



From left: New Hampshire Electric Cooperative CEO Alyssa Clemens Roberts stands with BARC's Will Reid, Shay McMullen, Austin Dean and Cody Minter.

## Cooperative Principle No. 6: Cooperative Among Cooperatives

The seven Cooperative Principles are what make cooperatives unique and stand out in the utility industry. They put the focus back on the customer and give members a voice.

A principle that's close to the heart of BARC Electric Cooperative is Cooperation Among Cooperatives. BARC has not only sent crews to aid in disasters, but have been recipients of aid numerous times. "Mutual aid is an important part of the cooperative culture and principles," explains BARC CEO Bill Buchanan. "As member-owned utilities we often operate with minimal resources to handle the day-to-day operations, and when storms

cause widespread damage to our systems, cooperatives lean on each other to join forces for faster restoration times. This can be as little as a single crew from a neighboring cooperative to dozens of crews from around the region."

In early March, northern states were slammed with a winter storm that dumped snow and left thousands without power. New Hampshire Electric Cooperative was fighting to restore about 7,000 members without power. NHEC requested our Association to send help, if possible. BARC, as well as other Virginia electric cooperatives, sent crews to assist with getting customers' lights back on. Shay McMullen, Will Reid, Cody Minter and Austin Dean traveled to New Hampshire and were met with over two feet of snow.

McMullen recalls, "There was 10 inches of snow on the ground when we got there. By the time we left, we were looking at 31 inches of fresh snow all along their system. So, a little more than you see in Bath County."

Being met with this amount of snow accumulation, one can only imagine the challenges they faced to complete the tasks ahead.

"We got to try out snowshoes for the first time. That and their equipment, four wheelers on tracks ... we were lucky enough that everything we went to we were able to get the bucket to," says Reid,

**"We got to try out snowshoes for the first time."**

*—Will Reid, BARC line technician*

about being in a new area and handling different equipment.

This is not always the case for our lineworkers when working out in our own service territory. Often, they are faced with thick vegetation and rough terrain. It is no surprise that our lineworkers were faced with new challenges they do not experience in Virginia, but nonetheless were able to adapt quickly to do what they do best.

In 55 hours, line crews restored 283 outages affecting a total of 40,000 NHEC members. "When the need is greatest, we can always count on our fellow electric cooperatives to help," says NHEC President and CEO Alyssa Clemens Roberts. "We're grateful to the crews from Virginia's cooperatives who worked alongside us to restore power to recover from this major storm. They're great workers who share our commitment to excellent member service."

BARC is committed to providing this type of support to its sister co-ops throughout the eastern U.S. and has also been a recipient in years past. By working together, electric co-ops are stronger and can better serve their members in times of crisis, such as following a severe storm or natural disaster.

### BARC ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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[barcelectric.com](http://barcelectric.com)

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Chief Executive Officer  
Bill Buchanan

Local Pages Editor  
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*BARC Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*





# Herbicide Aids Vegetation Management

Scan code for more information on service areas.



Since 1938, BARC has been providing safe and reliable service to its members. It has employed various methods and techniques for right-of-way maintenance over the years. BARC right-of-way maintenance includes tree trimming, selective use of herbicides, and natural control methods.

ROW maintenance is scheduled and performed on a circuit basis with an emphasis on the removal of trees that are located within the right-of-way, and pruning trees that are located on the outer limits of the right-of-way. Shortly after the clearance is performed, a follow-up herbicide application is used to control unwanted tree and brush species that pose safety and reliability hazards. Growth of native grasses and wildflowers start to occur in the rights-of-way and begin to naturally compete with unwanted tree and brush species.

The use of herbicide to prevent regrowth of woody plant species is an integral part of BARC's right-of-way maintenance program. One or two years after the floor of the right-of-way has been cut, an herbicide mixture is applied using a low-volume, selective-foliar method to prevent regrowth of woody plant species that could grow up into the power lines later. High-volume herbicide application will only be used if the brush density is such that the selective method would be impractical. Only woody plant species that could grow to a height that would touch the power lines are targeted for herbicide. The selective low-volume foliar application method allows grasses, low broadleaf plants, berry bushes, rhododendron, and other laurel

species to remain. BARC informs all consumers who are part of a planned herbicide maintenance annually prior to applying the application.

This method has provided BARC the opportunity to meet its primary objective for right-of-way maintenance. Safe clearances around energized conductors and providing low-cost, reliable power to members of the cooperative. The overriding goal of providing safe clearances between vegetation and energized conductors is the reason for our right-of-way program.

*Please be careful around power lines and never touch a tree that is growing into or near a power line. Also, never plant trees near a power line right-of-way. Please contact a BARC representative at 1-800-846-2272 if you have questions.*

## AREAS SET FOR HERBICIDE IN SUMMER 2023



Warm Springs  
Brattons Run  
Parts of Effinger to Big Hill  
Conrock

For more information on service areas, please visit [barcelectric.com/herbicide](http://barcelectric.com/herbicide).



# BARC Communities



BARC's Jonathan Hines and Ashley Hash at Rockbridge CareerFest.



Linemen Shay McMullen and Will Reid discuss line work and mutual aid on Alleghany Mountain Radio.

# A Safe, Happy House

Four Easy Ways to Boost Electrical Safety at Home

**DON'T**  
place flammable items, like potholders, napkins or dish towels near the stove while cooking.

**DO**  
keep electrical devices away from water to prevent electric shock.

**DO**  
ensure you're using the correct wattage in all light fixtures.

**DON'T**  
overload electrical outlets with more devices than the circuit can handle.

**May is National Electrical Safety Month.**

**Come support your BARC linemen!**

**19TH ANNUAL TEREX GAFF n' GO RODEO**

**May 19-20**  
Meadow Event Park | Doswell, Va.

Free Admission  
Kids Area • Exhibit Area  
Food Trucks • And more!

