

NEWS



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Three Electrifying Kitchen Appliances to Save Time and Energy

Whether your oven and stove top are powered by gas or electricity, it's no secret that they consume more energy than smaller countertop appliances, like slow cookers and toaster ovens. In addition to efficiency, smaller kitchen appliances can provide faster cooking times and less hassle with cleanup.

If you're looking for convenient cooking methods with the added bonus of energy efficiency, here are three electrifying appliances for your kitchen:

→ **Air fryers** are becoming increasingly popular, and consumers have a lot of good things to say about these handy little appliances.

Air fryers use convection to circulate hot air and cook the food--this means little to no oil is required, resulting in healthier meals than those from traditional fryers. Air fryers are fairly small,



so they won't take up much of your counter space, and with everything cooked in the fryer, cleanup will be a breeze. Air fryers are available in a variety of sizes, and prices range from \$40 to \$200-plus.

→ **Electric griddles** have certainly been around for a while, and they offer several benefits for any home chef (beyond bacon and eggs!). Griddles are convenient because you can cook everything at once--like a "one-pan" meal, and the possibilities are endless. From fajitas to sandwiches to French toast, griddles can help satisfy any taste buds. They consume small amounts of energy and provide quick cooking times, so your energy bill will thank you. Prices and sizes for griddles vary, but you can typically find one for about \$30 at your local retail stores.



→ Pizza brings people together, so why not consider a **pizza maker** for your kitchen? These compact, countertop machines are an inexpensive alternative to a costly brick oven, and they use less energy than your traditional oven. Choose your own fresh

ingredients to whip up a faster, healthier pizza at home.

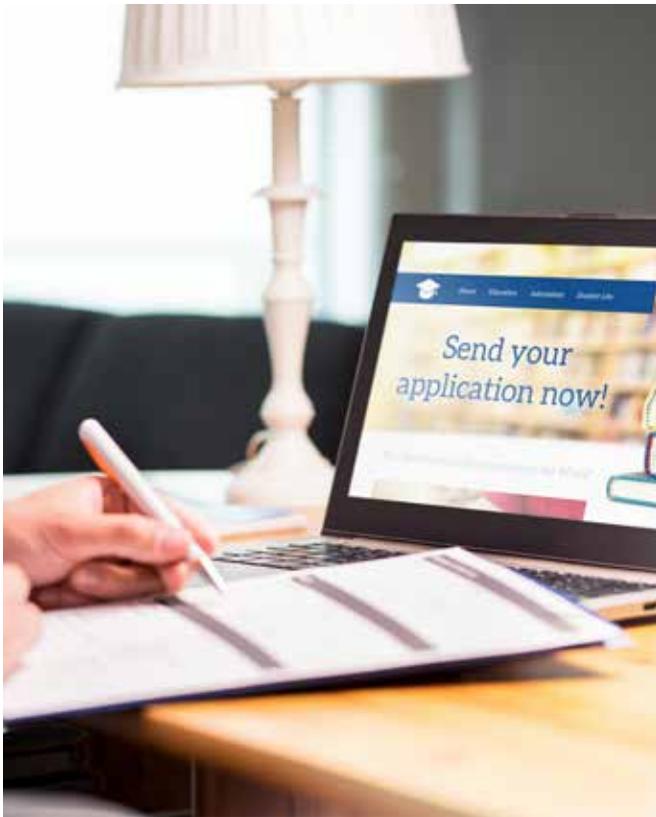
Plus, most pizza makers are multifunctional and can be used to cook flatbreads, frittatas, quesadillas and more. You can purchase a pizza maker for about \$30 to \$150+ online or at your local retailer.

These are just a few electrifying appliance options for your kitchen. Remember, when you're cooking a smaller meal, countertop appliances can save time and energy. Visit tcemc.com for additional ways to save energy at home.

Daylight Savings Time Begins March 13, 2022

When you set your clocks ahead an hour for Daylight Savings Time on **Sunday, March 13**, remember also to check your heating and cooling system filters and change them if they are dirty. Dirty filters slow down air flow and make the system work harder--wasting energy and money. Additionally, a clean filter prevents dust and dirt buildup, which can prevent expensive repairs or early system failure. This is also a good time to change the direction of your ceilings to counter clockwise to push cool air through your home. To add to your safety, it is a good time to change your batteries in your smoke alarms. Smoke alarms save lives.





Apply Now for College Scholarships

Tri-County EMC has scholarship opportunities available for students in our service area. Non-traditional students are eligible for a scholarship in the amount of \$400. Scholarships of \$500 will be awarded to graduating high school seniors who pursue a four-year degree and scholarships of \$250 will be awarded to graduating high school seniors pursuing a two-year degree.

Applications may be obtained at the guidance counselor offices of Southern Wayne, Charles B. Aycock, Rosewood, Spring Creek, Eastern Wayne, Wayne School of Engineering, Wayne Early College, North Duplin, East Duplin, Duplin Early College, James Kenan, Lenoir Early College, North Lenoir, or South Lenoir High Schools or tcemc.com. Applications must be received or postmarked by March 31, 2022.

Save The Date

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Tri-County EMC Scholarship Golf Tournament

- 8:00 AM and 1:30 PM Shotgun Starts
- Lunch Provided
- Southern Wayne Country Club
- Mount Olive, NC

Tri-County Electric employees will host its Scholarship Golf Tournament on Thursday, May 12, 2022, at Southern Wayne Country Club in Mount Olive. We invite members and friends of Tri-County to join us for a morning or afternoon of fun and fellowship to benefit the Employee-Funded Scholarship Program.

