

NEWS



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High School Students: Apply Now to Spend a Week in Washington, D.C.

Are you a high school student interested in spending a week in Washington, D.C., learning about government, U.S. history and the cooperative business model, while also building your leadership skills and making new friends from across the state and nation? If so, we invite you to apply for the 2020 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour! Tri-County EMC is currently accepting applications from local students to attend the week-long trip June 20–26, 2020.

Youth Tour gives high school students the opportunity to experience Washington, D.C., and learn more about how they can make a difference as young adults. Tourists will pay their respects at historic monuments and memorials, meet with North Carolina’s members of Congress on Capitol Hill and tour a variety of Smithsonian museums, all while building a peer network with young leaders from across the country.

Tri-County EMC will sponsor local students to join North Carolina’s delegation on the 2020 trip. The all-expenses-paid tour is hosted by electric cooperatives nationwide and is a tradition more than 50 years strong. About 1,800 students from more than 40 states are expected to participate in 2020, with North Carolina sending approximately 45 students to represent our state’s electric cooperatives.

“If you’re a high school student who wants to grow as a leader and experience a trip of a lifetime, NC Youth Tour is the perfect opportunity,” said Deidra Grantham, Manager of



Communication and Public Relations of Tri-County EMC. “Youth Tour has something to offer to everyone and can help prepare you for future success on any path you pursue after high school.”

Students entering their senior year in fall 2020 are eligible to attend and are encouraged to apply through Tri-County EMC. Delegates will be selected based on completing an application and writing a short 500-word essay. Applications for Youth Tour are available online at tcemc.com. Applications are due January 24, 2020.



Tri-County Closed for Holidays

Tri-County EMC will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 24, and Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2019, to celebrate the Christmas holiday; and Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020, for the New Year!

Payments after office hours and on holidays can be placed in the night deposit box or you may choose to utilize the convenience of online bill-pay by logging on to tcemc.com. You may choose to call the numbers listed below to pay by phone.

To report a loss of power or an emergency, please call 1-800-548-4869 or 919-735-2611.



Duplin County winners



Lenoir County winners



Wayne County winners

Tri-County EMC Awards Grants to Educators for 'Bright Ideas'

Tri-County EMC awarded \$80,841.69 in Bright Ideas education grants to 101 educators to fund engaging classroom learning projects. Thousands of students at schools in Duplin, Wayne and Lenoir counties will participate in Bright Ideas projects funded by Tri-County EMC this year.

“The Bright Ideas grant program helps teachers finance creative projects to benefit our youth,” said Michael Davis, General Manager of Tri-County EMC. “Teachers have so many great

ideas, and we’re pleased to help these grant winners bring their ideas to life in the classroom.”

Since the Bright Ideas grant program began in 1994, Tri-County EMC has contributed \$1,623,260.47 to fund 1,793 creative projects to local teachers.

“Investing in the education of our youth and future leaders is a major part of Tri-County EMC’s commitment to the communities we serve,” Davis said.

Bright Ideas grant applications are collected each year through mid-September, and winning proposals are

selected in a competitive evaluation process by a panel of judges. The application process will reopen for interested teachers in April 2020.

To find out more information about the Bright Ideas grant program, visit tcemc.com or the Bright Ideas website at ncbrightideas.com. Become a fan of “Bright Ideas Education” on Facebook to receive regularly updated news about the program.

The following is the list of this year’s winning teachers, along with their school:

