

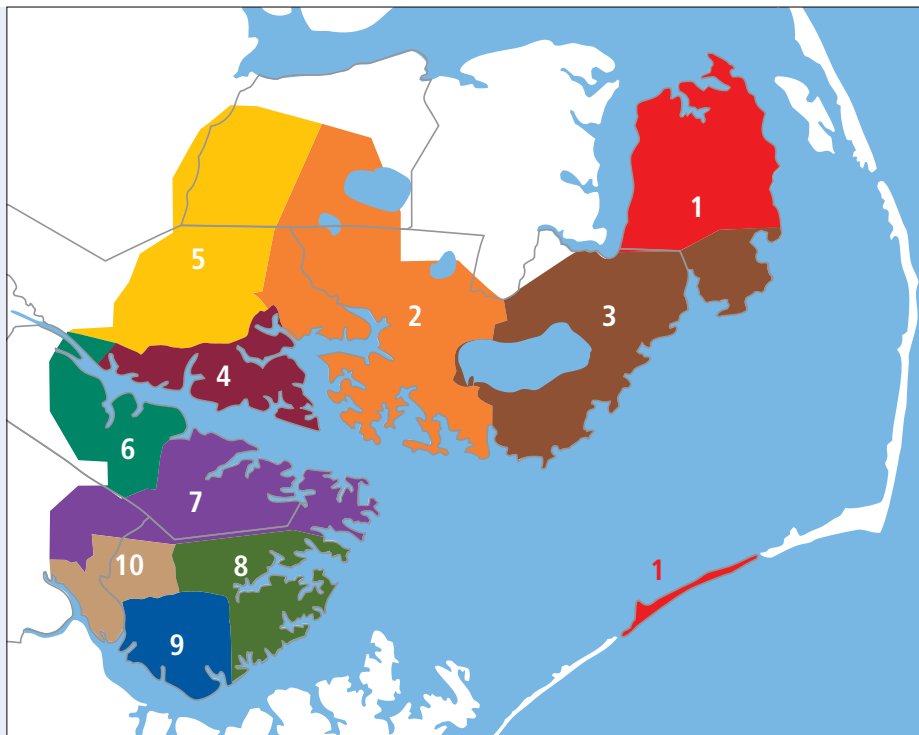
Tideland Topics

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.



And the winner is...

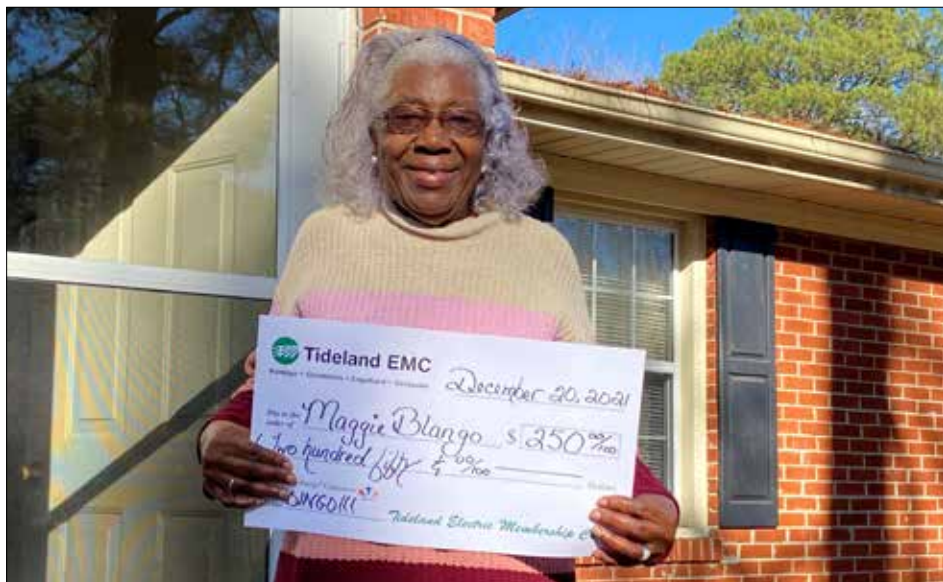
Congratulations to each of our MYEMC Bingo contest winners.

