Tideland Topics

Real People. Real Power.

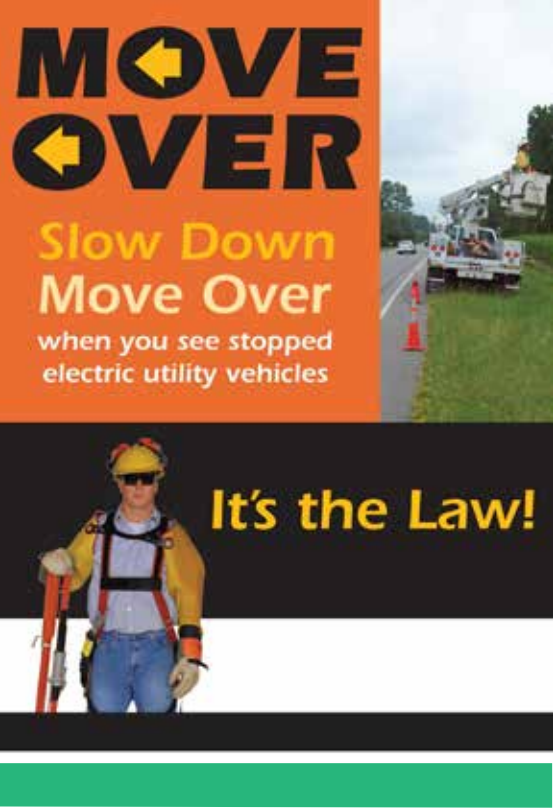
Vampire power

Appliances that leech energy even when they are "shut off" are modern vampires, wasting power and increasing electric bills. One or two devices won't make much difference on your bill, but with each electronic addition to your home it can begin to add up.

Read more on page F...

Splitting headache

Installations are on the rise of ductless heat pumps that rely on wall-mounted air handlers. While energy savings and installation costs are often key factors when purchasing these systems, it is important to consider the requisite air handler maintenance. The labor and cost to clean one, let alone multiple units, should be taken into account. If you have a wall-mounted air handler, be sure to clean the filter every few weeks, keeping a keen eye out for signs of mold or mildew, a common problem. Make sure filters are completely dry before placing them back in service.



When Hurricane Idalia hit Florida in late August, there were numerous reports of close-call incidents involving motorists and power restoration crews. So much so that in several cases local and state law enforcement officials were assigned to stay with crews where hazards by motorists were of greatest concern.

In some cases, motorists pulled into work zone areas and exited their vehicles to inquire about power restoration efforts.

In North Carolina, General Statute 20-157 states that motorists are required to move over one lane, if possible, or reduce speed for stopped emergency vehicles with flashing lights on the shoulder of the highway, including public service vehicles with amber lights. Violating the law could result in a $250 fine.

Given that most of the roadways in Tideland-served territory have minimal shoulder area, observing this law is particularly important for both your safety and ours. If you need a power restoration update, the safest way to obtain that information is via our Facebook page, outage text messaging notifications or by simply giving us a call. Never interrupt crews while they work.

Commitment to Community:
Co-op principles in action

Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, solidarity, and commitment to community.

To paraphrase a popular patriotic quote: Co-ops are of the communtiy, by the community and for the community. Our employees put that principle into action every single day, but from time to time their efforts truly shine when they team up with community partners.

This year our Ocracoke and Grantsboro crews have partnered with local volunteer fire departments to erect equipment structures. In the case of Ocracoke, the installation involved a new fire siren. In Bayboro, our crews installed a fire hose drying station to help the Triangle Fire Department extend the life and servicability of its existing equipment.

In July, our Engelhard crews provided a hands on learning session for students participating in the Hyde County Library's summer reading program. The following month they were on hand to promote the county's National Night Out event.

We're proud to be your cooperative partner during National Co-op Month and all year long!

Message to members

Co-op strong

by PAUL SPRUILL
GENERAL MANAGER &
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Celebrated by cooperatives nationwide during the month of October, National Co-op Month is an annual opportunity to raise awareness of a trusted, proven way to do business and build resilient, inclusive communities.

