

Tideland Topics

REAL PEOPLE. REAL POWER.

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBER-OWNERS OF TIDELAND ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

ARE YOU IN? Operation Round Up works to help those in need

In 1990, Tideland EMC introduced the Operation Round Up program. Participating members voluntarily donate money to the program by allowing their electric bill to be rounded up to the next whole dollar amount. For example, if your electric bill is \$88.59, the rounded up amount would be \$89.00 and the additional 41¢ would go to Operation Round Up. The funds, which are administered by the Tideland Electric Care Trust, are used to provide energy assistance for members in a crisis situation.

Operation Round Up is more important today than ever before. In recent years, federal energy assistance funds have been slashed nearly 30%. Likewise many local churches and non-profit agencies that previously provided energy

assistance have had to redirect energy funds to food assistance. In 2013, Tideland EMC provided 263 energy assistance grants which are capped at \$100 each. Members receiving assistance are required to participate in a home audit to learn how to reduce

future energy use and are also required to give to Operation Round Up.

Because Tideland EMC has the lowest Operation Round Up participation rate

in the state, donations are not keeping pace with need. Please consider giving by enrolling online via the member portal or by completing an account update form at www.tidelandemc.com. You may also check the Operation Round Up box on your electric bill to activate contributions. Donations are tax deductible.



Special delivery



Our thanks to True Value of Bath for their assistance in the co-op's annual fan distribution program. Owner Nancy Brickhouse helped Tideland obtain 150 oscillating fans at an incredibly good price. The co-op has delivered the fans to the following agencies:

- Dare County Social Services
- Beaufort County Social Services
- Pamlico County Seniors Center
- Craven County Seniors Center
- Mattamuskeet Seniors Center
- Washington County Social Services

Each agency establishes its own criteria for fan distribution but most target the elderly or disabled.



Message to our Member-Owners: Jan-May credits exceed \$1/2 million mark

By Paul Spruill
General Manager & CEO

Between January and May 2014, Tideland EMC's wholesale power cost adjustment (WPCA) credits to members totaled \$571,444. Strong electric sales in the first quarter combined with favorable natural gas pricing have made the credits possible.

The impact of the WPCA credits may be a bit difficult for members to fully appreciate because electric sales also increased 8.3% for the first five months of 2014. The increase in kilowatt-hour sales has been entirely driven by residential accounts. An extremely cold winter combined with a spring that felt much more like summer have driven up household energy consumption year-to-date. May 2014 electric sales were 6.5% higher than they were in May 2013.

Fortunately, the WPCA credit for May 2014 was extremely favorable making the billed rate per kilowatt hour less than it had been in May of the previous two years.

The WPCA credit remained high during the month of June keeping rates lower than they were in June 2013.

As we go to press we are still a few weeks away from July which is when we will implement our new, lower rate schedule. (New rate schedules were published in last month's magazine). A WPCA credit is likely to continue into July but the amount of the credit is likely to decline somewhat.

Hurricane Season 2014

While forecasters predict fewer named storms this hurricane season, we know from experience that all it takes is one Category I storm to do catastrophic damage to Tideland territory. We've learned that the best preparation for a hurricane is the last one and since Hurricane Irene the co-op has launched an online outage map, a Facebook page and a Twitter account, and we also offer outage text messaging.

If you own or plan to purchase a backup generator make sure you are well versed in safe operating guidelines to prevent electrocution or carbon monoxide poisoning. If you plan to connect a generator to household wiring you must have a double pole, double throw isolation switch installed in accordance with National Electric Safety Code guidelines.

Right-of-Way Maintenance Update

Tideland has hired Lucas Tree Experts to trim trees in our right-of-way. In July they will be working in the Grantsboro District:

Arapahoe, Kennels Beach, Bennett Road, Hwy. 306 South and Minnesott Beach.

This includes adjoining small roads and lanes in the area.

Mowing crews will be working in Craven County including Fairfield Harbour.

Sunny Savings Linger

During the month of June, Tideland EMC issued a wholesale power cost adjustment (WPCA) credit of 0.783¢ per kilowatt hour. That means for every 1,000 kilowatt hours billed during the month of June 2014 we issued a credit of \$7.83. Comparing year to year billed rates, that means June 2014 kilowatt hour rates were less than June 2013 rates. We're doing our part to keep costs down but rates only go so far. Do your part by using energy wisely! Learn more at www.togetherwesave.com.

Keeping it cool:

Beat the heat with these no-cook recipes



Ceviche

Cool and refreshing, the acid in the citrus juice effectively cooks the seafood.

- 1 pound fresh seafood such as scallops, deveined shrimp, flounder, haibut or red snapper
- 8 limes, juiced
- 2 tomatoes, diced
- 5 green onions, minced
- 2 stalks celery, sliced
- 1/2 green bell pepper, minced
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1 1/2 tbsp olive oil
- 1/8 cup chopped fresh cilantro

Rinse seafood and if needed cut into bite size pieces. Place in bowl and cover with lime juice until fully immersed. Chill all day or overnight until seafood is opaque (you can no longer see through it). Empty 1/2 of the lime juice from the bowl. Add remaining ingredients and gently stir before serving.



