

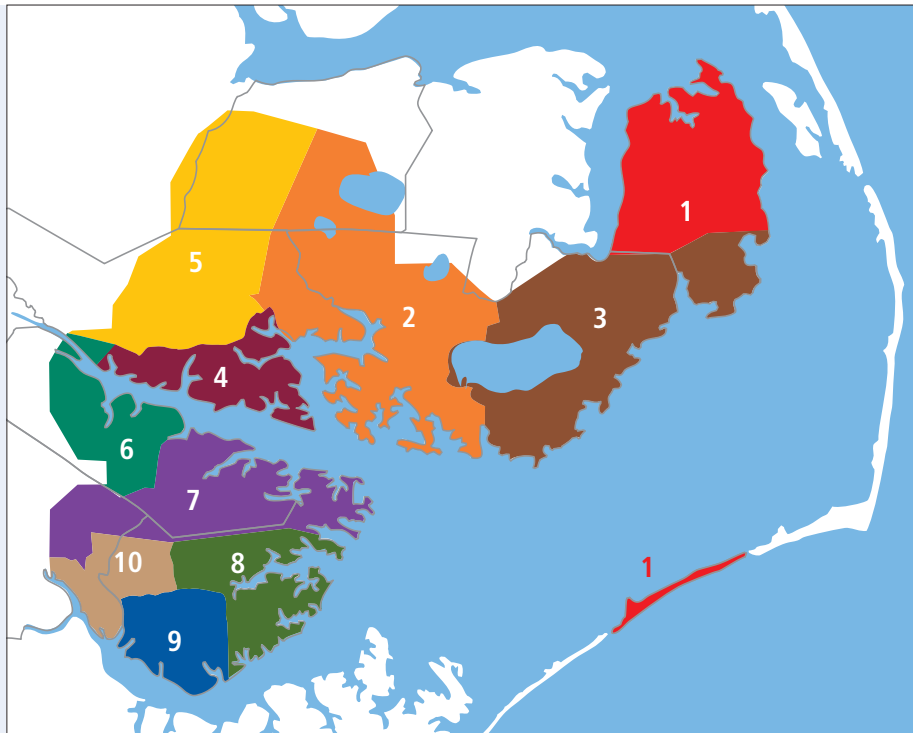
Tideland Topics

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 17.



February contractor schedule

Tideland has hired Gunnison Tree Service to trim trees in our rights-of-way.

During February, Gunnison crews will be working out of the Ponzer substation in the areas of Dowry Creek and Rose Acre. They will also be working out of the Sidney substation on the Pamlico Beach circuit and surrounding areas.

Lee Electric construction crews will be working pole replacements in the Engelhard district.

Scholarship final call

High school seniors have until Friday, March 3, to apply for a Tideland Electric college scholarship. 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.

An application may be downloaded at tidelandemc.com.

Apply Now!

Tideland EMC Sports Camp Scholarships



Proud to partner with



Applications accepted through **March 31, 2025**

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 (June 25-28), and young women can apply for a spot at the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp held at North Carolina State University in Raleigh (June 15-18). Please make sure you can attend those dates before applying!

To apply, students must be a sixth or seventh grade student during the 2025-2026 school year and reside in a Tideland EMC served home. Applicants will be judged on academics, extracurricular activities and an essay.

Applications must be submitted by March 31. To learn more, visit tidelandemc.com and follow the link to the online application. You may also reach out to program coordinator Heidi Smith at 252.944.2410.

Message to members

No-cost energy management tools at your fingertips

PAUL SPRUILL
GENERAL MANAGER &
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

On the heels of a fairly normal December, Tideland territory entered the New Year experiencing daily temperature lows in the 20s. The normal daily low for January is 34°. The impacts of those temperature dips were immediately reflected in daily kilowatt hour consumption with even lower temperatures in the forecast for the second week of January.

Since September 2014, Tideland members have had access to "high energy use alerts." It's an amazing service option designed to prevent high bills yet we find many of you are still not utilizing it.

The easiest way to activate the service is to log on to the member portal by going to tidelandemc.com and clicking the "Member Portal" link.

Once you've logged in, click on "My Account" and select "Manage Alerts." Next click "Balance and Usage Notifications" and complete the fields for a "High Energy Usage Alert - Daily."

Fill in the dollar amount that will trigger a high-energy usage alert. Keep in mind this is a DAILY usage alert. So if your electric bills average \$180 a month, you may want to set your daily usage alert for \$6.00 (\$180 divided by 30 days = \$6.00). You may want to adjust the amount seasonally depending on your summer and winter energy consumption patterns.