\$250 Grand Prize Winner:
Maggie Blango (Aurora)

\$50 Winners:

- Carolyn Carrow (Washington)
- Leslie and Dorson White (Bath)
- Lou Brown (Belhaven)
- Alton Boomer, Sr. (Pantego)

Thanks to all who participated!





Rebates
extended

Rodanthe Bridge Project

A new path for island power



All Tideland EMC residential rebate programs for qualifying purchases of Energy Star-manufactured homes, heat pumps and heat pump water heaters have been extended through December 31, 2022.

If you made a qualifying purchase in the third quarter of 2021, you are asked to submit your rebate form by March 31, 2022.

CURRENT REBATES

Energy Star Manufactured Home
\$1,250

Heat Pump
15 SEER - \$75
16 SEER and higher - \$150
Geothermal - \$300

Heat Pump Water Heater
\$300

All qualifying heat pump installations are eligible for a free Ecobee wifi thermostat

To address frequent ocean overwash along Highway 12 on Hatteras Island, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has constructed a new Rodanthe bridge that extends over the Pamlico Sound. Power delivered to Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands is exclusively provided by Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative's (CHEC) transmission line that runs parallel to the existing highway.

Once NCDOT completes the bridge and the traffic pattern is permanently shifted, they will immediately begin removing the asphalt, dunes and sandbags that are in the current highway right-of-way, leaving CHEC's transmission line exposed to the elements and not easily accessible.

Consequently, CHEC will need to install their transmission line under the new bridge. CHEC has awarded a contract to New River Electrical to complete the job of installing the hanger, conduit, and cables under the bridge.

To continue enjoying life on Hatteras and Ocracoke island, those members will need to make minor sacrifices for the duration of the project. CHEC doesn't expect these hardships to extend much beyond some traffic delays, but there is the potential for power outages as well.



New River, and its subcontractor Aptus, have already begun work at the bridge site. As NCDOT completes their project and traffic is shifted onto the bridge, CHEC's work will continue, requiring minor traffic delays.

CHEC's contractor plans to work until the end of

May, during daylight hours, Mondays through Fridays. Work will be paused from June until September, to avoid disrupting summer traffic.

After the peak of the tourist season, work will begin again, with completion expected by December 2022. The new transmission line will be energized in 2023.

Member portal gets a facelift

Quick Pay feature makes login a breeze



Tideland EMC's member portal recently received a facelift. The portal allows you to manage your electric payments and monitor

portal has been optimized for all mobile devices. Be sure to download the My Tideland app if you haven't done so already.

Members will be able to enjoy all the new and enhanced portal features using their phone, tablet, or computer.

If you have not used our online portal before, it's easy to create an account. You just need your Tideland EMC account number and identifying information that you provided to us when establishing your membership with the cooperative.

Use the portal to view your electricity consumption by month (and over time) to gain insights into ways to save energy and reduce your electric bill. You can also see daily energy use and depending on the age of your electric meter obtain your energy use in either hourly or 15-minute increments.

Further manage your account with enrollment in any number of alerts and reminders. Qualifying account holders can also sign up for automatic draft payments and leveled billing.

your energy use. If you haven't checked it out, go to tidelandemc.com and click on the Pay My Bill button at the top of any page or the Member Portal link on the main navigation menu.

The portal now features a streamlined design that allows for easier navigation and readability and enhanced security features to better protect member information. A new "Quick Pay" option has been added that will provide a faster and easier way for members to make a payment without needing to do a full account login. Lastly, the new

Rights-of-way maintenance schedule

Tideland has hired Lucas Tree Experts to trim trees in our rights-of-way.