Across the United States, cooperatives bring a variety of resources and services to consumers. From agriculture, utilities, finance and more, these member-owned organizations play an important role across the United States. Not only do they expand options to consumers, but they increase economic resources for rural communities, too. Through better infrastructure, added educational supports and employment opportunities, cooperatives strengthen rural populations.

More than 30,000 cooperatives operate in the United States at 72,993 places of business. Together they collectively account for nearly $652 billion in annual revenue, $154 billion in income, and more than $74 billion in wages supporting more than 2 million American jobs. Co-ops boast more than 350 million memberships. In fact, many rural Americans have multiple co-op memberships since the formation of a local co-op was often the only way to secure much needed resources like electric and telephone service.

Each year when we advertise the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., applicants are asked to complete an essay based several writing prompts we provide. One of the prompts asks them to identify a service their community needs and why it would be particularly well-suited to the cooperative business model. Students who choose that prompt have generally focused on a cooperative-driven model to provide reliable and affordable childcare or a readily available supply of nutritious food for their community. These high school students are already making the connection between quality of life issues within their towns and the ability of local self-determination and community collaboration to bring about change.

That's the touchstone of the cooperative business model: prioritizing people over profits. Where service to others is service to self and vice-versa. It's a model that has stood the test of time because co-ops change with their members rather than change for the purpose of monetary gain.

Today, co-ops are innovation hubs and nowhere is that more true than in the electric and telecommunications industry. Electric co-ops lead the utility industry in smart meter deployment. More than 250 co-ops are delivering broadband to rural areas to expand access to telehealth services, online learning, remote work and new business development. This local, member-driven structure is one reason why cooperatives enjoy the highest consumer-satisfaction scores within their respective industries.

We're proud of our co-op roots. A tradition we continue to build on.

Rights-of-way maintenance schedule

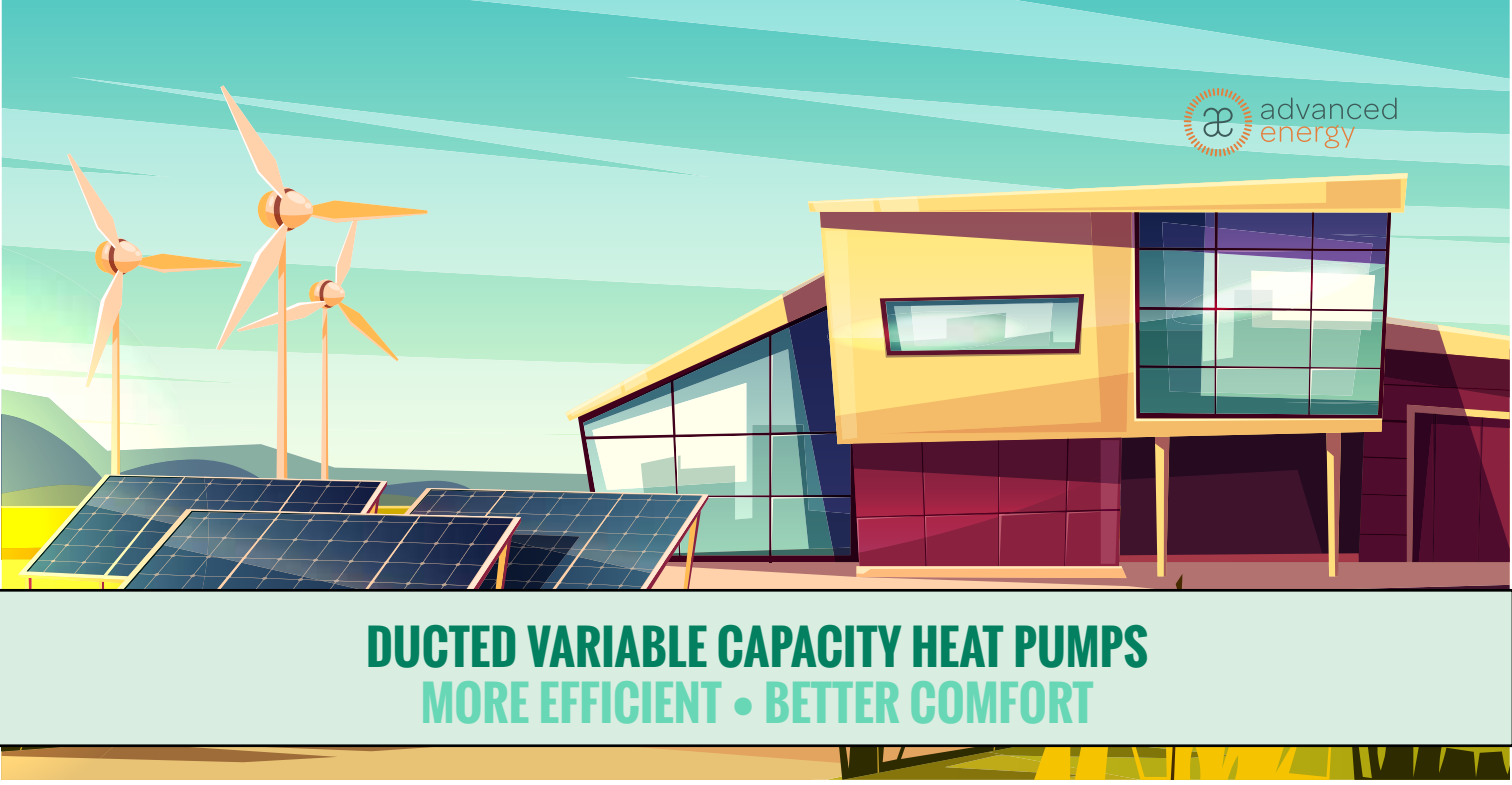
Tideland has hired Lucas Tree Experts to trim vegetative growth in our rights-of-way.