Kelly Guy.....	B F Grady Elementary	Karen S McGee.....	Kenansville Elementary	Mindy Ann Glover.....	Northwest Elementary
Stacy Lee Zabrecky Stewart...	B F Grady Elementary	Regina Kilpatrick.....	Kenansville Elementary	Stacie Fail.....	Northwest Elementary
Tera Kennedy.....	B F Grady Elementary	Robin Mewborn.....	Kenansville Elementary	Stephanie Bridgers.....	Northwest Elementary
Terry L. Smith.....	B F Grady Elementary	Robyn Sutton.....	Kenansville Elementary	Stephanie Lane.....	Northwest Elementary
Tracy Smith.....	B F Grady Elementary	Alicia L. Davis.....	LaGrange Elementary	Valerie Holden.....	Northwest Elementary
Bobbi Colie.....	Banks Elementary	Christel Perry.....	LaGrange Elementary	Amy Taylor.....	Pink Hill Elementary
Dawn Hill.....	Banks Elementary	Emily Daniels.....	LaGrange Elementary	Betsy H Mercer.....	Pink Hill Elementary
Heather Huggins.....	Banks Elementary	Jennifer H. Sutton.....	LaGrange Elementary	Helen Lewis.....	Pink Hill Elementary
Jennifer Jones.....	Banks Elementary	Jessica Stanley.....	LaGrange Elementary	Jami L. Finch.....	Pink Hill Elementary
Jessica Hinson.....	Banks Elementary	Katherine Sowers.....	LaGrange Elementary	Jennifer Grubbs.....	Pink Hill Elementary
Karyl Willis.....	Banks Elementary	Lisa H Davis.....	LaGrange Elementary	Jennifer McLawhorn.....	Pink Hill Elementary
Kimberly Smith.....	Banks Elementary	Travis Towne.....	Lenoir Co. Early College High	Johan Mari-Aviles.....	Pink Hill Elementary
Regan Bennett.....	Banks Elementary	Donna Casad.....	Moss Hill Elementary	Leigh Anne Hall.....	Pink Hill Elementary
Jennifer Mobley.....	Beulaville Elementary	Kristina E Jones.....	Moss Hill Elementary	Myra Aycock.....	Pink Hill Elementary
Amanda Skelton.....	Brogden Primary	Marenda Everett and Rachel Braswell.....	Moss Hill Elementary	Walter Upthegrove.....	Pink Hill Elementary
Kelsie Smith.....	Brogden Primary	Molly Barwick.....	Moss Hill Elementary	Heaven Tyndall.....	South Lenoir High
Laura Rachel B. Swinson.....	Brogden Primary	Sharon Dellinger.....	Moss Hill Elementary	Ryan C Gardner.....	South Lenoir High
Edward Coggins.....	Charles B Aycock High	Susan Barwick.....	Moss Hill Elementary	Sarah York.....	South Lenoir High
Paul Casey.....	Charles B Aycock High	Danielle Keel Ficken.....	North Duplin Elementary	Gerald Reedy.....	Southern Wayne High
Tammy Vail.....	Charles B Aycock High	Laura Bryan.....	North Duplin Elementary	Jenny Barrow.....	Southern Wayne High
Chadwick L. Stokes.....	E B Frink Middle	Lynn Marshburn.....	North Duplin Jr Sr High	Natalie Ira.....	Southern Wayne High
Kristen Davenport.....	E B Frink Middle	Stephanie Hudson.....	North Duplin Jr Sr High	Scarlett Joyner.....	Southern Wayne High
Lauran Smith.....	E B Frink Middle	Kim Hipkiss.....	North Lenoir High	Nancy Henderson.....	St. Mary's Catholic School
Pamela S Pate.....	E B Frink Middle	Lee Holder.....	North Lenoir High	Christy Musgrave.....	Tommys Road Elementary
Sandra West.....	E B Frink Middle	Lynn Thaxton.....	North Lenoir High	Catherine Hooks.....	Wayne Country Day School
Kimberley Marshburn.....	East Duplin High	Catherine M Borgquist.....	Northwest Elementary	Dena Creger.....	Wayne Country Day School
Allison Wolfe.....	Fremont Elementary	Cathy Rose.....	Northwest Elementary	Dona Briggs.....	Wayne Country Day School
Amber Sauls.....	Fremont Elementary	Colleen Graham.....	Northwest Elementary	Kim Pearson.....	Wayne Country Day School
Jennifer Cooper.....	Fremont Elementary	Crystal Boose.....	Northwest Elementary	Ralph Smith.....	Wayne Country Day School
Tammy Derksen.....	Fremont Elementary	Crystal Hodges.....	Northwest Elementary	Rob Glass.....	Wayne Country Day School
Jenny Coley Sasser.....	Grantham Elementary	Delia Kimberlin.....	Northwest Elementary	Thomas Gay.....	Wayne Country Day School
Rebecca Jones.....	Grantham Elementary	Doris Newton.....	Northwest Elementary	Majesty McPhail.....	Woodington Middle
Courtney Brown.....	Kenansville Elementary	Kathryn E Edwards.....	Northwest Elementary	Traci Howard.....	Woodington Middle
Donna Dexter.....	Kenansville Elementary				