During February, Lucas crews will be working along Highway 32 in Washington County.

Lee Electric construction crews will continue work on the Dowry Creek circuit along Allen Road and on the Merritt circuit along Orchard Creek Road (Pamlico County).

Remember to support these important system maintenance operations. Proper tree care leads to greater system reliability.

Please observe proper distances when planting trees and erecting fences and other structures. And always call 811 to have underground utilities located before beginning an excavation or construction project.

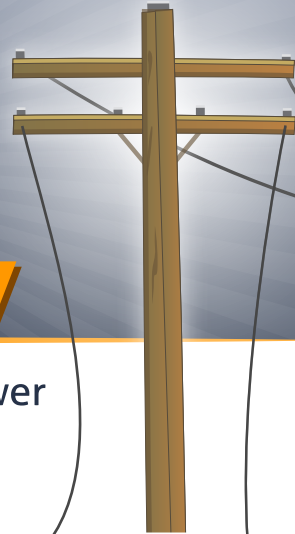
Who owns Tideland EMC?

Everyone got this right on their Bingo card but the replies were slightly different:

We the People - Members - I do!
Real People - Consumers - Users
It's a co-op!



ALWAYS ASSUME ALL DOWNED LINES ARE **LIVE**



Downed power lines can be **deadly**. Always assume a downed power line is **live** and avoid approaching them or anything near them.

Use Precaution



Downed power lines can energize the ground up to **35 feet away**. Even more in wet conditions.



If you see a downed power line, **call 911**.



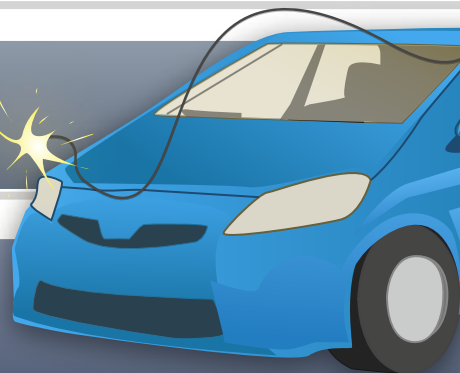
Never drive over downed power lines or anything in contact with them.



Never try to move a downed power line.

If a vehicle contacts a **power line** or **utility pole**...

STAY AWAY AND CALL 911



Consider **all lines** to be live and dangerous.



Stay in place or inside your vehicle unless you see **fire** or **smoke**.

35ft

Warn others to stay at least **35 feet away**.



Tell others not to approach vehicle, downed lines, or anything that may be in contact with downed lines.



Call **911**.

In the Event of Fire or Smoke

Do not touch the ground and vehicle at the **same time**.



Jump from the vehicle with your **feet together**.



Shuffle away, avoid lifting your feet.



Please share this free content to save lives



Safety inspections underway

Bellwether conducting site visits

While automated meters have greatly reduced the need for Tideland and our contractors to be on member property, it is necessary to periodically check cooperative equipment and perform maintenance to ensure reliable service.

Tideland has contracted with Bellwether Management Solutions, a division of Allegiant Utility Services, to undertake these metered service inspections in our six-county service territory. When visually inspecting each meter, they will be looking for any potential problems with your property's electrical facilities.

While we don't complete full inspections on the electric meter box, we will let you know if we see a problem and if repairs or vegetation management are needed. Bellwether personnel will conduct all their work outdoors. So please be alert to anyone attempting to gain access inside your home while posing as a Tideland designee. Again, our visit will only take place outside of your home.

We also want to remind you that Tideland crews and contractors need unimpeded access to our padmount transformers. We require 10 feet of clearance in front of the hinged opening and 5 feet on the three remaining sides. Please keep the area around them free of vegetation, fencing and lawn decorations.