During October, Lucas crews will be completing trimming on the Lowland circuit along Highway 33 and Highway 306. They will then move on to the Craven County circuit out of our Edward substation. The area of work will focus on the Tunstall Swamp Road corridor.

Our contract construction crews with Lee Electrical will continue their work on the Swan Quarter circuit along Main Street in Swan Quarter.

Fall is a popular time for planting new trees. As you make your tree selection please consider the mature height and width of the species before purchase. At maturity the tree should be out of both the fall zone and the trim zone of existing overhead powerlines.

If your home or neighborhood is serviced by underground lines, make sure you know where lines are buried before planting.



DUCTED VARIABLE CAPACITY HEAT PUMPS

MORE EFFICIENT • BETTER COMFORT

Residential air conditioning and space heating are the top two energy consumers in homes today. One technology shown to save money through improved energy efficiency is the ducted variable capacity heat pump. These systems function the same way as standard heat pumps, by absorbing energy in the form of heat from one location and moving it to another. However, they incorporate variable-speed technology that allows them to better and more efficiently meet the needs of a home. Ducted variable capacity heat pumps can be a great whole-home option for homeowners looking to change out an existing system.

DUCTED VARIABLE CAPACITY HEAT PUMP BENEFITS

MORE EFFICIENT

- SAVE UP TO 36% IN ANNUAL HEATING AND COOLING COSTS*
- LONG, QUIET RUN TIMES
- RAMPS UP AND DOWN MORE GRADUALLY

BETTER COMFORT

- CAN KEEP TEMPERATURES MORE EVEN THROUGHOUT YOUR HOME
- CAN IMPROVE AIR FILTRATION
- EFFICIENT FANS VARY SPEED TO KEEP A CONSISTENT TEMPERATURE