Waldorf Salad

- 2 cups red apples, cored and cubed
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup pecans or walnuts
- 1/2 cup white raisins
- 1/2 squeezed lemon, to taste
- 1/3 to 1/2 cup salad dressing or mayonnaise

Combine ingredients. Mix well. Chill several hours before serving.



Gazpacho

- 2 pounds of tomatoes
- 1 medium red bell pepper
- 1/2 medium cucumber, peeled
- 1/2 red onion
- 1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- One 1/2-inch slice white bread, cubed
- 3 tbsp sherry vinegar
- 1 medium jalapeno, seeded
- 2 cloves garlic
- Salt & pepper

Rough chop all vegetables and garlic. Put in blender with EVOO, bread and vinegar. (Work in batches if needed). Blend until smooth. Add up to 1/2 cup of water if necessary. Serve immediately or refrigerate a few hours.
4 servings



Watermelon Sorbet

- 1 small watermelon
- 1/2 cup plain yogurt
- 2 tbsp sugar
- 1 tbsp lemon juice

Cut the watermelon into small chunks, discarding the rind. Freeze. When frozen, put the watermelon in a food processor and add the yogurt and lemon juice. Process until smooth but don't let it become watery. Transfer to a shallow glass dish and freeze at least one hour before serving.

1.

TURN UP THE THERMOSTAT AND RELY ON A FAN TO KEEP COOL. THERE ARE GREAT TURBO FANS ON THE MARKET THAT COST VERY LITTLE TO OPERATE.

2.

STAY HYDRATED WITH ICE COLD DRINKS, ESPECIALLY WATER

3.

USE A CLOTHESLINE TO DRY CLOTHES OR USE YOUR DRYER DURING THE COOLEST PART OF THE DAY. MAKE SURE YOUR LINT FILTER AND VENT ARE CLEAN WHICH WILL REDUCE DRYING TIME.

4.

KEEP DRAPES AND BLINDS CLOSED DURING THE DAY TO BLOCK OUT THE SUMMER HEAT

5.

USE EXHAUST FANS TO REMOVE STEAM FROM BATHROOMS AND KITCHENS. LOWER INDOOR HUMIDITY WILL REDUCE THE NEED FOR AIR CONDITIONING.

Generate Safely

Safe Generator Operation

Keep this card in your home's emergency kit or with your generator.

- Never connect a standby generator into your home's electrical system. There are only two safe ways to connect a standby generator to your equipment:
 - Stationary Generator:** An approved generator transfer switch, which keeps your house circuits separate from the electric co-op, should be installed by a professional.
 - Portable Generator:** Plug appliances directly into the outlet provided on the generator.
- Set up and run your generator in a well-ventilated area outside the home. Make sure it's out and away from your garage, doors, windows, and vents. The carbon monoxide generated is **DEADLY**.

- Use a heavy-duty extension cord to connect electric appliances to the outlet on the generator.
- Start the generator first **BEFORE** connecting appliances.

Source: SafeElectricity.org

Developed jointly by the Energy Education Council & Rural Electricity Resource Council



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www.tidelandemc.com

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Member Service

252.943.3046
800.637.1079

24 Hour Outage Reporting
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252.944.2400
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Tideland EMC is an equal
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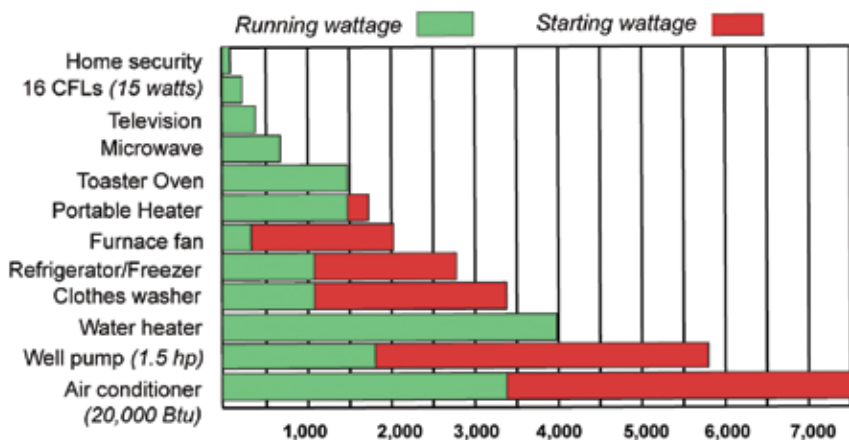


OUR OFFICES WILL
BE CLOSED JULY 4TH

The Right Portable Generator for the Job

Before purchasing or operating a portable generator, make a list of the appliances you will need to run at the same time. Find both starting and running wattage requirements on appliance nameplates or in owner's manuals; add them up to determine the total wattage your generator should handle.

Sample running wattages, as compared to spiked starting wattages:



Sources:

North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives; National Rural Electric Cooperative Association



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

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