

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH



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To read an editorial about North Carolina's electric cooperatives relation to coal ash management, see page 4 in this month's Carolina Country.

October: National Cooperative Month

Halifax EMC is inviting all to celebrate cooperatives in North Carolina—and across America—during National Cooperative Month.

Every October, cooperatives are recognized for the qualities that make the business model unique. Seven cooperative principles set us apart from other businesses: voluntary and open membership; democratic member control; member's economic participation; autonomy and independence; education, training and information; cooperation among cooperatives; and concern for community.

This Co-op Month, we're focusing on "The Electric Co-op Connection: Discover the meaning of membership." Co-ops exist to serve their members, but they also play a major role in their local communities.

Cooperative membership is unique. Electric cooperatives are committed to providing members with safe, reliable and affordable electricity, but there's more to it than that. We're local, and that means we care about our community. This is why we participate in programs such as Operation RoundUp®, Youth

Tour, Bright Ideas and offer safety demonstrations, etc.

Halifax EMC is proud to be part of America's cooperative network, which includes more than 47,000 cooperative businesses.

Electric co-ops provide power for many North Carolinians, with 26 electric co-ops serving more than 2.5 million members. North Carolina's electric cooperatives collectively employ more than 2,300 skilled people.

Halifax EMC is one of more than 900 electric cooperatives, public utility districts and public power districts serving 42 million people in 47 states.

In the 1930s, rural America needed electricity just as much as anyone else. It was a major challenge that big utilities weren't interested in tackling. So, the men and women of rural America banded together and made it happen. And that's why we celebrate in October—we celebrate the power of working together for the common good and bettering the quality of life for our friends and neighbors.

In addition to cooperative utilities, N.C. residents are served cooperatively by credit unions, food co-ops, agricultural co-ops, and more!

Charles H. Guerry

*Executive Vice President
& General Manager*

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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

“Our economy and
your family depend on
affordable electricity...”

by Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

Employees here wake up in the morning and come to work every day with one commitment in mind—to provide you with safe, reliable and affordable electricity. That has always been and will always be our mission. So when there’s something that threatens that promise, we not only take notice, we take action.

You may notice a theme here as my last two articles have focused on the EPA’s latest proposed regulations on existing power plants. Let’s look at how North Carolina will be affected by these regulations. In June the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed a set of regulations for existing electric power plants. The EPA’s regulations are intended to help meet a goal of reducing the nation’s production of greenhouse gas emissions, like carbon dioxide, by 30 percent over the next 15 years. To achieve this, the EPA has given each state its own target to meet. In North Carolina, the state as a whole has been tasked with reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 39 percent by 2030.

We are concerned about how much it will cost to meet these very aggressive targets. It is likely that our state would have to shut down coal plants to comply with these proposed regulations. That generating capacity will need to be replaced with new, more expensive facilities, and that cost will ultimately pass to electricity

consumers, including our cooperative members.

We don’t want that to happen to you, especially when our industry is spending billions nationally working on other viable options for reducing greenhouse gas emissions over time. Our economy and your family depend on affordable electricity and we are committed to protecting the environment and your household budget.

So what are we doing? North Carolina’s electric cooperatives are working with EPA and state officials to influence how the final versions of these proposals are written. You can, too. The EPA is currently accepting comments about the proposals, and they will continue to do so until Oct. 16 of this year. This is your chance to have your voice heard. It may not feel like you can make a difference, but every comment to the EPA counts. Every single one.

We’d like to encourage you to visit www.TellEPAnc.com to quickly and easily send in your comments or use the card provided in last month’s Carolina Country. Tell our government officials that you’re concerned these regulations will impact your quality of life.

We are confident there’s a balanced way to protect and improve the environment while protecting and improving the way we deliver you safe, reliable and affordable electricity.



Bryant To Compete in Pole Top Rescue

Chad Bryant, Lineman II, will represent HEMC at the 2014 Statewide Pole Top Rescue Competition to be held in Raleigh on October 16.