DUCTED VARIABLE CAPACITY MORE EFFICIENT BETTER COMFORT HEAT PUMPS

BENEFITS

- Increased room comfort: Temperatures are more consistent throughout the home because of the longer run times, which give air more time to mix and move.
- Monthly savings: These systems have excellent Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratios (SEER) of 16 or more, and Heating Seasonal Performance Factors (HSPF) of 8.5 or more, which is 8 to 36 percent more efficient than traditional ducted electric air source heat pumps.
- With their increased run times at slower fan speeds, ducted variable capacity heat pumps are quieter than traditional systems.
- Low cost: These systems represent an affordable option for direct replacement of older equipment.
- In humid climates, these systems can improve comfort by acting as a better dehumidifier than traditional systems. In the spring and fall, the improved dehumidification can make the home more comfortable.
- In colder climates, variable capacity heat pumps can be sized closer to the heating load to greatly lower heating costs.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Ducted variable capacity heat pumps should be on your radar if you are looking to replace an existing heating and cooling system, putting an addition on your home or building a new one.
- Ductwork should be confirmed to be leak-free and tight to avoid wasting energy. Because these systems run longer, more opportunities exist for leaks associated with poorly performing ductwork.
- Ask for pricing from three different contractors to weigh your options. Be sure to contact several of each contractor's references to make sure that customers were satisfied.
- These systems are typically more costly to purchase upfront than other equipment, but they have additional features and are often cheaper to operate.
- Contact your electric cooperative to inquire about relevant incentives, rebates or possible on-bill financing.
- Use energy savings calculators or software to help with investment decisions specific to your home and climate.

COMMON MANUFACTURERS • LENNOX • TRANE • CARRIER • GOODMAN • BOSCH

ESTIMATED ANNUAL HEATING AND COOLING ENERGY SAVINGS FROM REPLACEMENT*

EXISTING HEAT PUMP	REPLACEMENT HEAT PUMP EFFICIENCY RATING	
EFFICIENCY RATING	20 SEER, 10 HSPF	16 SEER, 8.5 HSPF
10 SEER, 7.0 HSPF	36%	30%
12 SEER, 7.5 HSPF	30%	17%
13 SEER, 7.7 HSPF	27%	13%
14 SEER, 8.2 HSPF	22%	8%

*Savings estimated with the ENERGY STAR® Savings Calculator found at www.sba.gov.

This article was provided by Advanced Energy, a nonprofit energy consulting firm. For more information, visit ***www.advancedenergy.org.***

Kill a Watt...no garlic required

Vampire power (also called phantom power or standby mode), in which appliances consume energy even when they are shut off, is increasingly adding to both residential and business energy use. While many devices have sleep or standby modes, they continuously use energy to perform updates, connect to remote servers, and record data.

The connectivity of modern technology is one reason why devices leech energy. Even when the TV is off, for example, it's still ready to receive a signal from the remote to power on at any time. Your DVR is always "lying in wait" until it's time to record the next show or running behind-the-scenes updates.

Regularly available power means your devices can respond quickly when you decide to use them. However, this handy feature comes with an energy cost.

REMOTE READY VAMPIRES

Remote-ready appliances are those which remain in a standby state ready to receive orders to switch on. Often, these devices require a one-button operation to wake them. Common remote-ready appliances that "leak" electricity include:

- Desktop computers and displays
- Printers
- Fax machines
- Satellite and cable boxes
- TVs
- Garage door openers
- Video game consoles

For some devices, the "on" and "off" electricity loads are almost identical. For example, a TV on standby is 48.5 watts, while an in-use LCD computer monitor uses 55 watts when in use. Therefore, it should come as no surprise that televisions, gaming consoles and desktop computers are the largest offenders.

NON-REMOTE VAMPIRES

Non-remote appliances that waste energy due to being on all the time don't have standby or sleep modes. Rather, the electricity that is used to power background functions even when you're not operating them.

