



Tideland Topics

REAL PEOPLE. REAL POWER.

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBER-OWNERS OF TIDELAND EMC

RESOLVE TO SAVE: Make 2014 the year you trim energy waste

Perhaps, like many, your New Year's resolutions include shedding a few pounds. Why not focus on shedding some extra kilowatt hours (kWh) in 2014 as well? While energy charges are expected to remain stable throughout much of the year, you still have ample opportunity to reduce the bottom line on your electric bill.

Here are a few items of concern that our energy auditors have spotted during recent home inspections:

1. Central heating systems left in "On" mode instead of "Auto": Since the average system has a 500-watt fan, leaving the fan on all the time adds up to 4,380 kilowatt hours in a year's time! Multiply that times 11.5¢ per kWh and the cost would be \$500.25 a year (\$41.69 per month). To make matters worse, since virtually all central systems have some amount of

duct leakage, unconditioned air is being drawn into the home 24/7, which means a dustier home (since ducts are usually in the attic or crawlspace) and even more need to heat and cool your home. So put your thermostat in the "Auto" position and let it cycle off and on as needed.

2. Dirty filters: We can't stress enough how important it is to change your HVAC system filter once a month (every 30 days of system operation). That's especially important if you are using the more expensive pleated filters, which may need to be changed out even more frequently.

3. The cheapest and cleanest energy is the energy we never use. So take a "search and destroy" approach to household air leaks. We've provided a list of the top 10 offenders on page 19.



Mattamuskeet Decoy & Waterfowl Festival

January 18-19
Mattamuskeet High School

- Gunning Decoy Competition
- Calling Competition
- Retriever Demonstration & Competition
- Books & Local Waterfowl Art
- Carvers & Antique Decoys
- Antique Tractors
- Tours of the Mattamuskeet Wildlife Refuge
- Children's Activities
- Laser shot simulator to test your shooting skills
- Association banquet on Friday, January 17

www.hydewaterfowl.com



2013-14 CLASSROOM GRANT RECIPIENTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S BRIGHT IDEAS CLASSROOM GRANT AWARD WINNERS!

Right-of-Way Maintenance Update

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

In January they will be working in the following areas south of the Pamlico River:

- Prescott Road
- Neuse Road (Hwy. 55 end)
- Lee Landing Road
- Broad Creek Road
- Fairfield Harbor

and all small roads & lanes off of the above listed roads.

Mowing crews will also be working south of the Pamlico River along Hwy. 33 east of Aurora and into Lowland.



Tami Wagaman
Northside High
"Electrifying Diversity"

Funds will be used to purchase a Van de Graff static electricity generator and electric circuit kit books to allow for hands on energy education.



Allen Bateman
P.S. Jones Middle
"Hydroponic Greenhouse"

The school's raised bed garden will be supplemented with a hydroponic (soil-free) garden.



Paige Bisette Hill
Chocowinity Middle
"ROVs at CMS"

Students will be introduced to robotics and basic engineering skills to create their own remotely operated vehicles.



Emily Harper
Arapahoe Charter
"May The Force Be With You"

Adopting the popular movie theme, students will study the scientific principles of force and motion.



Daryn Martin
Arapahoe Charter
"What Identity Crisis?"

Art students in grades 4-9 will create a variety of self portraits ranging from abstract to realistic to reflect who they are and who they hope to be.



Sharon Paszt Jankowski
Washington High
"Who-Dun-It?"

Forensics students will study chromatography and hair, fiber, fingerprint and DNA analysis to build a case to solve and prosecute crimes.



Gail Watts
Arapahoe Charter
"The 3D World of Imagination!"

Watts will purchase a 3D printer so her students can create and test designs of various objects.



Darla Prescott
Washington Montessori School
"Kitchen On A Cart"

Students will explore various state, national and international cuisines in conjunction with their world geography studies.



Amanda Hilliard Smith
Beaufort County
Early College
"Peace Project"

Students will read the award-winning best seller "It Happened On the Way to War" to learn how a local marine, Rye Barcott, co-founded Carolina for Kibera.

