

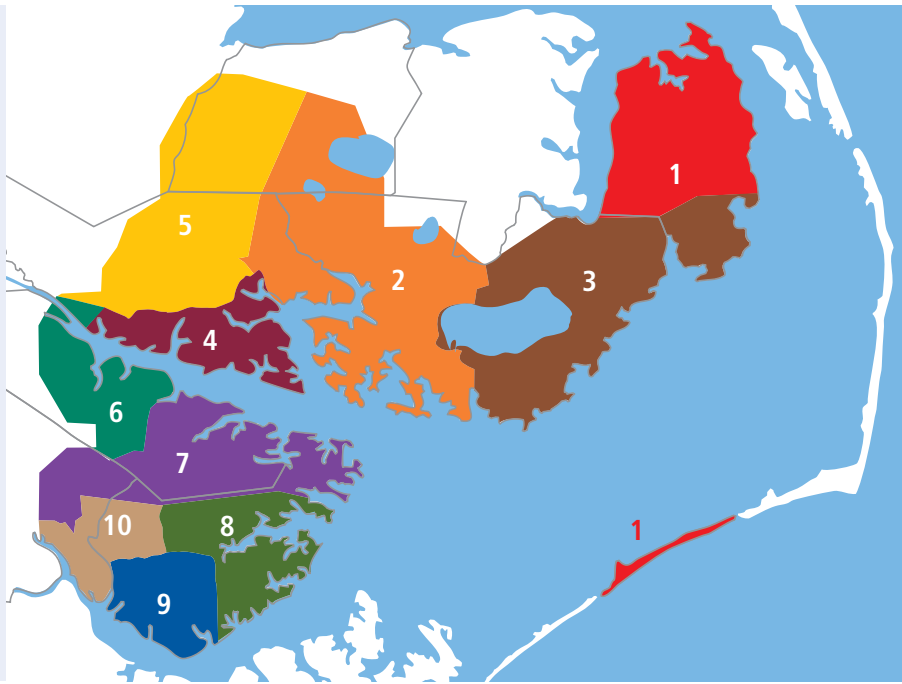
Tideland Topics

Real People. Real Power.

Member representation

Tideland EMC members are represented by directors from 10 geographical districts as depicted in the map to the right. Directors are democratically elected to a three-year term of service on a rotating basis.

Read more about director qualifications and the current year nominating process on page G.



A real live wire

First responders can encounter any number of hazards in the line of duty. Tideland EMC is committed to promoting electric safety education that protects them from harm.

Learn more about our high-volt safety class and how to book a demonstration on Page B.





Give it your best shot!

Tideland EMC is currently accepting applications for full scholarships to renowned basketball camps at two North Carolina universities this summer.

Young men can apply for a scholarship to attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (June 20-24). Young women can apply for a spot at the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp held at North Carolina State University in Raleigh (June 21-24).

To apply, students must be a rising sixth, seventh or eighth grade student at a qualifying school. Applicants will be judged on their academics, extracurricular activities and an essay.

Applications must be received by March 31. To learn more or to download an application, visit tidelandemc.com.

Knowledge is power

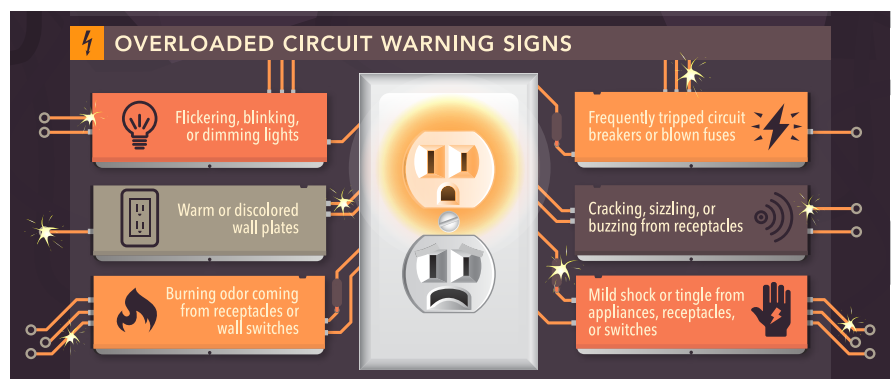
High-volt safety demo

For the second consecutive year, volunteers with the Sidney Fire Department in Beaufort County turned out to see Tideland's high-voltage safety demonstration. The electrifying display greatly enhances first responder situational awareness to insure personal safety while saving others.

In response to such hazards, the 2020 National Electrical Code has been

updated to require outdoor emergency disconnects for new construction, homes undergoing major renovations, and homes having their service replaced. See page D of Tideland Topics for more information about the code update.

To schedule a safety demonstration for your organization contact Tideland safety director Wayne Brackin at 252.943.3046, ext. 4323.