The transformer cabinet should not be painted, decorated with decals or used as a surface for chalk drawings either. Child should not sit or climb on the cabinets which have a clearly visible high-voltage warning decal. Be particularly careful not to impact transformer cabinets during mowing season. Immediately report damaged or unlocked cabinets.



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 Carolina Basketball Camp at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and young women can apply for a spot at the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp held at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

To apply, students must be a rising sixth- or seventh-grade student residing in a Tideland EMC-served home. 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. You may also reach out to Heidi Smith at 252.944.2410.

While the camps will be held in late June 2022, the exact dates have not yet been released.



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 4, 2022, 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

2021 credits to members totaled \$2 million

PAUL SPRUILL
GENERAL MANAGER &
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

For the year ending December 31, 2021, Tideland EMC issued credits to both current and former members of the cooperative totaling \$2 million. The source of those credits is threefold:

- Wholesale power cost adjustment (WPCA) credits
- Capital credit refunds to the estates of deceased members
- General retirement of capital credits to members who had service with the cooperative in the years 1992 and/or 1993.

Tideland has been issuing a monthly WPCA credit since March 2020. The credit has reduced the price per kilowatt hour (kWh) by \$0.00179. For example, our published residential kWh rate for winter is 11.49¢. After the WPCA credit is applied the effective billed rate drops to 11.311 per kWh. The credit similarly applies to summer energy use. The credit amount applied to your electric bill is broken out as a line item on your monthly statement.

In 2020, when we saw a dip in electric sales, WPCA credits totaled \$440,000. In 2021, as kWh sales rebounded, the total WPCA credits issued jumped to \$625,805 in member savings.

When combined with capital credit refunds to estates, totaling \$580,490, and the December general retirement of \$800,000, credits for 2021 totaled \$2,006,295.

This same time last year we largely believed that the WPCA credit would begin to decline towards the end of 2021. Fortunately, we were able to maintain the credit at its current level and anticipate it remaining unchanged into the second quarter of 2022.

I do want to circle back around to the topic of capital credit refunds to the estates of deceased members. The loss of a loved one is a difficult time. Many are unlikely to even think about their loved one's cooperative membership beyond transferring the electric service into another name. In fact, it often only comes to the attention of a surviving family member when we mail a general retirement capital credit check to the deceased member.

We have a process in place to settle the balance of the deceased member's ownership equity. That process begins with the submission of a capital credit claim form along with a copy of the deceased member's death certificate. If no executor exists, the check is made payable to the clerk of court who will handle the disbursement of funds.

The capital credit claim form can be found on our website at: tidelandemc.com/my-residence/billing/capital-credits

Director nominations underway

Annual meeting scheduled for May 12, 2022

It is once again time to nominate candidates for Tideland's annual director elections. The nominating committee will meet in Pantego on Thursday, February 10, 2022, to consider candidates for districts 1, 3, and 9 which are currently represented by Rudy Austin, Dawson Pugh, and J. Douglas Brinson 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 11, 2022.

Nominations can also be made by submitting a petition signed by 50 co-op members no later than February 21, 2022. The annual meeting of members will be held on Thursday, May 12, 2022, at Beaufort County Community College auditorium. Member registration begins at 6:30 pm. The meeting start time is 7:00 pm.

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, Arapahoe

Nominating committee

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

District 2:
Louie Hubers
6959 NC Hwy 45
Belhaven, NC 27810

District 3:
Josh Latham
30046 Hwy 264
Engelhard, NC 27824

District 4:
Barry Eborn
4621 Sidney 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