The perfect Christmas gift for anyone: **ChristmasWatts**

Each year, Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation offers the ChristmasWatts program for its members. ChristmasWatts is a gift that anyone can use, and what could be more practical than helping someone pay their electric bill during the holiday season?

When you give ChristmasWatts, you are purchasing kilowatt hours of electricity for someone you love or care for and reducing the amount of next month's electric bill for the person you select. The amount of ChristmasWatts purchased will be credited to the electric bill of the selected person.

As an added feature, Tri-County EMC will have Santa personally deliver a gift certificate to the

recipient of your ChristmasWatts gift.

To purchase ChristmasWatts, complete the request form below, clip and mail the form with your check, money order or credit card information to Tri-County EMC. You may also purchase ChristmasWatts by stopping by our office located on Highway 117 Alternate in Dudley. Credit card orders may also be placed by calling 919-735-2611 or 800-548-4869. Additional request forms may be obtained by calling the above numbers.

Request must be received by December 16, 2019.

Order your ChristmasWatts today and make the holiday season brighter and warmer for someone special!

CHRISTMASWATTS REQUEST FORM

I would like to purchase ChristmasWatts in the amount of \$ _____

FOR _____
(Name of Tri-County Member)

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If possible, please provide account number, meter number or location number _____

Please mark (X) one of the following payment methods

Check enclosed Money Order enclosed Credit Card payment authorization
I wish to pay this with VISA Mastercard

Name on Card _____

Card Number _____ Expiration Date ____/____ Zip Code _____

FROM _____ Telephone Number _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mark one (X)

I would like Santa to personally deliver a ChristmasWatts gift card to the person above.
 I would like a gift card mailed.

CLIP OUT this request form and mail with your check, money order, or credit card payment to
ChristmasWatts | Tri-County EMC | PO Box 130 | Dudley, NC 28333

'Tis the Season for Energy Efficiency & Safety

As the weather gets colder and the days get shorter, more time is spent inside your home enjoying holiday traditions with family and guests. At Tri-County EMC, we want to help make your holiday season as safe and energy efficient as possible with some tips to keep in mind as you deck the halls:



- ➔ **Consider using LED lights** to decorate instead of incandescent bulbs. LEDs use less energy and last longer. Only buy lights that contain the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) label to ensure they meet adequate safety requirements.
- ➔ **Set holiday lights on automatic timers** to minimize the time lights stay on overnight and during the day. Don't leave a lit Christmas tree unattended and always turn off tree lights before going to bed or leaving the house.
- ➔ Before putting up holiday decorations, **check all lights for frayed wires, damaged sockets or cracked insulation**. Make sure outdoor cords, plugs and sockets are weatherproof. Never let a cord run through a puddle, even if it says it's weatherproof.
- ➔ **Don't overload electrical outlets**. This is especially common during the holidays when people tend to use more electricity, and it increases the risk of a fire.

For more information about how to be safe and energy efficient year-round, visit tcemc.com or follow us on Facebook!



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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Worth Overman

Brandy Rouse

Employee of the month



Dana Lewis

Dana Lewis is one of 46 employees ready to serve you. Dana has worked with Tri-County EMC since May 18, 1992 as a Serviceman for the cooperative. Dana resides in Dudley with his wife, Annabelle, and daughter Anna.