Bullet severs communication to six Tideland substations

On December 6 at 4:28 p.m., Tideland lost communication with six of its substations after someone vandalized a section of the co-op's 115kV transmission line on Beech Ridge Road in Belhaven. The impacted substations were Ponzer, Mattamuskeet, Engelhard, Swindell Fork, Fairfield and Manns Harbor.

The static line, which includes fiber optics for substation communications, daily meter readings and remote disconnects and reconnects, sustained damage when someone took aim

at it with a high powered rifle.

Tideland personnel deployed cellular devices to temporarily restore substation communications while materials and personnel were lined up to make permanent repairs.

On Friday, January 3, the co-op conducted a planned outage lasting two hours to splice in anew fiber optic span. The cost of materials was \$33,000 and the fee for the fiber optic splice team was \$5,000. Over 2,600 members were impacted by the repair outage.



A close up shot of the damaged section of line reveals the bullet hole. (Jim Chrisman photo)



A drone was used to help identify the damage to the 115kV transmission line. (Jim Chrisman photo)

Right-of-way maintenance schedule

Tideland has hired Lucas Tree Experts to trim trees in our right-of-way. During February, tree crews will continue to work on the Merritt circuit, particularly in the Oriental area.

Our contractor Osmose will also resume pole integrity testing in February in all six counties of our service territory.

Thank you for your support of these important maintenance activities which improve system reliability and promote public safety.

Time-of-use rate restructure delayed

Last month when we published the new March 2020 rate schedules, we included a revamped residential time-of-use program that would include "super off peak" pricing. However, a billing software delay means the changes cannot be fully implemented by March. Therefore, the current time-of-use hours will remain in place until further notice.

Here is the new rate for residential time-of-use rates 2 and 4:

Monthly Basic Facilities:

Overhead: \$27.50

Underground: \$29.80

All Energy per kWh: 8.61¢

On-Peak Demand:

per kWd May-Oct \$11.01

per kWh Nov-Apr \$10.06

Major Changes to the Code

The National Electrical Code®, which has been **adopted by all 50 states**, sets the minimum standard for safe electrical design, installation, and inspection to keep people and property protected from electrical hazards. The NEC® is **revised every three years** using public input, commentary, and technical sessions. With the introduction of the 2020 code, there have been 15 NEC® revisions since 1977, the year the median American home was built.

1 Surge Protection is Required for Dwelling Units **NEW**



New and replaced service equipment supplying dwellings are now required to be protected by listed **Type 1 or Type 2 Surge-Protective Devices**. These protect electrical devices and appliances that may not be protected by point-of-use SPDs. It is estimated that the average home has **\$15,000** worth of equipment that can be damaged by surges.

Type 1 SPD

Permanently connected SPDs intended for installation between the **secondary of the service transformer** and the **line side of the service disconnect overcurrent device**.



Type 2 SPD

Permanently connected SPDs intended for installation on the **load side of the service disconnect overcurrent device**, including SPDs located at the branch panel.

2 Ground Fault Circuit Requirements **NEW**

GFCI protection is now required in all 125-volt through 250-volt receptacles supplied by single-phase branch circuits rated 150-volt or less to ground in eleven* locations of a dwelling. Dryer and range receptacles, common 250-volt receptacles in homes, require GFCI protection.

*Locations listed in NEC section 210.8(A)(1) through (A)(11)



New GFCI requirements include protection in non-dwelling locations and marinas. For more information on new 2020 NEC® requirements visit ESFI.org.

3 Outdoor Emergency Disconnects for Dwelling Units **NEW**



Outdoor emergency disconnects are now required for new construction, home undergoing renovation, and homes having their service replaced. This **allows first responders to respond to emergencies**, such as a house fire, without potential electrical hazards. Emergency disconnects may be a service disconnect, a meter disconnect, or listed disconnect switches or circuit breakers on the supply side of each device disconnect suitable for use as service equipment.

A higher power

Grantsboro lineman Fred Hackney retires after 45-year career

You'd be hard pressed to find anyone that loves line work as much as Fred Hackney. So much so that stepping away from it was not an easy decision, even after four and a half decades of service. In the end it was the inevitable tug of new adventures and the two things he loves even more than line work: his family and the Lord. Those new adventures officially began on January 7 when he worked his last day for the co-op.

A Pamlico County native, Fred worked a variety of jobs before coming to Tideland. He farmed, worked at Texas Gulf (now Nutrien), and was a brick mason building foundations for some of the first homes in River Bend. In the fall of 1974, while working at New Bern Oil Mill, Tideland Lineman Hubert Collins stopped by and asked Fred if he'd be interested in joining the co-op. Seeing it as a good opportunity, Fred applied and soon began his hot sticks training at Wayne Community College in Goldsboro.