You can receive the alerts via text or email. If you opt to receive alerts via text you will need to



Have you signed up for a high energy use alert?

Opt In when the initial enrollment notice is sent to your cell phone. Please do not skip that step.

If the process above sounds too complicated, you are welcome to call the co-op and have one of our service representatives complete enrollment for you.

However, I do hope you will become familiar with the member portal and take a deeper dive into your daily energy consumption to learn how it corresponds with outdoor temperatures and household activities.

Every member can access their daily energy consumption. Depending on the age of your meter you can also access either hourly or 15-minute interval readings. That data can be particularly meaningful if you want to determine how much different loads in your home contribute to your overall energy bill. You can even experiment with daily thermostat settings to better understand the correlation between the temperature setting and your energy consumption.

Take care and stay warm efficiently this winter.

Director nominations underway

Annual meeting scheduled for May 15, 2025

It is once again time to nominate candidates for Tideland's annual director elections. The nominating committee will meet in Pantego on Thursday, Feb. 6, 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 Feb. 7.

Nominations can also be made by submitting a petition signed by 50 co-op members no later than Feb. 24. The annual meeting of members will be held on Thursday, May 15, at Beaufort County Community College auditorium. Member registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. The meeting start time is 7 p.m.

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.

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:

Travis Martin
276 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:

Dennis Killete
544 Mill Pond Rd
New Bern, NC 28560

Credentials & Elections Committee

District 2:

Johnny Joyner, Scranton

District 4:

Steven Poole, Belhaven

District 5:

Ernie Everett, Pinetown

District 6:

Gary Martin, Blounts Creek

District 7:

Donald Toler, Ernul

District 8:

Michael E. Spencer, Bayboro

District 9:

Dennis Fornes, Arapahoe

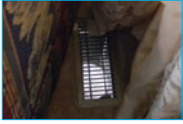
Simple solutions for winter savings

REAL PEOPLE.
REAL POWER.



Remove window air-conditioning units

This will allow you to shut the window to keep heat in and the cold out. If removal is not an option, install an inexpensive shrink wrap window kit to cover the window in its entirety.



Get a flashlight and inspect your supply registers

This photo from a Tideland energy audit shows just how easily we discovered a disconnected duct. Fortunately, the solution was a zip tie and mastic paste. Inexpensive repair. Huge savings!



Close dampers when your fireplace is not in use

Beyond closing the damper, consider your overall energy strategy when using an open-hearth fireplace. Studies show a net 8% loss of your home's heat when in use due to combustion air exchanges.



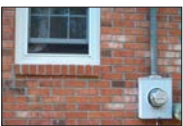
Make sure all your crawlspace vents are closed

Your floors will be much warmer this winter and your pipes better protected with your crawlspace vents closed. Be sure your crawlspace access door is securely closed as well.



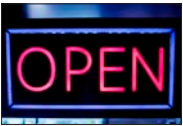
In winter, dry clothes during the warmest part of the day

All that hot air being dumped outside during the drying process requires makeup air inside your home. Where does that air come from? Outdoors. And it's unconditioned and unfiltered.



Are you sure all your windows are closed?

You would be shocked how often we find one or more windows open during energy audits. Most often the top sash isn't fully up. So take a look around. You may be surprised!



Keep interior doors and individual registers open

Shutting them in an attempt to redirect HVAC heat/air to another part of the house restricts efficient return air flow, increases energy costs and can damage the system.



Routinely replace/clean your HVAC filters

Once a month; every two weeks if remodeling. A basic filter is recommended unless your return air is sized for pleated media.

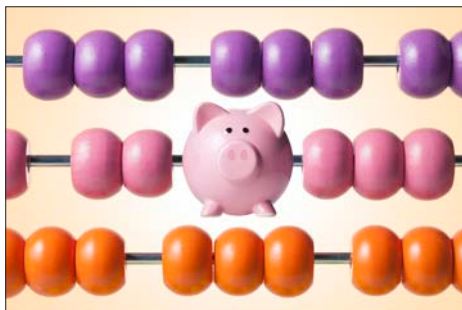
HOME HEATING COSTS WEIGHING YOU DOWN?

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.

Members may enroll via the member portal or call 252.943.3046.



Tideland Topics

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

24 Hour Outage Reporting

& Automated Services

252.944.2400

Text OUT to 85700 to
report a power outage

Tideland EMC is an equal
opportunity provider & employer



Happy
Valentine's Day!

