



# Tideland Topics

REAL PEOPLE. REAL POWER.

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

## \$500 DRAWING: Sign up to Round Up and you're entered for a chance to win

In 1991, Tideland EMC became the first co-op in North Carolina to introduce charitable giving through rounded up electric bill contributions. The purpose of Operation Round Up has always been to help members in crisis meet their basic electric needs when no other means of assistance are available.

How does Operation Round Up help those in need? We provide short-term financial relief in the form of a grant up to \$100 that is applied directly to the member's electric bill. Grants are often

accompanied by a free home energy audit so the cooperative can help the member find ways to reduce future expenses because, like you, we know a penny saved is a penny earned.

To begin contributing to Operation Round Up, complete the online account update form at [tidelandemc.com](http://tidelandemc.com) or check the appropriate space on your electric bill return payment stub. All members contributing to Operation Round Up by May 18 will be entered into the grand prize drawing.



### Time-of-use Hours Change April 17

Tidelanders participating in the co-op's time-of-use rate are reminded that the on-peak hours change on Monday, April 17. The summer on-peak hours are 4 pm to 8 pm, Monday through Friday.

Good Friday, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day remain off-peak.

All program kWh will continue to be billed at a rate of 6.544¢ (subject to wholesale power cost adjustments). May 1 - October 31, the on-peak kW demand rate increases to \$10.35.

**Tideland EMC**  
Real People. Real Power.

**\$500 DRAWING**

**ELECTRIC BILL CREDIT GRAND PRIZE!**

**ARE YOU IN?**

Operation Round Up® is a voluntary program that allows Tideland EMC members to help fellow members struggling with home energy costs.

ANNUAL MEETING ON MAY 18, 2017 6:30PM AT BEAUFORT COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE [WWW.TIDELANDEMC.COM](http://WWW.TIDELANDEMC.COM)



## Message to our Member-Owners: WPCA credit decline begins

By Paul Spruill  
General Manager & CEO

### Right-of-Way Maintenance Update

In April, Lucas Tree Experts will trim tree along Bonner-ton, Core Point and Crystal Beach roads and all sideroads in the area.

Mowing crews will be working in Fairfield along Piney Woods and North Lake roads, including all side roads.

Please lend your full support to our tree trimming efforts. Trees are the number one cause of outages.

The anticipated decline in wholesale power cost adjustment (WPCA) credits began March 1.

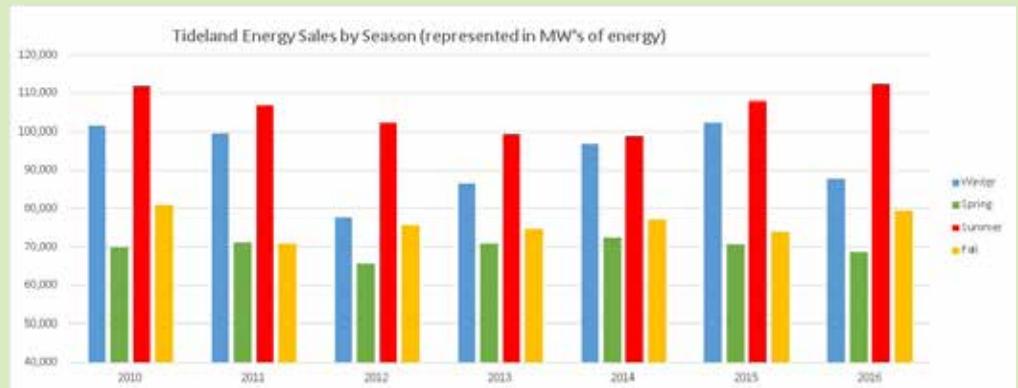
In February, members received a WPCA credit of 1.081¢ per kilowatt hour (kWh). In March it fell to 0.793¢. The decreasing credit lowered our published winter residential rate of 10.58¢ per kWh to 9.787¢ per kWh for all bills rendered during March. That represented a slight increase compared to February when the billed rate was slightly lower at 9.499¢.

Over the next few months the WPCA credit will decline further and by summer it is expected to zero out. That will end the longest streak of fuel adjustment credits in Tideland's history. That streak began in January 2013 and has

now spanned 52 months, during which time we also reduced our published rates on July 1, 2014.

The WPCA credit will zero out about the same time we switch over to residential summer rates, which are 0.915¢ more per kWh than winter rates. That could lead to initial sticker shock, especially when comparing energy costs to the same time last year; and Tideland historically sells more energy during air conditioning season.

Fortunately, members can usually offset changes in price through proactive energy habits, conservation and increased efficiency. Tideland is here to help you achieve those energy goals. Don't hesitate to reach out to us for guidance.



## Save cold hard cash

It never fails to amaze us how many Tidelanders find it difficult to part with old, inefficient refrigerators. Even when buying a new, energy-efficient unit for the kitchen, the old refrigerator never quite seems to find its way to the landfill. Instead, many if not most find their way into a shed, mudroom or garage.

Compared to 15-year-old refrigerators, new Energy Star® certified refrigerators have energy-saving features that provide performance benefits, including:

- High-efficiency compressors that create less heat and are often quieter than standard compressors
- Improved insulation located in doors and exterior walls to help food stay cold and muffle noise
- More precise temperature and defrost mechanisms that help the refrigerator operate more efficiently, while ensuring food is kept at the optimum temperature
- Innovative drawer designs and improved temperature controls to keep your food fresher, longer.