In those days the co-op only had one bucket truck, which was assigned to lineman Horace Bennett. So that meant daily

climbing for Fred and his co-workers. They used manual hand drills to mount hardware and relied on spades and post hole diggers to set poles.



Fred with daughter Tanshell.

Early on he spent a good bit of time assigned to Ocracoke assisting Bobby and Conk O'Neal with everything from the relocation of the old generator, demolition of the co-op's original Silver Lake office and installation of a new cable at Hatteras Inlet. Those island memories bring a broad grin to Fred's face as he fondly recalls the comradery he shared with the O'Neals. Let's just say, what happens at Ocracoke stays at Ocracoke. ☺

Fred saw a great deal of change during his tenure. When he arrived, what would become the co-op's largest residential subdivision was just taking shape in Craven County. Called Treasure Cove at the time, Fred helped install the first underground services while Week's Construction installed the overhead infrastructure. Today that subdivision, Fairfield Harbour, has 2,500 metered services.

While Fred has worked his share of storms, he says the most memorable remains the 1999 recovery from hurricanes Dennis and Floyd that delivered back-to-back punches in a two-week period. The latter storm resulted in 51 North Carolina fatalities and billions in damages. Four weeks later, Hurricane Irene arrived. Fred hasn't ruled out the possibility of coming back to assist in some capacity during a future storm break if needed.

Fred has also weathered his share of personal storms, but his deep and abiding faith in God has been his steadfast anchor. He began preaching nearly 30 years ago and is ordained by the Church

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Last call for college scholarship applications

Tideland EMC is now accepting college scholarship applications from high school seniors in Beaufort, Hyde, Washington, Pamlico, Dare and Craven counties. Applicants must be the dependent of a Tideland EMC member.

The co-op will award eight \$1,000 scholarships. Two of the scholarships will be designated for students who plan to attend community college.

Students have until Friday, March 6, 2020, to apply. An application may be downloaded at tidelandemc.com or ask your high school guidance counselor for a copy of the form.

For more information contact program coordinator Heidi Smith at 252.944.2410 or heidismith@tidelandemc.com.

Message to members

Second microgrid project coming to Tideland territory

PAUL SPRUILL
GENERAL MANAGER &
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives are partnering with Hyde County egg producer Rose Acre Farms and Tideland EMC to develop an agricultural microgrid that will deliver a variety of benefits to the farm and surrounding community, including enhanced environmental sustainability and power grid resiliency.

The project will integrate solar panels, energy storage and other components owned by North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives with resources owned by the farm to create a microgrid that is capable of generating its own electricity during times of power loss. It will also be connected to the main grid to diversify traditional power resources and help improve reliability and resiliency.

"This project brings together two of our state's most significant industries in an innovative effort to make the electric grid more sustainable, flexible and efficient, which results in more affordable, reliable and environmentally responsible power for the farm and for electric co-op members," said Lee Ragsdale, senior vice president of energy delivery for North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives.

The first phase of the project will include the installation of a 2 MW solar array, and a 2 MW battery energy storage system, which allows energy generated by the panels to be stored and dispatched when needed, on a site adjacent to the farm. The solar production at



In 2011, Tideland worked with Rose Acre Farms on a lighting retrofit project resulting in annual energy savings of 204,516 kilowatt hours. Tideland also works with the egg farm to recycle their compact fluorescent lights (CFL) recovering any mercury from the spent bulbs.



this site is expected to offset about a third of the energy consumed by the farm. In addition, about 60 percent of the power Rose Acre Farms receives from Tideland EMC comes from emissions-free nuclear and renewables.

We are grateful for the opportunity to work with Rose Acre Farms to develop this collaborative solution that will contribute to the overall

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Director nominations underway

Annual meeting scheduled for May 7

It is once again time to nominate candidates for Tideland EMC's annual director elections. The nominating committee will meet in Pantego on Thursday, February 6, 2020, to consider candidates for districts 2, 7 and 10, which are currently represented by Mark Carawan, Garry Jordan and David Ipock, respectively. Interested candidates should contact Myra Beasley at 252-943-3046, ext. 1125, to schedule a time to speak with a nominating committee representative. The committee's nominees will be posted at all Tideland offices on February 7, 2020.

Nominations can also be made by submitting a petition signed by 50 co-op members no later than February 17, 2020. The last day to introduce new business via petition is April 7, 2020. The annual meeting of members will be held at Beaufort County Community College on Thursday, May 7, 2020.

DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

The following guidelines are excerpted from Board Policy No. 302 and Bylaw 4.02 to ensure quality representation.

Legal & Personal Requirements

1. A Tideland member & bonafide resident of the directorial district.
2. A member no less than 2 years on the date of election.
3. Willing to promote & protect the co-op's interests.
4. Able to impartially represent the entire co-op membership.

