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Halifax EMC Volunteers In Action Hold Bake Sale Fundraiser

The Halifax EMC Volunteers In Action sponsored a Bake Sale on Thursday, April 11, at the Halifax EMC office in Enfield.

There were many different baked goods to choose from and it all sold so quickly. The Volunteers raised over \$450!

Monies raised from this event and other fundraisers that are held throughout the year go toward scholarships provided by the Volunteers.

Each year, the Volunteers award Educational Opportunity

Scholarships. To be eligible, an applicant must: be a member of Halifax EMC or live in a household served by the Cooperative; be at least 18 years old; and be enrolled in an accredited North Carolina college/university (4-year, junior, community, vocational or technical college).

The deadline for this annual scholarship(s) is July 1. To obtain an application, visit halifaxemc.com/Education/Scholarships.aspx.



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District 8 At-Large

Business Hours

8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Locations

Enfield/Macon: (252) 445-5111

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



Electric Lines

“Air conditioning accounts for as much as 50 percent of the average household electric bill.”

by Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

Soaring temperatures and sultry summer nights can cause electric bills to skyrocket. This summer, take a vacation from high electric bills by making your home—and your family’s habits—more energy efficient.

Air conditioning helps most Americans beat the sweltering summer heat. According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), air conditioning accounts for as much as 50 percent of the average household electric bill. Proper maintenance and smart use of your home’s cooling system will help keep your electric bill in check.

First, make sure your air conditioner’s external unit is clean and free of debris. Clear away dead leaves or overgrown plants and weeds to enable the unit to perform as it should.

Second, change all of the air filters inside your home quarterly, or more often in homes with allergy sufferers or smokers. Fresh filters not only reduce the strain on your cooling system, but improve the air quality in your home.

Third, the DOE recommends that you set your home’s thermostat as high as possible, while still maintaining a comfortable environment for your family during the summer months.

Bumping the thermostat up at least two degrees can make a noticeable difference on your power bill. Investing in a programmable thermostat can lead to even greater savings by automatically adjusting it so that the cooling system runs more often when you are at home and less often when you are away.

As your summer heats up, call on your friends at Halifax EMC for more ways to lower your power bill. You can also visit TogetherWeSave.com to find out how little changes around the house can add up to big energy savings.



Sources: U.S. Department of Energy, EnergySavers.gov, TogetherWeSave.com

Content source: This month’s editorial was written for you by Sara Peterson, corporate communications manager at South Mississippi Electric Power Association.



Preparing for Hurricane Season Starts Now

North Carolinians are threatened by hurricanes and other tropical systems year after year, and residents from the coast to the mountains have experienced damage and despair during hurricane seasons past. That's why we're urging you to prepare now for this hurricane season, which starts on June 1 and runs through November. Find out what you can do to stay safe before, during and after a storm.

Before:

- Prune trees and bushes to reduce the risk of flying debris. Never attempt to trim trees near a power line; this is a task for trained professionals. If you see trees that may be too close to a power line, contact your electric cooperative to let them know.
- Secure all outdoor items that could blow away, such as patio furniture, grills and toys.
- Be sure to make an emergency action plan with details about how family members can get in touch with each other. This plan should also include a meeting spot where family members can reunite if separated during a storm.
- Build an emergency kit that includes: one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, three days' worth of non-perishable food, a manual can opener, flashlights with extra batteries, a first-aid kit with prescription medications, a battery-powered radio and local maps.
- Fuel your cars, and get gas for your gas-powered generator if you have one. If you plan to operate a generator in the event of an outage, have a qualified, licensed electrician connect the generator to your home's main electrical supply. Power from generators can backfeed along power lines and electrocute anyone who comes into contact with them.

During:

- Follow hurricane progress reports using your battery-operated radio.
- Avoid windows and glass doors and keep curtains and blinds closed. Take refuge in a small interior room, closet or hallway on the lowest level.
- If evacuation is necessary, leave as soon as possible, unplug all appliances, take your emergency kit, blankets and sleeping bags, and lock up your home.

After:

- Make sure the storm has completely passed before going outside. Continue to monitor your news source.
- Only drive if necessary and if you do go out, watch out for debris, power lines, flooded areas, and other damage.
- Never touch downed power lines. Because the lines could still be energized, report them immediately by calling your electric cooperative or 911.
- If you have lost power, consider food safety guidelines before eating perishable food. In general, refrigerated food should be safe for up to four hours and frozen food should be safe for 24–48 hours without power. Find out more at foodsafety.gov.
- Be aware of crews out clearing debris and restoring electricity. Remember, if you see a stopped emergency vehicle with flashing lights, state law requires you to move over one lane if possible or reduce speed.

Preparing for hurricane season will help you stay safe, potentially saving lives and money. You cannot prevent hurricanes, but you can minimize damage to your home and injury to your family by gathering supplies, preparing your home and planning for a possible storm before the hurricane season starts.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

3-Ingredient Peach Cobbler

- 1 lg can peaches (roughly) 28 oz.
- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 1 stick butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350°. Pour peaches, including juice, in 9x13 baking pan. Sprinkle cake mix evenly over peaches. Evenly distribute melted butter over cake mix. Bake in oven for 30 minutes.

Source: amomstake.com



Like Halifax EMC on Facebook!

Holiday Closing



The offices of Halifax EMC will be closed on Friday, July 4.

Support the Enfield Farmer's Market

124 Whitfield Street
Enfield, NC

Saturdays

8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Wednesdays

12 noon – 5 p.m.

Co-op Welcomes Summer Intern



HEMC is excited to welcome our summer intern, Megan Mohorn.

Megan is the daughter of Ashley and Melanie Mohorn of Littleton. She graduated from Halifax Academy and is a rising sophomore at Meredith College in Raleigh. While she has not declared her major, Megan's areas of interest are child development and graphic design.

In her spare time, she enjoys drawing and spending time with friends and family.

Megan's motto that she strives to live by is "Do to others as you would want them to do to you."

Welcome aboard, Megan!

Mariam Boyd Elementary Career Day



Lineman Butch Vogel recently visited students at Mariam Boyd Elementary in Warrenton to participate in Career Day.

Students were able to see tools that linemen use on a daily basis and hear about the important role that safety plays in a lineman's job.

Butch also talked about the many reasons he likes being a linemen, such as knowing he is providing a service that people and businesses depend on and how cooperatives support the communities that they serve.

If your school would like for HEMC to be part of your Career Day, please contact Julia Allsbrook at 252-445-5111 or jallsbrook@halifaxemc.com.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

When replacing incandescent bulbs from recessed light fixtures, use energy-efficient bulbs that are rated for that purpose. For example, the heat buildup in downlights will significantly shorten the life of spiral CFLs.

Source: Department of Energy