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Local Teens Headed to D.C. on Youth Tour

Two local high school students will represent Halifax EMC on the annual trip to Washington, D.C., known as Youth Tour. Jackson Harris and Andrew Siberry, both of Warren County, will travel with 37 other high school students from across North Carolina to our nation's capital Saturday through Friday, June 11 – 17.

Jackson, the son of Robbie and Kristie Harris, is a rising senior at Halifax Academy. He is involved in many school clubs such as the National Senior Beta Club, Octagon Service Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and served as Vice President of the Student Government Association this past school year. Jackson's hobbies include running, basketball, and video editing. He also enjoys serving on mission trips.

Andrew, the son of John and Tomeka Sidberry, is a rising senior at Warren New Tech High School. He participates in Beta Club, Yearbook Club, Culinary Club, Band and Drumline and is a member of the National Honor Society. Andrew enjoys

volunteering for events such as the Wounded Warrior 5-K Run and the Relay for Life Marathon. He also volunteers with the local Boys and Girls Club.

Jackson and Andrew were chosen from the pool of applicants based on their scholastic achievements and an essay that all applicants were required to write on how the cooperative could best reach their age group when it comes to communicating cooperative issues.

Halifax EMC is very excited to have these two young men represent the cooperative.



Jackson Harris (left) and Andrew Sidberry (right) will spend a week in Washington, D.C., visiting monuments, meeting with members of Congress, and learning about the cooperative model.

Charles H. Guerry

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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

“A terrific analogy for prepaid metering is putting gas in your car.”

by Charles H. Guerry, P.E.

Executive Vice President & General Manager

Prepaid metering, or Pay-As-You-Go as Halifax EMC refers to it, is as simple as it sounds: consumers pay for electricity before it is used, then use the electricity until the credit expires. A terrific analogy for prepaid metering is putting gas in your car. Say you only have \$30 for the week to pay for gasoline. You drive down to the station, pump in \$30 and drive off. As you drive during the week, what happens? You monitor the gauge and make sure each trip is necessary. If you drive too much, you burn up your \$30 before the week is out. Literally. By checking the gauge throughout the week, you became more prudent with your gas use and made informed decisions on when and how much to use.

Now let's transfer that analogy to your account with Halifax EMC. With normal metering, you get a bill after you have used the electricity. Sometimes it comes as a shock. “How could I possibly have used so much electricity?” Prepaid metering is designed to ease—and hopefully eliminate—that shock. Let's take a look at how it works.

The components of a prepaid metering system aren't too

different from regular metering. Two extra pieces are required; a way to turn off the power when all your money is used and a way for Halifax EMC to tell you how much you have left in your account; think of this as your “electricity tank gauge.” On the cooperative's side, we handle the extra software and processes.

Now let's see it in action. You have the prepaid metering equipment installed. Prepaid users often receive electricity use notifications through a smartphone app, voice alerts, emails and text messages.

Now you decide how often you want to buy electricity. Monthly? Weekly? Then you budget for a certain amount of power and pay the co-op. Members can purchase power in person at the Enfield or Macon office, over the phone, online through the member view/pay bill portal or through the Halifax EMC app available to Apple and Android users. Bingo, your electricity tank is full.

During the time period you have paid for (let's say a week for this example), you receive daily feedback on the previous day's usage. You can even use the “My Usage” feature online to see your current usage down to the hour.

As you approach “empty,” you add more money to your

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account and are then set for the next period. If you run out, the power goes off just like your car stops when it runs out of gas. To complete the analogy, let's look at what you have been doing during the week. You become quite aware of how you are using electricity. You turn things off more often. You may change the setting on your thermostat so you don't cool or heat as much. You might cook outside to avoid using the oven or make sure your dishwasher is really full before

running it. Industry studies show that consumers who participate in prepaid metering plans use as much as 10 percent less electricity than their counterparts.

Prepaid metering teaches the value of electricity, what uses watts in your home, provides absolute control over how much you pay and helps you reduce your energy use. It is a tremendous way to power your life. Contact Halifax EMC to learn more about prepaid metering and to sign up for Pay-As-You-Go.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Chocolate-Filled Crescents

- 1 can
8 oz. Pillsbury refrigerated crescent dinner rolls
- ½ cup mini-chocolate chips
- Powdered sugar, if desired

Heat oven to 350°F. Separate dough into 8 triangles. Place one tablespoon of chocolate chips on wide end of each triangle. Roll up, starting at shortest side of triangle, rolling to opposite point. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Sprinkle with powdered sugar.

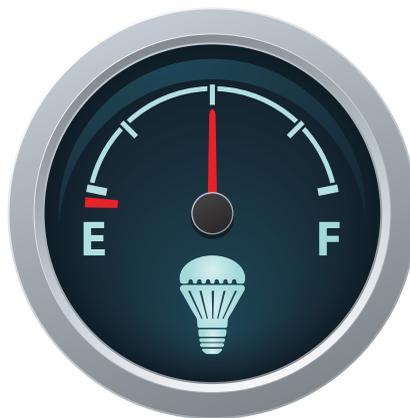
Source: pillsbury.com

The power is in your hands with...

Pay-As-You-Go Metering

By paying for electricity as you go, you can monitor energy use and know when you need to conserve. A few benefits of participating in prepaid metering are:

- Teaches the value of electricity
- Helps consumers understand what uses watts in their home
- Provides absolute control over how much money is spent on electricity
- Helps reduce energy use



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: energy.gov

Being prepared for summer storms

You hear it softly in the distance, a low rumble. Then the ping-ping-ping of thick, heavy rain drops. North Carolinians can expect to hear the familiar, rhythmic sounds of thunderstorms 40 – 50 times per year, mostly during summer months, according to our State Climate Office. Though familiar, the sounds sometimes precede dangerous weather capable of impacting every nook and cranny of North Carolina.



Summer storms in North Carolina run the gamut from rain to hail to high winds, and even tropical storms and hurricanes. June is the official kickoff to hurricane season, and it's a good month to refocus on tips and information that will help keep you safe this summer regardless of what kind of North Carolina weather you encounter.

Summer Storm Safety Tips

- Develop an evacuation route now, in advance of summer storms and hurricane season. The plan should identify the safest routes away from your area, as well as the closest shelters.
- Determine a safe place in the home to gather during severe thunderstorms, away from windows, skylights or glass doors that could be broken by hail.
- Create a family disaster supply kit and be sure to include the following: a battery operated radio, flashlights, a first aid kit, non-perishable food items, a three-day water supply, a non-electric can opener, medicines and cash.
- Teach children to call 911 in case of an emergency. Communicate with family members to be sure they know how to respond in a storm situation.
- Remember your pets when planning for possible evacuation. Not all emergency shelters allow pets. Contact your local humane society to learn which animal shelters accept pets during disasters.
- Keep Halifax EMC's outage reporting phone number (1-800-690-0522) in a handy place, like on the refrigerator.

Safety is a fundamental part of our cooperative culture, and that means keeping our employees safe and providing our members with information and practical solutions to help keep you safe. We can't control what weather Mother Nature brings to our state this year, but we can help you prepare for it. And know that if summer storms cause power outages, we'll work round-the-clock to restore those outages as quickly and safely as possible.

To see a short video with tips, visit:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GYcljnERJrQ>



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