

Tri-County news

Tri-County EMC Membership Corporation Dudley, N.C.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

News and Information For Cooperative Members

February 2018



Tri-County EMC College Scholarships Now Available

As part of our employees' commitment to the communities we serve, Tri-County EMC is proud to offer scholarships to deserving high school seniors in our service area. Scholarships of \$500 will be awarded to graduating seniors who pursue a four-year degree, and scholarships of \$250 will be awarded to graduating seniors pursuing a two-year degree. Since 2001, Tri-County EMC employees have raised money through various fundraisers and have funded scholarships for 800 students totaling \$342,500.

To qualify, you must be a high school senior whose parents or guardians are members of Tri-County EMC or attend high school in our service area (Southern Wayne, Charles B. Aycock, Rosewood, Spring Creek, Eastern Wayne, North Duplin, East Duplin, James Kenan, North Lenoir, or South Lenoir High Schools).

Applications may be obtained at the guidance counselor's offices of the schools listed above or by visiting our website at www.tcemc.com. Applications must be received on or before Friday, March 30, 2018.



TCEMC Service Awards

Tri-County EMC employees and board members were recently recognized for their years of service during the Annual Christmas Party held at the Big Barn Theater on Dec. 2, 2017.

General Manager Mike Davis recognized and congratulated each employee and board member on his or her outstanding service and dedication to the cooperative and its members. Services awards were presented to Director Jennings Outlaw for five years; David Thornton for 10 years; William Jones for 20 years; Jeff Kennedy, Dana Lewis, Denise Simmons and Ken Davis for 25 years; Robert Brogden and Director Carl Kornegay, Jr. for 30 years; and Glenda Barwick for 40 years.

2017 Service Awards (left to right): Dana Lewis, Jeff Kennedy, Denise Simmons, Ken Davis, David Thornton, Robert Brogden, Glenda Barwick and Director Carl Kornegay, Jr.

Apply Now for a Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship



Calling all middle school basketball players! Tri-County EMC is now accepting applications for full scholarships to attend overnight basketball camp. Young men can apply to attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp, June 16–20 at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, and young women can apply to attend the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp, June 10–13 at NC State University in Raleigh.

For more information or to download the application, go to www.ncelectriccooperatives.com/community.

Surviving the Winter Season

The extreme, cold temperatures associated with winter weather such as ice and snow storms make staying warm and safe a challenge. Here is how to create a winter survival kit for your home to help you and your family survive the cold grasp of winter.

The Essentials:

Food: Food that requires no cooking or refrigeration such as bread, crackers, cereal, canned foods, and dried fruits. Remember baby food and formula if you have young children.

Water: In case water pipes freeze or rupture, keep a supply of tap water or purchase bottled water. The recommended amount of water to keep is 5 gallons per person.

Medicines: Roads may be inaccessible for several days due to a winter storm. Make sure to order or refill any prescriptions that family members may need.

Identification: Make sure to keep forms of identification with you such as social security card, passport, photo ID, and driver's license. In addition, make sure to have bank account information and insurance policies.

Emergency Materials:

Alternate methods to heat your home:

- Dry firewood for a fireplace or wood stove
- Kerosene for a kerosene heater
- Furnace fuel (coal, propane, or oil)
- Electric space heater with automatic shut-off switch and non-glowing elements

- Blankets
- Matches
- First Aid Kit and instruction manual
- Multipurpose, dry-chemical fire extinguisher
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered radio, clock/watch
- Extra batteries
- Shovel
- Rock salt
- Non-electric can opener

When creating a winter survival kit for your home, take into consideration factors that are specific to your home and family. For instance, if your home is isolated or on the outskirts of a residential area, making it more difficult for help to reach you, make sure to stock additional amounts of food, water, and medicine. Listening to weather forecasts regularly can provide you with several days notice to allow you to check emergency materials and to stock-up on essential supplies.



5 Precautions to take during winter weather

1. Prevent your pipes from freezing by allowing faucets to drip during extreme cold.
2. Place space heaters on a solid surface at least three feet away from anything flammable. Always turn off space heaters before leaving the room or going to sleep.
3. Never leave a fireplace unless its embers are completely extinguished, and use a fire screen to catch sparks and rolling logs.
4. Generators should be placed in an open and ventilated area. They should never be operated inside a home—including in spaces like the basement and garage—due to the danger of inhaling carbon monoxide fumes.
5. Never touch a downed power line or try to remove trees or limbs from lines. Call 911 or alert your electric cooperative.



Automatic Draft: The Easiest Way to Pay Your Bill

There are several ways to pay your electric bill at Tri-County EMC, but the easiest is Automatic Draft. The only thing you must do is simply post the amount of your bill in your checkbook or make note that it was billed to one of your credit cards. We do all the work for you. Your bill is always paid on time and you never pay late fees, or worry about logging on to your computer, writing a check, calling the office or buying stamps. Sign up for Automatic Draft and let us do the work for you!

