

How to Display the American Flag

On a Staff with Other Flags: The U. S. Flag should be at the peak of the staff and all other flags/pennants below it, with the exception of a flag of another nation.

Grouped: The U. S. Flag goes to its own right. Flags of other nations are flown at the same height.

Over a Street: The Union (stars) face north or east, depending on the direction of the street.

Marching: The U.S. Flag is on the right of the marchers and the left of the observers.

When to Display the American Flag

The flag should be displayed on all days, especially on New Year's Day, Inauguration Day, ML King's Birthday, Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Easter, Mother's Day, Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Constitution Day, Columbus Day, Navy Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and other such special days as proclaimed by the President of the United States. Other opportunities include the birthdays of states (date of admission) and on state holidays.



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June 14th Is Celebrated as Flag Day

June 14th was chosen as Flag Day in the United States to commemorate the date that the American flag was officially adopted as the national flag by the Continental Congress in 1777. It is a day when individuals, businesses, and public entities can display the flag with patriotism and pride.

President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the first nationwide Flag Day in 1916; however, President Harry S. Truman in 1947 signed legislation requesting that National Flag Day be observed annually. Although Flag Day is informally observed throughout the United States, only in Pennsylvania is it a legal holiday.



The week of June 14 is designated as "National Flag Week." During this week, the president will issue a proclamation urging U.S. citizens to fly the American flag. The flag should be displayed on all government buildings. Some organizations hold parades and events in celebration of America's national flag and everything it represents.

The flag consists of white stars on a blue field with red and white stripes. Each star represents one of the 50 states and is a symbol of the heavens and the divine goal to which man has aspired from time immemorial. The blue field represents vigilance, perseverance, and justice. The white color is for purity and freedom. The stripes represent the original 13 colonies. The red represents the bravery and blood of the patriots and from time to time it has been replenished with the bravery and blood of those who have fought for our freedom, as well as the world's freedom.

On Sunday, June 14th, display the American Flag with pride and patriotism; and remember those who have given their all. No greater love hath mortal man than when he lays down his life for a brother.

Hali-facts

Published monthly by Halifax Electric Membership Corporation, Enfield, NC. Comments, articles, and photographs are welcomed.

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*Executive Vice President
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Halifax EMC is your electric cooperative. Your comments and questions are very important to us. Please tell us how we may improve our service.

Return your comments/questions along with your payment, or e-mail them to bamartin@halifaxemc.com. Specific account questions will be answered personally. Remember to include your account number for these types of questions.



Electric Lines

“Right-of-way trimming has drastically reduced the number of outages and blinks due to tree limbs.”

by Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

In 2009, Halifax EMC is continuing to take a more active approach to energy efficiency by giving our members useful, low-cost guidelines for home energy savings. We hope that you have found these monthly tips helpful and that you have initiated some of the energy saving techniques in your home. This month, I am taking a different approach to tell you what Halifax EMC is doing to promote more energy efficiency and to improve system reliability, as well as discuss future plans for this ongoing endeavor.

If you attended the Annual Meeting on May 16, all registered members received a six-pack of 14 watt CFL bulbs. Making the switch from incandescent bulbs to CFLs is an easy way to immediately reduce the amount of energy consumed in your home. CFLs require less energy than their incandescent counterparts; therefore you use less electricity and save more!

If you were unable to attend the Annual Meeting, don't worry. There will be another opportunity in the coming months to receive your free CFL six-pack. Halifax EMC is planning a Customer Appreciation Day where customers will enjoy refreshments and receive a CFL six-pack if they had not previously claimed theirs. The date for this special day will be determined at a later time.

Energy efficiency is not the only

important topic around Halifax EMC. System reliability is always at the top of our list. In recent years, Halifax EMC has identified several reliability issues and is working diligently toward a solution. One issue was the condition of our right-of-way areas. As you are aware, living in a rural area means most of our lines are exposed to trees. In 2006, Halifax EMC began a new right-of-way program that has drastically reduced the number of outages and blinks due to tree limbs. Right-of-way maintenance is a costly project; in fact, Halifax EMC will spend more than \$950,000 this year in right-of-way maintenance alone. However, the benefit of improved service greatly outweighs the costliness of the project.

During the past several years it has become evident that growth around Lake Gaston has far exceeded expectations. From an engineering standpoint this growth has hindered the reliability of service to the area because it overloads the substation during peak seasonal times. To alleviate the overload of Eaton's Ferry Substation, Halifax EMC built a new substation at Five Forks. Customers in the region should see improvements in service reliability, especially around holidays such as Memorial Day and July 4th. Splitting the load between Eaton's Ferry and Five Forks substations allows for future load growth.





Energy-Efficient *Ideas*

Did you know the human comfort range in summer is between 72° F and 78° F with relative humidity between 35 and 60 percent, according to the American Society for Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE). Using a properly sized, high-efficiency air conditioner and implementing measures to reduce your air conditioning needs can increase your comfort, plus reduce your air conditioning use by 20 to 50 percent.

