



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections®

Touchstone Energy

Touchstone Energy is a national alliance of local, consumer-owned electric cooperatives providing high standards of service to customers large and small. More than 650 Touchstone Energy cooperatives in 46 states are delivering energy and energy solutions to approximately 22 million customers every day. Touchstone Energy cooperatives serve their members with integrity, accountability, innovation and a longstanding commitment to communities.



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New Co-op Connections® Program Offers Value to HEMC Members

Halifax EMC has launched a program that offers further proof that being a member of an electric cooperative has its advantages. The Co-op Connections program, a new card-based member benefit program for Touchstone Energy® cooperatives, is designed to deliver added value to cooperative members. Halifax EMC is implementing this program in conjunction with the Touchstone Energy co-ops serving 22 million member-owners nationwide.

A free offering for co-op members and participating businesses, the program benefits cooperative members

by offering valuable discounts at participating local and national businesses. At the same time, those businesses benefit from increased customer visits by co-op members participating in the program.

Halifax EMC members will receive Co-op Connections cards in the mail in August. Once the member has signed the back of the card,

it may be used at participating businesses locally and nationwide. Co-op members can get a flavor for which businesses are participating in the Co-op Connections program by logging on to Halifax EMC's Web site: www.halifaxemc.com.

It will be easy to pick out which local businesses are participating. Look for the Co-op Connections stickers in their windows. Whenever Co-op Connections customers—whether from Halifax EMC or one of the hundreds of Touchstone Energy electric co-ops across the country—show their card at a participating business, they receive a discount.

"The Co-op Connections card is a valuable tool that creates an even greater sense of membership, and reinforces Halifax EMC's longstanding commitment to the community. It will add value and increase customer loyalty at participating businesses. Simply put, the Co-op Connections program is another way our members benefit from being a part of their electric cooperative," said Charles Guerry, Executive Vice President of Halifax EMC.



Holiday Closing

Halifax EMC will be closed on Monday, July 5, for Independence Day

Charles H. Guerry

*Executive Vice President
& General Manager*

Board of Directors

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Business Hours

8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Locations

Enfield: (252) 445-5111

Macon: (252) 257-3900

www.halifaxemc.com

Tell Us...

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@halifax-emc.com. Specific account questions will be answered personally. Remember to include your account number for these types of questions.



Electric Lines

“An Energy Smart Loan through ElecTel is a win-win deal!”

by Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

Halifax EMC and ElecTel Cooperative Federal Credit Union Have Joined to Offer Members Energy Smart Loans

Halifax EMC is always looking for ways to help its members save on their energy bills. A big way to save is through the use of energy efficient, Energy Star rated appliances, energy efficient windows and doors, solar/heat pump water heaters, insulation, and heat pumps.

To provide a way for our members to purchase these appliances, Halifax EMC has joined with ElecTel Cooperative Federal Credit Union to devise a loan program for our members.

The advantages of an Energy Smart Loan to our members are low fixed loan rates, up to 60 months financing at 100 percent, no initial filing and termination fees, a \$25 ElecTel membership fee that goes into a savings account for the member, and access to the many other benefits offered by ElecTel.

When you combine an Energy Smart Loan with the \$1,500 tax credit for 2010, heat pump/water heater rebates from HEMC, and lower energy costs through energy efficient appliances, members have a win-win solution to higher energy costs.

Energy Smart Loans

Want to improve the energy efficiency of your home? Let ElecTel CFCU make an Energy Smart Loan for you on electric/solar water heaters, insulation, windows, doors, and other solar or energy star related items.

Low fixed loan rates include:

6% for 36 months

7% for 48 months

8% for 60 months

(maximum term)

These loans are primarily available to residential dwelling property owners only. This includes single family residences, mobile homes, duplexes and owner-occupied condominiums.

For qualified members, ElecTel CFCU may finance up to 100 percent of the purchase price (including taxes, installation costs, and other applicable costs), up to \$20,000 except for mobile homes. The maximum amount available for a mobile home will be \$5,000.

Check with ElecTel CFCU (1-800-849-5600) to see how they can save you money and make your home energy efficient at the same time. It's a win-win deal!



JOIN OUR FAMILY ...AND ENJOY FULL SERVICE, PLUS!

ElecTel provides the benefits of membership in a full-service, non-profit financial organization. We've been serving the members of Halifax EMC for many years, and now, it's time to serve you, the co-op member.

We'll save you money with low-cost loans and make you money on deposits. Join our family online at www.electelccu.org. You'll soon see how we can make a difference in your life.

**Home Equity Loans starting at 4.25% APR* • Limits up to \$100,000 line of credit • No closing costs
Fixed and variable rate • No credit check required for a FREE Home evaluation report**



Federally Insured by NCUA

* Annual Percentage Rate

WWW.ELECTELCCU.ORG/800-849-5600



Swap Shop

For sale: Custom car cover to fit any Acura Integra or small car, \$75; 1978 Columbia 10-speed mountain bike, \$75; semi-circular oak bar, \$150. CALL: 252-257-3981 (Macon)

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).

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Hamburger Boats

1 lb. ground beef
4 tsp chopped onion
4 tbsp catsup
2 tsp mustard
½ cup milk
1 pkg French rolls, 4/pkg
½ cup crumbs from rolls
3 to 4 slices American cheese
Salt and pepper

Remove top and center of each roll, leaving a shell about ½ inch thick. Soak the crumbs with the milk. Cook the ground beef, add catsup, onion, mustard, seasonings and milk-soaked bread crumbs. When heated through, fill rolls with mixture and top it with cheese. Heat in 400° oven until warm and cheese starts to melt.

Source: "From the Co-op Kitchen", published by Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative, pg. 16.

Fire Ants! Are They a Problem in Your Yard?

Are fire ants a problem in your yard? Fire ants were accidentally imported into Alabama around 1930. They have spread rapidly across the southeastern states and are now in most of North Carolina. If you do have fire ants you should accept that you will never get rid of them; however, you can manage them.

Fire ants produce mounds that may continue to enlarge as the population grows. Mounds are located in sunny areas and often next to sidewalks, driveways, or other heat absorbing masses. **Do not disturb the mounds!**

The best seasons to treat fire ants are late spring and early fall (late September-early October) before the temperatures become too cool. The most effective management program will combine a two-step

process combining direct mound treatment and baits.

Tips for managing fire ants:

- For bait method, use fresh bait and store for only a short time.
- For direct mound treatment, treat mound in mid-morning while ants are closest to the surface. If it is too hot or cold, ants may not be near the surface. Follow up a few days later to see if there are any nearby satellite mounds that sprung from the parent mound.

For more information on treating fire ants go to: www.ces.ncsu.edu and type **Treat Fire Ants In Yard** in the search field.

Caution: This information was developed for North Carolina and may not apply to other areas.

Hurricane Seasons Begins

Hurricane season begins June 1, so it's time to get ready for what may come our way. If you live in a low lying area, you should think about what you would do if it floods. Do you have an emergency kit in case the power goes off? Does everyone in your household know what to do if our area is struck by a hurricane? Check out www.halifax.com/Weather/StormPreparedness.aspx for safety tips.

Important Notice

The deadline for the Volunteer In Action Scholarships is July 1!

For more information, visit www.halifaxemc.com