Free Service to Our Members!

Stop worrying about paying your bill each month—take advantage of our FREE Bank Draft service and your monthly electric bill will be securely drafted from your bank or credit card account. You'll still receive a statement by mail or email each month, and the amount will be drafted on the payment due date. You can even opt to have us securely draft from your checking or savings account—or you can use a credit or debit card.

Sign up today! Everything's easy, because doing business with Tri-County EMC should be. Call the co-op office at 919-735-2611 or 800-548-4869 for specific details.

PrePay: An Easier Way to Pay

Would it be easier for you to make smaller daily or weekly payments rather than a single monthly payment?

If so, our Pre-Pay program may be right for you! Growing in popularity, Pre-Pay was developed for members who needed an easier way to manage their bill. Others simply want the convenience to "pay as you go"—in any amount above \$20, on whatever schedule you like. Pre-Pay members can save money because no deposit is required and there's never a late fee. Simply keep a balance of any amount in your account to keep power flowing. Tracking your balance is also easy: choose to receive a cellular phone text or email text. For more information on this payment method, contact Tri-County EMC at 919-735-2611 or 800-548-4869.

Steps to Restoring Power

Hurricanes and ice storms. Tornadoes and blizzards. Electric cooperative members have seen them all. And with such severe weather comes power outages. Restoring power after a major outage is a big job that involves many steps.

Our main goal is to restore power safely to the greatest number of members in the shortest time possible. That means we work first on the issues that have the biggest impact to the most members.

1

Transmission towers and lines.

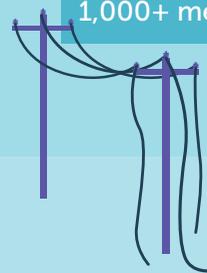
Tens of thousands of people can be served by one high-voltage line, so we start here first.



10,000+ members affected

2

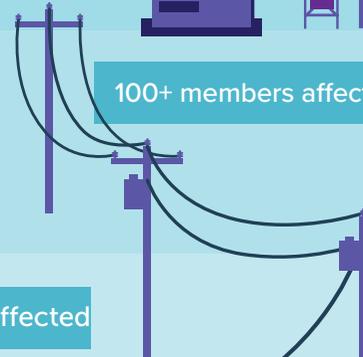
Local distribution substations. If we can correct problems at the substation level, we can potentially restore electricity to several thousand people.



1,000+ members affected

3

Main distribution supply lines. These lines come from the substations and typically serve hundreds of people.



100+ members affected

4

Supply/tap lines. These lines carry power to utility poles or underground transformers. Fixing a problem here can turn the lights on for an entire street or several streets.

10+ members affected

5

The service line between your house and the transformer. When you have damage on this line, it can explain why your neighbor has power and you don't. These issues affecting individual members are the last to be fixed because they impact the fewest members.



1 member affected

How does Tri-County prepare for storms?

Our right-of-way maintenance program is our best defense against storm related outages. Right-of-way maintenance involves trimming tree limbs back so they do not interfere with power lines. That's why we focus on this effort throughout the year. In addition, we also conduct routine inspections of all of the physical

assets that make up our grid, from transmission lines to power poles.

We are also part of a strong network of more than 900 cooperatives nationwide. When a cooperative is hit by a storm, the other cooperatives pitch in to help restore power quickly and safely.

The Cooperative Exchange

A Service For Members of Tri-County EMC

Members of Tri-County EMC may submit ads to The Cooperative Exchange on a first-come, first-serve basis. We ask that no commercial business ads be submitted and we reserve the right to refuse ads of questionable content. We also reserve the right to edit ads of unreasonable length. You may mail your ad to Cooperative Exchange Tri-County EMC, PO Box 130, Dudley, NC 28333. Please include your area code with your phone number. Or, you may call 919-735-2611 or 800-548-4869, ext. 621. Deadline for ads is the 1st of each month.

FOR SALE

1984 S10 CHEVROLET with a 6 cylinder 2.8 engine. AC works good, has automatic transmission that needs some work. Nice tool box included and body is in good condition. This would be a nice fixer-upper. Title in hand. Asking \$700. Call 919-252-5369. Ask for Jerry.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS Nordic Track I Fit Elliptical, with stride adjustment, space saver, and 8 weeks personal training program (\$700), Tony Little Gazelle Edge (\$75.00). Call 252-559-3235

TWO GRAVE SITES plus opening and closing at Wayne Memorial Park located in the Ten Commandments Section. Asking \$4500. Call 919-735-1451. (10)

HOME FOR SALE MOVE-IN READY 1,500 Sq. ft. 3BDR/1BATH Brick Rancher. Includes a 24.5x54 ft. shop/garage office w/ half bath, two metal buildings (11x18 and 8x24), 30X28 carport and fenced in backyard. Call 865-947-4976 or 865-806-0601. (10).