- Set the thermostat for a temperature that's comfortable for you and leave it there. Lowering the thermostat several degrees will not cool your home more quickly, and frequent changes force the system to turn on and off more often.
- Set the fan to "on" rather than "auto." The fan will keep the air circulating throughout the home continuously, while the cooling unit will cycle on and off just as it usually does. This will help maintain an even temperature throughout the house.
- Clean the outside compressor by spraying it with a hose (turn off the power first).
- Clean the filter on room air conditioner as necessary, but at least monthly. Change the filters on central air conditioners at least monthly.
- Keep plantings at least one foot away from the compressor unit for adequate air flow.
- Make sure your unit is properly charged with refrigerant. A system that is 20 percent undercharged will operate at 20 percent lower efficiency.
- Confirm that duct work is properly sealed. Properly sealed duct work can reduce cooling energy use by 10–15 percent.
- Vacuum registers and return air vents regularly.
- Have your ductwork cleaned professionally every few years, especially if you have pets.
- Keep furniture and drapes away from registers. Close drapes on the sunny side of the house during the day to help keep out the heat from the sun.
- With a ceiling fan operating at low speed in addition to your air conditioning, you'll feel just as comfortable at 82° as you would at 78° without the fan. What's more you save 3 to 5 percent on air conditioning costs for each degree you raise your thermostat.
- Match the size of the ceiling fan to the size of the room.
- Ceiling fans cool people, not rooms. Remember, to turn the fan off to save energy if the room is not occupied.
- A well-placed shade tree is an excellent cooling investment—it can cut your energy consumption by 25 percent. General guidelines are to plant deciduous trees (leafy trees like oaks and maples) to the south and west, and evergreens to the north.
- Shade south and west-facing windows with blinds, drapes or other coverings, especially during the hottest part of the day.

Source: Power House by Alliant Energy

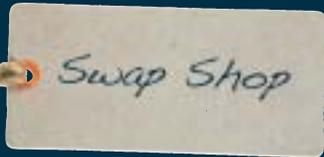


RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Strawberry Salad

- 1 cup strawberries, sliced
- 1 (8 oz) can crushed pineapple, undrained
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 cup water
- 1 (3 oz) pkg orange gelatin
- ½ cup sharp grated cheese
- ⅔ cup pecans, chopped
- 1 cup frozen whipped topping, thawed

Bring pineapple, sugar and water to a boil. Dissolve gelatin in hot mixture. Cool in refrigerator until it is the consistency of egg whites. Add strawberries, cheese and nuts. Fold in dessert topping. Pour into individual salad molds or one large mold. Refrigerate until set.



For sale: 2000 21' Ebb Tide Bow Rider w/2000 Mercruiser engine, low hrs, excellent condition, located on Lake Gaston. CALL: 757-436-2271 (Chesapeake, VA).

For sale: Oak dining table w/4 chairs, 5' x3', excellent condition, \$100; iron weight set w/various weights included, \$20; 3 (16") tires, good condition, \$15 ea. CALL: 252-826-5194 (Scotland Neck).

Lawn maintenance:

Complete lawn maintenance for commercial/residential, fully insured, free estimates. For more details, CALL: 252-904-1598 or 252-826-3957 (Lawn Ranger, Sonny Padgett, Scotland Neck).

Hurricane Season Begins

Hurricane season in the Atlantic officially runs from June 1 to November 30. Hurricanes are not restricted to this timeframe, but at least 97 percent of these storms do occur then. The peak season is generally from August through October with maximum activity in early-to-mid-September.

The wisdom of the ages is worth listening to. To help you remember about hurricane season, here is a little Caribbean ditty:

June--too soon.

July--stand by!

August--look out you must.

September--remember.

October, all over.

What is a Hurricane? A hurricane is a type of tropical cyclone, the general term for all circulating weather systems over tropical waters.

Tropical cyclones are classified as:

- **Tropical Depression:** An organized system of clouds and thunderstorms with a defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 38 mph or less.
- **Tropical Storm:** An organized system of strong thunderstorms with a defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph.
- **Hurricane:** An intense tropical weather system with a well defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 74 mph or higher.

Hurricanes are products of a tropical ocean and atmosphere. They are powered by the heat from the

ocean and steered by the easterly trade winds and

temperate westerlies, as well as their own ferocious energy. When they move ashore they can spawn tornadoes and produce torrential rains and floods. Each year, on an average, 10 tropical storms, of which six become hurricanes, develop over the Atlantic, Caribbean, or Gulf of Mexico. About five hurricanes strike the U. S. coastline every three years. Of these five, two will be major category 3 or greater storms.



The best time to prepare for disasters caused by hurricanes is before they occur. Now is the time to prepare your emergency kits. It is better to have an emergency kit and not need it, than to need it and not have it. Check our Web site at www.halifaxemc.com for tips on preparing emergency kits.

Holiday Closing



Halifax EMC will be closed on Friday, July 3, in commemoration of Independence Day.

We will re-open for business on Monday, July 6.