**BARC**

## Stay in the BARC Know!

BARC Electric Cooperative understands the importance of reliable energy and keeping members informed on their cooperative. Make sure your contact information is up-to-date to receive notifications on planned outages, membership news and more. Contact a member services representative at 1-800-846-2272.



The Rockbridge Area Relief Association in Lexington is celebrating 50 years of providing utilities assistance, housing support, and food to the community! RARA ensures that everyone in Rockbridge County has access to warm, safe shelter and healthy, flavorful food.

Visit [raralex.org](http://raralex.org) to learn more.

# Notice of Meetings to Select Nominees for Board of Directors, Districts 3 and 4

Pursuant to Section 4 of the bylaws of BARC Electric Cooperative, the Board of Directors have called District Meetings to select nominees for the board of directors for districts 3 and 4. The meeting times and locations are as follows:

**District 3 – May 25, 2023, 6 p.m.**

New Bethany Lutheran Church  
1320 Bethany Road  
Lexington, VA 24450

**Incumbent:** Keith L. Swisher

**District 4 – June 5, 2023, 11 a.m.**

BARC Electric Cooperative  
84 High Street  
Millboro, VA 24460

**Incumbent:** Albert J. “Jay” Lewis II

To determine the district in which you reside, please refer to the mailing label on the front cover of this magazine. In the numbers above your name is a two-digit number starting with “BA.” This is your district.

**Example:**

BA 01  
Mr. John Doe  
Route 3, Box 100  
Anywhere, USA 20156

This member resides in District 1. If your number is not legible or you are unsure of your district, please call us at 1-800-846-2272.

The election of directors will take place at the Annual Member Meeting on July 19, 2023. For your convenience, we are reprinting the qualifications for directors (section 4.3) and the nominating process (section 4.4). Again, if you have any questions regarding the process or location, please contact the office at 1-800-846-2272.

**SECTION 4.3 – Director Qualifications.** Any Director or Director candidate must comply with this Section.

**A. Director Qualifications.** A Director or Director candidate must:

1. Be a natural person;
2. Have the capacity to enter into legally binding contracts; and
3. Be a Member in good standing residing in the Director District from which the Director is elected or chosen or be a duly authorized officer, director or employee of a non-natural person Member located in the Director District from which the Director is being elected.

**B. Director Qualifications.**

1. While a Director, and during the one year immediately prior to becoming a Director, a Director or Director candidate must not be, nor have been:

a. A Close Relative of any existing Director, other than an existing Director who will cease being a Director within one year;

b. A Close Relative of an existing, non-Director Cooperative officer, employee, agent, or representative;

c. Employed by, materially affiliated with, or share a material financial interest with, any other Director; other than an existing Director who will cease being a Director within one year; or

d. Engaged in, nor employed by, materially affiliated with, or have a material financial interest in, any individual or entity other than an entity in which the Cooperative possessed an ownership interest (other than an entity in which the Cooperative possesses an ownership interest):

- i. Directly and substantially competing with the Cooperative;
- ii. Selling goods or services in substantial quantity to the Cooperative or to substantial number of Members; or
- iii. Possessing a substantial conflict of interest with the Cooperative.

2. No current or former employee of the Cooperative shall be eligible to serve on the Cooperative’s Board of Directors.

**SECTION 4.4 – Nominations.** Not less than thirty days nor more than sixty days before any meeting at which Directors are to be elected, the Board shall call a separate meeting of the Members of each district in which the term of the Director serving such district is to expire (“District Meeting”), at a suitable place in each district for the purpose of selecting one person as a Director candidate to represent the Members located within such district. The notice of such meeting shall be delivered to each Member located in such district as provided in Section 3.3 of Article III and shall indicate the district to which such Member belongs. The notice shall state that nominations for a Director are to be made at the meeting. The meeting shall, however, be open for discussion of any other matters pertaining to the business of the Cooperative, regardless of whether or not such matters were listed in the notice of the meeting, and recommendations with respect thereto

may be submitted to the Board or the entire membership.

The District Meeting shall be called to order by the Director representing the District or by another designated representative of the Board, or in his absence, by any Member residing within the District. The Members shall then proceed to elect a chairman, who shall be someone other than a Director, and who shall appoint a secretary to act for the duration of the meeting. Fifteen Members residing in the district present in person at such duly called District Meeting shall constitute a quorum. Members of other districts present at the meeting may be heard but shall have no vote. Nominations for candidates for Director shall be made from the floor at the meeting, and any Member residing in the district shall have the right to nominate one candidate. The meeting shall remain open for nominations until no further nominations are forthcoming, but in no case less than five minutes. Candidates must be Members residing in the district and must possess the Director Qualifications specified in Section 4.3; A, B and C of Article IV of these Bylaws. In the event a quorum is not present for any one of the District Meetings provided for herein, the Director currently serving the district shall be declared the official nominee for the district.

Voting shall be by ballot and proxy voting shall not be permitted at any District Meeting. Each Member may vote for one candidate. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared the official candidate of the district. The minutes of such District Meeting shall set forth, among other matters, the name of each person nominated at the District Meeting and the number of votes received by each, and shall specify the official candidate of the district. A certified copy of the minutes, signed by the secretary and the chairman of the District Meeting, shall be delivered to the Secretary of the Cooperative within five days after such District Meeting. In the event a quorum is not present at a District Meeting, there shall be no minutes taken. Instead, the Director currently serving the district shall prepare a statement to the effect that a meeting took place and a quorum was not present. Said statement shall be promptly provided to the Secretary.