The tournament will offer two start times, either morning or afternoon, with a catered lunch for all players. Team entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Individuals are also welcomed to participate. Individual participants will be assigned to a 4-player team. There will be cash prizes for the winners.

If you are unable to play golf with us this year, please consider being a Hole Sponsor. Money raised through this event will be used to award college scholarships to high school seniors.

Tri-County Electric's employees appreciate your assistance with this benefit and believe that it is important to enhance the education of our youth who will be the future leaders of our communities.

Registration deadline is May 6, 2022. To obtain a registration form and hole sponsor form, or if you have questions, please contact Deidra Grantham (deidra.grantham@tcemc.com) or Mike Davis (michael.davis@tcemc.com) at 800-548-4869 or 919-735-2611.



(Left to right): John Cozine, Timothy Wolfe, Ralph Kelly, Seth Johnson, Lance Wise, Landon Stroud and Dwayne Skinner.

Tri-County EMC Linemen Receive Training Certifications

As a cooperative, Tri-County Electric is different from other electric utilities. We operate according to a core set of principles that improve quality of life for our members as well as employees. The fifth principle, Education, Training and Information provides members and employees the needed educational tools to effectively contribute to the development of the cooperative. Our very own linemen have recently completed hours of training to further enhance their skills and knowledge. Congratulations to the following crew members for receiving their training at Nash Community College:

Dwayne Skinner, Lance Wise, Landon Stroud and Seth Johnson: *Overhead Line Construction I* and *Underground Line Construction II*. Timothy Wolfe: *Underground Line Construction IV*. Ralph Kelly: *National Electric Safety Code, Module II*. John Cozine: *National Electric Safety Code, Module I* and *Advanced Lineman Certificate*.

Photo Contest Time!



2021 Agriculture Day Contest Winner, Lynn Grantham.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: National Agriculture Day Photo Contest

To Celebrate National Ag Day on March 22, 2022, we are asking members to submit your best agriculture photo. Winners will receive a cash prize \$200 for first place, \$150 for second place, \$100 for third place and \$50 for fourth place.

RULES:

- ➔ One entry per household.
- ➔ Must be member of Tri-County EMC.
- ➔ Include your name, mailing address and phone number.
- ➔ Emailed photos accepted only.

CONTEST TIMELINE:

- ➔ **February 7:** Contest opens for submissions.
- ➔ **March 11:** Submission deadline. After the closing date for submissions, on March 12 at 5 p.m., ten (10) finalists will be selected for the contest.
- ➔ **March 14-18:** If your photo is selected as a finalist, it will be posted on Tri-County EMC's Facebook page, and members/community will vote for the winning designs.
- ➔ **March 18:** Deadline for voting on Facebook at 12:00PM.
- ➔ **March 22:** Winners published on National Agriculture Day

SEND TO:

- ➔ deidra.grantham@tcemc.com
(emailed photos accepted only)

If you have questions, you may contact Deidra Grantham, manager of Marketing and Communications, at 919-735-2611 ext. 621 or deidra.grantham@tcemc.com.

APPLY NOW

Applications accepted through March 31, 2022

Touchstone Energy® Sports Camp Scholarships in partnership with

Apply Now for Sports Camp Scholarship

Time is ticking for local middle-school students to apply for an all-expenses-paid scholarship to attend basketball camp this summer. Tri-County EMC will be sending one young man to the Carolina Basketball Camp June 18-22 at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and one young lady to the Wolfpack Women’s Basketball Camp June 19-22 at NC State University in Raleigh. Students will work directly with players and coaches to develop basketball skills and practice leadership and teamwork at the overnight camps.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must be a rising sixth or seventh grader. Applicants must also have permission from a parent or guardian to attend the sleep-away camp and must provide their own transportation to and from the camp if selected to attend.

To learn more and apply, visit ncelectriccooperatives.com/sports-camps, or contact Deidra Grantham at 919-735-2611.

Applications must be submitted or postmarked by March 31, 2022.

Tri-County Welcomes New Employee



Tri-County EMC welcomes Jamie Tingen as First Class Lineman. A native of Greene County, Tingen brings 22 years’ experience in line work as he was previously employed with Pitt and Greene EMC. Cooperative principle, “Concern for the Community” stands out most to Jamie. He attributes this to his active involvement with his church, Fellowship Baptist of Goldsboro. Spending time outdoors is what he enjoys most about working as a lineman, and in his free time he enjoys hunting and fishing. Jamie resides in Snow Hill with his wife and two sons.



Tri-County EMC Membership Corporation in Dudley, N.C., was chartered May 8, 1940.

Mission Statement:

Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation is a member-driven cooperative committed to providing reliable electric power at a reasonable cost, to offering superior service, and to taking an active role in supporting the communities it serves.

We are here to serve you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year.

For Outages or Emergencies:
919-735-2611 or 1-800-548-4869

tcemc.com

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Robert B. Kornegay
Manager, Member Services

Deidra Grantham, Editor
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Randy McCullen

Amanda Murphy

Worth Overman

Employee Ready to Serve You



Andy Beavers

Andy Beavers is one of 50 employees ready to serve you. Andy has worked with Tri-County since April 7, 2003 and is a First Class Lineman for the cooperative. Andy resides in Mount Olive with his wife, Billie Jo and children.