A total of \$14,226 was awarded by Tideland EMC during this year's round of Bright Ideas grant funding. The co-op will begin accepting applications for the 2014-15 classroom year on April 1, 2014. To apply visit www.ncbrightideas.org or contact program coordinator Heidi Smith at 252-944-2410 or by email: heidismith@tidelandemc.com.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:

You could win a trip to Washington, DC

One Tideland area high school student will have an opportunity to take part in this year's all expense paid Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. The event, which takes place June 14-20, 2014, involves more than 1,500 students representing electric cooperatives from across the nation.

The Youth Tour recruiting process is open to high school sophomores and juniors. What experiences await Tideland's youth tourists?



- Learn more about America's electric cooperatives
- Lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
- Visit Capitol Hill and meet with North Carolina's Senators and Congressional representatives

- Visit the sites of Washington, D.C., including the Smithsonian, the Newseum, the Kennedy Center and the Holocaust Museum.

- A boat trip down the Potomac
- Attend an All States Dance
- An opportunity to win a college scholarship

To apply, students must be the legal dependent of a Tideland EMC member.

Application materials have been mailed to all local

high school guidance counselors. Students can also download an application at www.tidelandemc.com. The deadline to apply is Friday, March 7. For more information call program coordinator Heidi Smith at 252-944-2410.

Don't let energy savings go up in smoke

Your fireplace creates a warm, cozy atmosphere during wintry weather, but don't let it add unnecessary dollars to your electric bill.

Fireplaces heat the room they're in, but at the expense of the rest of the house. Most of the heat in traditional fireplaces goes up the chimney instead of warming living space, and the draft pulls heat from other rooms. So if your thermostat is located away from the fireplace, it will work harder to maintain room temperatures for the rest of the house.

Fireplace "inserts" help boost energy efficiency. Contact a local retailer to learn about efficient stoves and inserts that will circulate hot air into a room to help lower heating costs. But keep in mind the disadvantages of using high-maintenance fires as heat sources, including constant attention and ash disposal.

If you don't have an efficient insert, but love a crackling fire, follow these measures for safety and improved efficiency:

- Fight the draft. If you plan on a long-lasting fire, lower the thermostat to

save energy—just be prepared to wear a sweater in other rooms—and resist the temptation to crank the temperature back up after the fire goes out.

- Clean sweep. Have your chimney and fireplace inspected once a year, and cleaned or repaired when necessary. Even if you don't use your fireplace often, an annual inspection will find any blockage from animal nests or other deterioration.
- Batten down the hatch. Keep the damper closed when not using your fireplace to prevent conditioned or heated air from escaping.
- Choose your wood wisely. Wood that's dried at least six months provides the best heat, so avoid any that's wet or newly chopped. And the harder the tree species, the longer your fire will burn. This makes ironwood, rock elm, hickory, oak, sugar maple, and beech good choices. Store wood off the ground and away from your house to remove the threat of termite infestation, and cover the top to lessen moisture but leave the sides open for circulation.



1. Windows

2. Doors

3. Fireplace dampers

4. Exterior wall outlets

5. Plumbing & wiring penetrations

6. Clothes dryer vent

7. Recessed lighting

8. Attic access hatch or door

9. Duct work and boot connections

10. Exhaust fans

Scholarship deadline approaching

REAL PEOPLE.
REAL POWER.

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

In addition to the official application, scholarship candidates must submit:

1. a letter detailing his/her reasons for applying for the scholarship and their future plans;

2. a letter of recommendation from the high school's principal, guidance counselor or academic advisor;
3. a complete transcript of high school courses and grades; and
4. SAT or ACT scores if applicable.

Students have until Friday, March 7, 2014, to apply. An application may be downloaded at www.tidelandemc.com.

For more information call program coordinator Heidi Smith at 252.944.2410.

**Deadline:
March 7, 2014**



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HOLIDAY NOTICE: OUR OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED JANUARY 1, 2014

Give it your best shot

This summer Tideland EMC will provide all-expenses-paid scholarships for two girls to attend the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp in Raleigh (June 23-26) and two boys to attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp in Chapel Hill (June 21-25). The camps will work closely with attendees to develop fundamental skills to help students both on and off the court.



Rising sixth through eighth graders are eligible to apply and Tideland EMC will begin accepting applications on January 1. The deadline to apply is March 28. Applicants will be judged on academics, extra-curricular activities and written essay.

Applications have been mailed to all middle school coaches in Tideland's six county service territory. Students can also download an application at our website: www.tidelandemc.com. For more information, call program coordinator Heidi Smith at Tideland EMC at 252.944.2410.