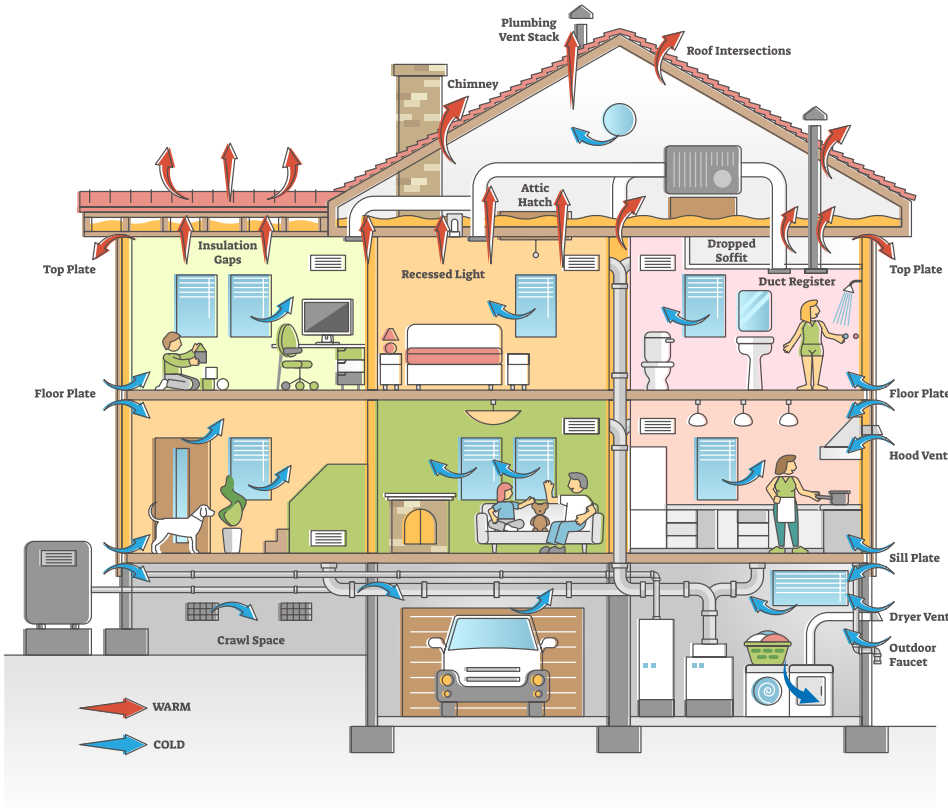
District 9:
Buck H. Jones
35 Roland Rd
Arapahoe, NC 28510

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

BUTTON UP YOUR HOUSE THIS WINTER

REAL PEOPLE.
REAL POWER.

Common sources of air leaks



When it's cold outside, you are likely to don a sweater or jacket when you go outside. Be sure to button up your house to keep outside air out and conditioned air in. The best day to identify air leaks is when the outdoor temperature is in sharp contrast to your indoor temperature. The average U.S. home has enough air leaks to equal one open window.

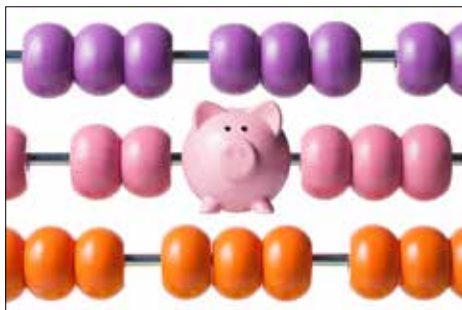
HOME HEATING COSTS WEIGHING YOU DOWN?

Sign up for levelized billing

Levelized billing provides you with a way to guard against large fluctuations in your monthly electric bills. Program participants pay a rolling average of their previous 12 months' electric use. While you can expect fluctuations in the amount due every month, the changes are minimal. If your usage is trending up the levelized amount will increase. If usage trends down the levelized amount will decrease. Levelized billing helps members with month to month budgeting while at the same time alerting members to increased kilowatt hour (kWh) consumption.

Levelized billing is a free service. Participants must keep their electric account current. Failure to pay by the due date will result in the loss of levelized billing privileges.

To enroll or for more info:
800.637.1079



Tideland Topics

www.tidelandemc.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

GENERAL MANAGER & CEO

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!



Show your HVAC system
some love. Change or
clean your filters monthly.