop, the **Co-op Connections mobile app**, or by using the card.

LOCAL DEALS

These are just a few of PPEC's local deals!

- FREE undermount sink with qualifying purchase (\$350 value) - Creative Edge Cabinets (Ottoville, OH)
- 10% of any purchase - Kircher's Flowers (Paulding, OH)
- \$5 off Canoe/Kayak Trip or \$1 off Corn Maze - Auglaize Canoe & Kayak (Oakwood, OH)
- \$5 off total purchase - Touches of Time Antiques (Van Wert, OH)
- 10% off all food orders - Mad Anthony Tap Room (Auburn, IN)
- FREE large order of breadsticks with the purchase of a medium pizza - B. Antonios Pizza (Fort Wayne, IN)
- \$2.00 off per ticket - Fort Wayne Children's Zoo (Fort Wayne, IN)

NATIONAL DISCOUNTS

Browse deals by zip code to see all the deals available to you wherever you are. Get the best deals on hotels, condos, flights, cruises, car rentals, pharmacy, dental care, sporting events, concerts, and more!

JOIN AS A BUSINESS

Do you own a business? The Co-op Connections program allows you to offer all co-op members valuable discounts, thereby increasing traffic to your business. In exchange for your participation, we promote your business, and your discount to all of our members at no cost through our website, newsletter, monthly magazine, social media, and mobile app. For more information on how to sign up for Co-op Connections, visit www.ppec.coop/coopconnections.



POLITICAL ACTION

YOUR VOICE IN ENERGY POLICY

Electricity and energy-related issues are at the forefront of today's political debate. The legislation and regulations crafted by lawmakers routinely affect electric cooperatives and their members. An electric cooperative like PPEC is a unique business model. What other type of utility would return margins? Our focus is to deliver reliable, competitively priced electricity to those we serve. We don't worry about protecting out-of-town investors.

We need to do all we can to preserve the cooperative model in a business and political environment that does not always appreciate our uniqueness. Addressing these legislative issues sometimes requires more resources than PPEC has. At those times, individual co-ops turn to America's Electric Cooperatives PAC for help.



America's Electric Cooperatives | PAC

AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES PAC

Participating in America's Electric Cooperatives PAC is your opportunity to support federal and state officeholders and candidates who support the positions of electric co-ops.

The cost to join PAC starts as low as \$25 a year - only \$2.08 each month - and you can help ensure the cooperative business model thrives. It's the most effective tool we have to get and maintain the attention of our legislative decision-makers in Ohio and in Washington. Signing up is easy by visiting <https://ppec.coop/PAC-signup>.

VOICES FOR COOPERATIVE POWER

Members of Voices for Cooperative Power (VCP) work together to influence elected officials as they make important federal and state policy decisions that impact electric co-ops and their consumer-members. Our experiences and the ways we use energy are unique. VCP members come together to communicate this perspective and protect the ability of our co-ops to deliver affordable, reliable services to our communities.

For more information on how to share your story and voice through VCP, visit www.voicesforcooperativepower.com.



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