# MAKE A SAVINGS SPLASH WITH AN ENERGY STAR® CERTIFIED POOL PUMP.

Visit [energystar.gov/poolpumps](http://energystar.gov/poolpumps) today.



Your old pool pump could be costing nearly \$500 in energy every year. A new Energy Star® certified pool pump will use up to 70 percent less energy than a standard pump.

You could save up to \$350 per year in energy costs, and see payback on your investment in just two years.

Certified pool pumps are available in two-speed or variable-speed models, which means they can run at lower speeds for tasks like filtration to save energy and have quieter operation.

So is it time to take the plunge? The answer is yes if your pool pumps shows any of these warning signs of wearing out and wasting energy.

- Runs with less power
- Overheats and shuts off
- Makes more noise
- Is seven or more years old

Another way to reduce pool operating costs is to install a timer and to cut down on filtration times. If you are on Tideland's time-of-use rate you would want to avoid pump operation during on-peak hours.

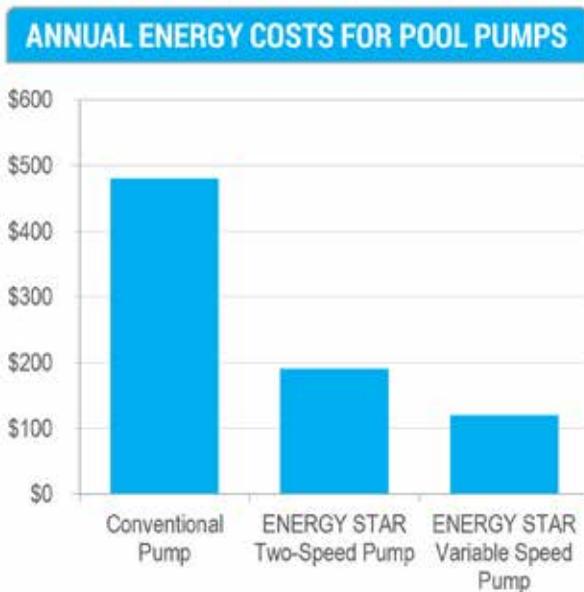
Your goal should be to filter the pool's total volume of water 2 to 3 times a day. If the pump has been properly sized for the pool it will probably take between 10 and 12 hours.

For reasons we'll discuss below, you probably want to schedule those run times to predominantly take place after dark.

If you rely on chlorine treatment, remember to add your chemicals in the evening instead of the morning. The sun's UV rays breakdown pool chemicals. By shocking your pool at night the result

will be a cleaner pool which allows for less filtering. This could also reduce your chemical costs by fifty percent.

Don't ignore your pool's pH and alkalinity levels. A very low pH means the water has become acidic which can damage your pool filter and pump.



## 4 SPRING CLEANING TIPS

### 1.

#### Clean your refrigerator coils

Older models have the coils on the back; newer models are usually underneath.

### 2.

#### Change your central system's air filter and wash the return air grill

Remember to avoid the use of thick, pleated filters; Opt for the cheaper filters and change every 30 days.

### 3.

#### Clean refrigerator door gaskets

Gaskets that fail to seal will increase refrigerator energy use.

### 4.

#### Clean your dryer vent

Clogged vents not only increase drying time they also represent a fire hazard. Remember: your dryer vent should vent to the outdoors and not underneath the house.

REAL PEOPLE.  
REAL POWER.

## Tideland Topics

[www.tidelandemc.com](http://www.tidelandemc.com)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

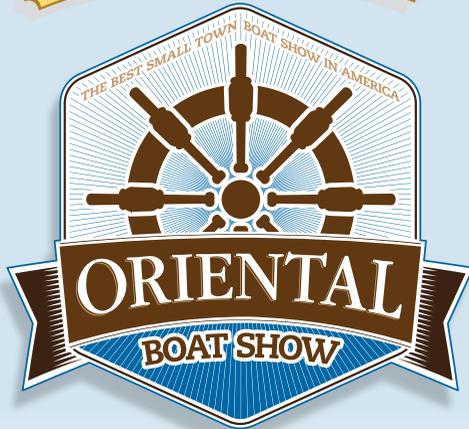
Tideland EMC is an equal  
opportunity provider & employer



# Oriental In-Water Boat Show

9th Annual

Oriental Harbor Marina  
Friday - Sunday  
April 21 - 23, 2017



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North Carolina's  
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Wood Boat Exhibition  
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AT [WWW.TIDELANDEMC.COM](http://WWW.TIDELANDEMC.COM) BEFORE YOU BUY

## Incumbent directors deemed elected

Tideland Electric's nominating committee met on February 9 to consider candidates for director districts 2, 7 and 10. Nominated for re-election in their respective districts were incumbents Mark Carawan of Scraton, Garry Jordan of Aurora, and David Ipock of New Bern. No candidates were nominated by written petition.

In accordance with the cooperative's bylaws, unopposed candidates are deemed elected to the board of directors for a three-year term.

Carawan, Jordan and Ipock will retake their oaths of service at the cooperative's June board meeting.



Mark Carawan  
District 2



Garry Jordan  
District 7



David Ipock  
District 10