5. Willing to regularly attend board meetings.
6. May not be a close relative of an existing director or employee.
7. Is not employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise.
8. Was not previously employed by TEMC, any other utility/energy company, or any entity which substantially rendered services to a utility/energy company.

Aspects of Service

1. Put forth the effort to understand the co-op and provide sound judgement to reach decisions.
2. Respect official decisions made by a majority of the board.
3. Objectively evaluate questions and problems facing TEMC.

Points to Consider

1. Has the member demonstrated sound business judgement?
2. Has the member shown a capacity for leadership & a reputation for honesty & integrity?
3. Has the member shown a capacity for working well with others?
4. What problems might hinder the nominee's success?

For more information regarding candidate nominations, director qualifications or to determine which district you reside in, call annual meeting coordinator Myra Beasley at 252-943-3046, ext. 1125 or 1-800-637-1079.

Credentials & Elections Committee

District 2:
Johnny Joyner, Scranton

District 4:
Steven Poole, Belhaven

District 5:
Ernie Everett, Pinetown

District 6:
C. Travis Martin, Blounts Creek

District 7:
Donald Toler, Ernul

District 8:
Michael E. Spencer, Bayboro

District 9:
E. Douglas Cahoon, Bayboro

Nominating committee

District 1:
Vincent O'Neal
PO Box 74
Ocracoke, NC 27960

District 2:
Louie Hubers
6949 NC Hwy 45
Belhaven, NC 27810

District 3:
Brandon Marshall
33239 US Hwy 264
Engelhard, NC 27824

District 4:
Kenneth E. Windley
29 Fantasy Island Rd.
Belhaven, NC 27810

District 5:
Horace Waters
8098 Slatestone Rd
Washington, NC 27889

District 6:
Walter D. Martin
275 Whitehurst Rd.
Blounts Creek, NC 27814

District 7:
Harry Nesbit
409 Bergin Rd.
Aurora, NC 27806

District 8:
Vincent Sevenski
325 Harper Rd
Bayboro, NC 28515

District 9:
Buck H. Jones
35 Roland Rd
Arapahoe, NC 28510

District 10:
John Mitchell
1209 Santa Lucia Dr
New Bern, NC 28560

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environmental and economic health of our region. Rose Acre Farms is Tideland's largest consumer-member, and we commend their commitment to sustainability and ingenuity that will also benefit our entire cooperative.

"Rose Acre Farms is continually seeking innovative practices to reduce the carbon footprint of egg production," said Tony Wesner, Rose Acre Farms Chief Operating Officer. "This partnership with North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives will be another positive step into enhancing environmental sustainability, power source efficiency and resiliency. This will not only strengthen our local energy cooperative for our use, but for the use of the local Hyde County Community as well."

Installation of the solar array and battery energy storage system is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2020. The second phase of the project will add a microgrid controller that manages existing emergency backup diesel generators and all the other components to evolve the project into a full microgrid.

This partnership builds on the success of and lessons learned from other microgrid projects developed by North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives, including microgrids at Ocracoke Island (also located in Hyde County), Butler Farms (another agricultural microgrid), and Heron's Nest (the state's first residential microgrid), and will provide additional opportunities to explore microgrid innovation and capabilities.

The project also exemplifies North Carolina's electric co-ops' long-standing commitment to supporting agriculture and agribusiness industries.

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of Christ - Disciples of Christ, International. While he is frequently invited to speak at other churches and revival services, he is working on a church of his own in Pamlico County. Retirement will give him more time to work on that project.



Fred's pastoral duties have extended to Tideland as well. In June, he conducted the graveside funeral service for our long time co-worker Pam Foster after she lost her battle with cancer.

What does retirement hold for Fred? Travel is at the top of his list. He'd like to visit Florida, Texas and Arizona. He'll also be busy with his ever-growing family that includes a son in New Bern, two daughters in Georgia, 13 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

At home he has 13 acres of land to tend, which means plenty of mowing and gardening. He particularly likes growing flowers and roses are his specialty.

Fred is also quite the baker with coconut pies and cheesecakes being his calling card. He makes at least a dozen of the pies every Thanksgiving.

So if you see Fred out and about be sure to shake his hand and thank him for his dedicated service to the co-op and community.

Tideland Topics

www.tidelandemc.com

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J. Douglas Brinson, Vice President
Clifton Paul, Secretary
David Ipock, Treasurer
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Garry Jordan, Dawson Pugh,
Wayne Sawyer & Charles Slade

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Paul Spruill

EDITOR

Heidi Jernigan Smith

Member Service

252.943.3046

800.637.1079

24 Hour Outage Reporting & Automated Services

252.944.2400

800.882.1001

Tideland EMC is an equal
opportunity provider & employer



happy
Valentine's Day!