ROOM FOR RENT Warsaw/Faison Area. Call 910-385-8258 (12)

WANTED Sewing Machine reasonably priced. Call 919-284-2795 (12)

TUFFLINE DISC 10.5ft. \$2200. Call 919738-4710 (12)

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS 38' Metal Patio Chair Set w/ Umbrella (\$300), Adjustable hospital bed with tempurpedic mattress and 3-dresser drawer (\$400), 32' Flat Screen TV (\$50), Computer Desk (\$25). Call 252-525-3151. (12)

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS White Pedestal Table w/ 4 chairs, Two-Sided BBQ Tray, Full & Queen Size Quilting Frame, Workshop Tools. Call 919-440-9258 (12).

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS Garden Tiller, Princess Diana Collection, Dale Earnhardt Collection, Antique Log Roller, Roll Top Desk, Wooden Box with punched holes on top. Call 919-738-8175 or 919-738-2064 (2).

WANTED Coo-Coo Clock. Call 919-738-8175 or 919-738-2064 (2).

VARIOUS GYM EQUIPMENT for sale from the Legendary Gurley's Gym of Goldsboro. Call 919-344-6489. (2).

CEMETERY PLOT W/ VAULT at Wayne Memorial Park located in Premiere Garden. Valued at \$4500, asking \$2500. Call 919-222-7228 (12).

CIVIL WAR BOOK COLLECTION 45 books to include fiction and non-fiction \$500. Also books by Catherine Cookson; Richard Paul Evans and F. Van Wyck Mason. Call 919-689-9133 (12).

MEN'S 5-DIAMOND GOLD RING 1 1/4 ct. t.w. Appraised at \$850, asking \$500. Call 919-689-9133 (12).

Tri-County EMC will gladly publish announcements of fundraisers for non-profit organizations or special benefits for individuals if space is available. The deadline is the 1st of each month for the announcement to come out in the next newsletter. Call Deidra Locklear at 919-735-2611 or 800-548-4869, Ext. 621.

Please show courtesy to those selling, renting and wanting items listed in the Cooperative Exchange by not calling before 7AM nor after 10 PM.

Tri-County news

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

J. Michael Davis
General Manager

Management Staff
Kenneth E. Davis, Jr.

Manager of Finance & Accounting

Robert B. Kornegay
Manager of Marketing & Member Services

Deidra Locklear, Editor
Manager of Communications & Public Relations

Tony Grantham, P. E.
Manager of Engineering

Michael Wood
Manager of Operations

Josh Mattox
Manager of Information Technology

Board of Directors

Carl W. Kornegay, Jr.—President

Leland Heath, Jr.—Vice President

William H. Farmer, Jr.—Secretary

Jennings Outlaw—Treasurer

Keith Beavers

Dallace Grady

Jeff Henderson

Randy McCullen

Worth Overman

Brandy Rouse

David Vinson

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 Call
919-735-2611 or 1-800-548-4869
www.tcemc.com**



**Employees—
Ready To
Serve**

Anthony
Denning is
one of 51

employees ready to serve you. Anthony has worked with Tri-County since August 17, 1998, as a First Class Lineman. He and wife, Donna, live in the Four Oaks area.

Wrap up your Water Heater, Save Energy & Money

Water heating accounts for up to 20 percent of the total utility expense for many U.S. households, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. You can save energy and money by learning how this energy is used.

Your energy consumption for water heating is divided among three types of use: heating efficiency, standby loss, and hot water consumption. You should apply different conservation measures to reduce each use.

Heating efficiency describes how well your water heater converts electricity or gas into hot water. When you next buy a water heater, study the yellow Energy Guide label that is required on all appliances, and compare the listed Energy Factor (EF) that is used to rate water heaters. Find the highest EF available to identify the most efficient appliances. Better yet, buy an ENERGY STAR rated appliance and you'll get the most efficient appliance of all.

Standby losses include the heat that goes through the walls of your water heater tank even when no one is using hot water. The best defense against standby loss is a heavily insulated tank. If you buy a tank with a high Energy Factor, you're getting the best built-



in tank insulation available. If you have an existing water heater that is more than a few years old, the best way to reduce standby loss is by installing an external water heater blanket. If you install a blanket, be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions to avoid safety hazards.

Hot water consumption is the water you use at appliances and faucets. Every gallon of hot water you use is replaced by a gallon of cold water in your water heater that must be heated. If you reduce your hot water consumption, you'll reduce the amount of electricity or gas your water heaters consumes. You can reduce your hot water consumption by installing low-flow showerheads, for a savings of 5 to 10 gallons per shower. You'll also use less hot water by using the cold-water wash-cycle on your washing machine. Modern soaps do a great job of cleaning clothes without hot water, and you'll save up to 10 gallons of hot water per cycle.