- Microwaves
- Digital clocks
- Cable modems
- Answering machines

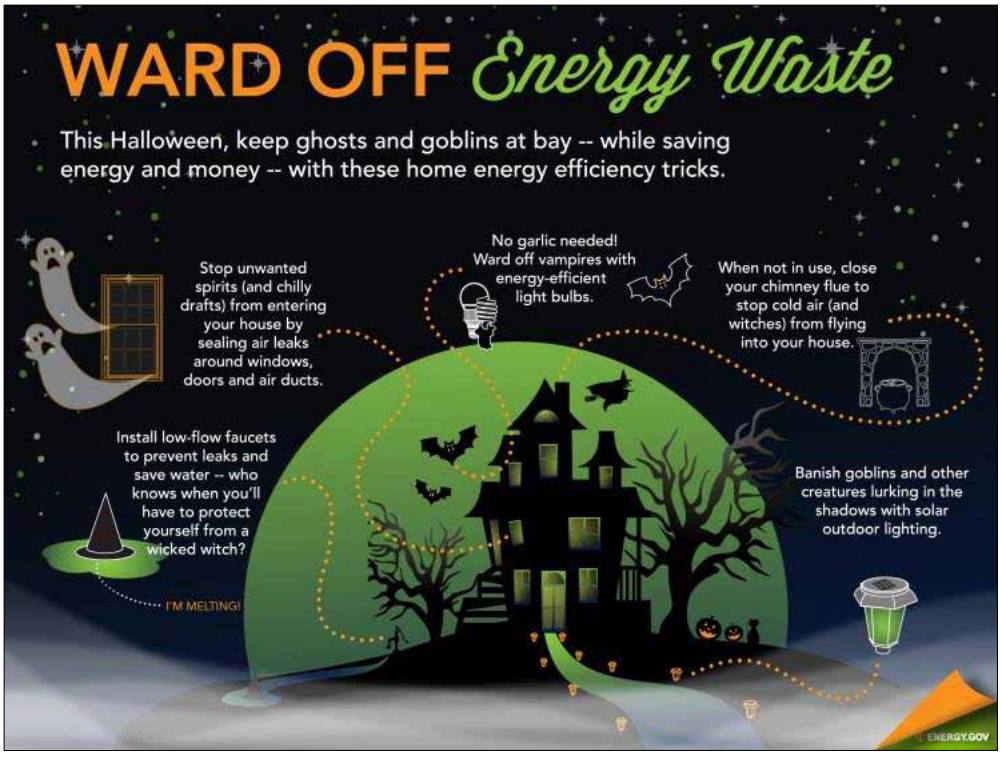
While you may unplug your microwave between uses, many other non-remote appliances may need to remain on.

A SIMPLE SOLUTION: POWER STRIPS

Obviously, unplugging multiple appliances would be unwieldly in a full-time residence or business. However, you can utilize a power strip to plug devices in and use the strip's on/off switch to completely shut off devices. For example, businesses may want to shut items off on Friday to reap savings over the weekend. Or you may want to shut off items in rooms that are not routinely used. If you have a seasonal home we highly encourage you to unplug items upon your departure which not only saves energy but prevents damage from voltage surges as well.

There are also advanced power strips that are specifically designed to reduce phantom power loads.

And while vampire loads are worth tackling, don't overlook your main energy users: HVAC and water heating.



ENERGY VAMPIRES WORD SEARCH

Are energy vampires hiding in your home? These electronic devices consume electricity even when they're not in use and can drain home energy bills.

Read the tips below to learn how you can fight energy vampires, then find and circle the **bolded** words in the puzzle.

Energy Explorers

R	W	Y	E	S	B	G	S	V	F	S	V	V	X	Q
X	E	M	R	M	X	X	T	V	B	N	U	D	T	O
G	P	K	X	G	K	J	C	I	B	B	J	U	I	O
J	R	X	A	R	C	N	R	E	P	M	J	V	R	E
A	V	R	T	M	P	T	Y	Y	I	C	Z	U	W	L
T	R	W	Q	U	E	D	G	U	K	N	J	P	I	O
E	R	R	A	X	N	E	K	Z	X	C	D	E	F	S
F	E	K	Y	S	V	Y	F	A	Y	E	H	Z	E	N
Y	R	N	L	T	F	I	L	F	A	Q	W	O	U	O
O	A	A	W	V	Z	D	E	H	O	X	O	L	N	C
G	N	K	Z	T	T	Y	S	K	R	C	L	K	A	E
T	Q	S	D	G	M	J	S	W	W	W	X	S	N	M
Z	E	R	E	G	R	A	H	C	E	N	O	H	P	A
B	A	C	T	T	Z	K	Q	N	U	X	E	M	Y	G
L	A	P	T	O	P	C	O	M	P	U	T	E	R	S

Tips to Fight Energy Vampires:

- If your phone is juiced up, unplug your **phone charger**.
- Tell your parents to unplug the **coffee maker** when they're finished brewing.
- When you're finished playing that new game, unplug your **game console**.
- Unplug **laptop computers** when you're done with homework.

Real People. Real Power.

Tideland Topics

www.tidelandemc.com

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

Reminder:

always call 811 before you dig