This competition pits line workers against the clock and each other as they demonstrate essential lifesaving skills. Each competitor had to win a local competition in order to advance to the championship in Raleigh.

At the Pole Top Rescue competition, a line worker must perform in a scenario which finds a fellow worker unconscious atop a utility pole. The competitor, dressed in full climbing gear, must radio for help, scale 20-feet up a utility pole, rig a rope, lower a 105-pound mannequin and begin CPR. Previous winners have completed the competition in less than two minutes.

Chad is a graduate of Nash Community College where he completed the Lineman Training Program. He has been employed by the Cooperative since June 2013.

Harold Vaughan, Senior Lineman, will serve as HEMC's alternate for the event.

The scenario used at the Pole Top Rescue Competition is the same scenario all North Carolina electric cooperative line workers must perform in less than five minutes in order to maintain their certification to work on co-op lines.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Spiced Peanuts

- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp ground cloves
- 1 lb. roasted shelled peanuts, skin on

Boil sugar, water and spices to *hard crack stage (300–310° F). Drop peanuts into syrup. Stir until nuts are dry looking. Pour out on foil and stand until cool and dry.

*Note: In the absence of a candy thermometer, test for hard crack stage by dropping a tiny bit of syrup into ice water (let it thread from a spoon into the water). When the threads are brittle it has reached the hard crack stage.

Source:
Aunt Ruby's Peanuts



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Fall is here, and that means colder months will be here before we know it. Is your home prepared for the drafts that may enter? Tight-fitting insulating drapes or shades are a perfect way to keep the heat in and the cold out.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Halloween Safety

Trick or treat? Halloween is a **spooooky** occasion, but just because it's spooky doesn't mean it can't be safe. There are a few "tricks" for that. Follow this advice, and your little ghouls will be happy and safe, albeit a bit sugar-buzzed.



Costume Care

So much of the excitement around Halloween comes from the anticipation of getting to wear the perfect costume—a pirate, a witch, a monster or maybe even a princess. As you're planning your little one's costume, keep these tips in mind:

- A light colored costume is ideal for visibility, but if that just isn't the "look" this year, adhere some reflective tape to the trick-or-treat bag and the front and back of the costume.
- Be sure your child can see out of any masks they are wearing, and when possible, use face paint rather than a mask to prevent impaired vision.
- Make sure shoes and costumes fit properly. You don't want your little goblins to trip and fall.
- Only buy costumes and wigs that are flame retardant.

Trick-or-Treating

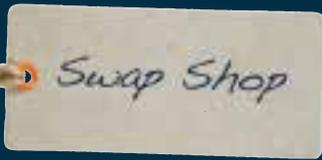
- When it's time to show off that costume and load up on candy, these tips will help keep your kids safe:
- Young children should always be accompanied by an adult when trick-or-treating, but if they are older, be sure to review an acceptable route and establish a certain time to be home. Older children should also use the "buddy system" when trick-or-treating.

- Make sure your little monsters creep around on sidewalks, not the road.
- Carry a flashlight to help you navigate as the sun goes down.
- Your child may forget basic rules because of all of the excitement, so be sure to remind them to look both ways for cars before crossing the street.
- Only approach houses that have their porch lights on.
- Check your child's candy before they devour it, and throw away any opened candy.

A Trick Proof Home:

- Keep your home, your visitors and your kids safe with these helpful reminders:
- Before trick-or-treaters come to your home, pick up anything they could trip on and make sure the area is well lit.
- Restrain all pets while there are trick-or-treaters.
- Never leave a jack-o-lantern with a lit candle unattended, and never leave children alone near a lit jack-o-lantern.
- Keep a fire extinguisher handy just in case, and consider using battery-powered "candles" to illuminate your jack-o-lantern.

Have a perfectly safe and spooky night. Boo!



For sale: twin headboard (wood) w/mattress and box spring (like new), \$300; Whirlpool washing machine, white, \$100 / OBO; chest of drawers and dresser (oak), \$150. Call: 252-257-4215 or 252-578-2393 (Arcola).



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