



Battle to represent co-op at Roy Williams Basketball Camp.

~ page 22



Lines from the CEO, "Preparing for Inclement Summer Weather and Major Storms."

~ page 23



Wooten named 2009 Safety Employee of the Year.

~ page 24

ALONG THE LINE

Revised Renewable and EE Riders Effective July 1

In order to comply with N.C. renewable and energy efficiency legislation, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC has been working to implement renewable and energy efficiency programs since 2008 needed to meet the requirements set forth in Senate Bill 3. This legislation, which was signed into law in 2007, made major changes to the state's energy policy. Specifically, this legislation requires all cooperatives in North Carolina to generate or purchase 10% of their total sales from renewable energy resources, or to reduce electricity consumption by 10% through energy efficiency improvements by 2018.

A majority of the cooperatives across the state joined together in 2008 to form a non-profit organization named GreenCo Solutions, Inc. GreenCo was formed to help participating members achieve economies-of-scale as they worked towards meeting these state mandates. Many energy efficiency programs and renewable energy projects have already been implemented by GreenCo members.

In July 2009, a new charge was applied to Edgecombe-Martin County EMC members' bills in order to recoup some of the incremental costs associated with these various projects. This charge appeared on your bill as the NC Renewable and EE Charge and has been billed monthly as follows since July 2009: Residential, \$0.29; Commercial, \$1.49; Industrial, \$14.89.

Recent clarification by the N.C. Utilities Commission on collection procedures has caused Edgecombe-Martin to include another line item on your bill in order to collect for only energy efficiency programs. Therefore, beginning July 2010, bills will have one line item that collects for all incremental costs associated with renewable energy projects and another line item that collects for incremental costs associated with implementing energy efficiency programs. The two new line items will be labeled the NC Renewable Charge and the NC EE Charge, respectively.

(continued on page 24)

3 WAYS TO HELP YOU CONSERVE



1. Set thermostat temperatures higher if you will not be home for several days during the summer.

2. Minimize the use of sprinklers in summer to water your lawn.



3. Wash full loads of clothes to conserve water and use cold water for washing.

Battle Selected to Attend Camp

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC recently awarded a local student-athlete with a Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships. Brandon Battle, an 8th grade student at Roanoke Middle School was the deserving winner of the 2010 Touchstone Energy Basketball Camp Essay Contest.

Brandon's application and essay was judged based on content that highlighted the reasons he wanted to

attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp, his academic achievement and extracurricular activities he participated in.

Brandon is the son of Diane Battle of Robersonville. He will attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp on June 19-23 in Chapel Hill, NC. Brandon is an honor roll student, member of the Beta Club, president of the student body and he plays football, basketball, and baseball at Roanoke Middle School.



Brandon Battle of Robersonville was selected by Edgecombe-Martin County EMC to attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp in June. This camp allows deserving student athletes to learn skills that will help them on and off the basketball court, and it is just another way that your Cooperative continues its commitment to the communities it serves.

Another Chance to Upgrade to Energy Star Appliances

The North Carolina Energy Office will offer a second phase of the Energy Star Appliance Replacement and Rebate Program in June, officials announced Wednesday.

The state handed out about \$7 million in rebates during the four-day first phase last month to people who replaced older appliances with more energy-efficient models. The money was about 87 percent of the federal economic stimulus funds the state received for the program.

"We were delighted with the results of the first phase, with North Carolina consumers purchasing more than 54,400 appliances," Ward Lenz, director of the Energy Office, said in a statement. "With this second phase, we will put the remaining dollars to work to provide savings for consumers on appliances and utility bills."

The second phase of the program will use mail-in rebates

on items purchased on or after June 1. The rebates will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis and will continue until the remaining \$1 million in funding is used.

In addition to rebates on Energy Star refrigerators, freezers, washing machines and dishwashers featured in the first phase, the June rebates also will cover Energy Star-rated central air-conditioning systems, gas furnaces, air-source and ground-source heat pumps and water heaters.

Rebates range from \$75 on dishwashers and freezers to \$300 on furnaces, heat pumps and air-conditioning systems.

For more information on the rebate program, visit the State Energy Office website at www.energync.net/.



USED POLES FOR SALE

Occasionally the Cooperative has used poles for sale.

During our normal workplan efforts and diverse situations, poles are removed or replaced and made available for sale upon signing a liability release form and paying the handling fee. Customers must load and haul the poles themselves.

The Cooperative does make an effort to prioritize the sale of used poles on a first-come first-serve basis for member community projects or individual needs. However, sales to non-member community projects or individual needs are available.

If you are interested in purchasing used poles or further details please contact Tim Crisp, Materials Coordinator, at (252) 641-9511. Hours of operation for used pole purchases is Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



LINES FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Preparing for Inclement Weather and Major Storms



The 2010 Hurricane Season in the Atlantic Ocean will begin on June 1, 2010, and end on November 30, 2010. That doesn't necessarily mean that we will not experience a hurricane outside of that period of time, and we have been extremely fortunate over the past several years that we have not been affected in a major way by any storms. However, that has not kept us from preparing for weather events that can cause major destruction to our electrical infrastructure.

We constantly evaluate our Emergency Response Plan (ERP) to ensure we have the proper procedures and materials in place to handle a natural disaster should it occur. Our employees recently participated in a statewide hurricane simulation to help evaluate our ERP and determine how effective it would be should an emergency situation occur. These drills prove to be beneficial and allow us to think about situations before they actually happen.

It is also very important that we have accurate contact information for all our members. This information is essential to helping restore power should we experience an outage. Each member's account is referenced to the phone numbers we have in our database for you. If we have an incorrect phone number or you have failed to provide us with a phone number; then you will not be recognized by our IVR phone system when you call during an outage. You will be prompted to leave a message with your phone number and account information so we can locate you in our member database if your phone number is not recognized. If your phone number is recognized when you call, our outage management system will automatically use it to help predict the cause of the outage so we can direct our crews more efficiently to the outage location.

Preventative maintenance also goes a long way to helping minimize outages during inclement weather or major storms. Right-of-way maintenance is one area we concentrate heavily on to make sure our electrical system stays in prime condition. You can help us maintain our right-of-ways and ensure system reliability by planting trees responsibly. Trees should never be planted under or near power lines because they will eventually cause safety and reliability issues that takes time and cost money to maintain. Although we administer a proactive right-of-way maintenance program, it is difficult to keep pace with trees that are planted directly under

power lines. Please call us before you begin planting so we can locate any underground lines before you dig, and possibly help you determine if the location you are choosing to plant will be a safe location now and years down the road.

Another important facet of preparing for major storms is making sure you have the manpower to restore power efficiently after a storm passes. We understand this and are always there to help out cooperatives when the need arises. We are confident that those same cooperatives would be willing and ready to return the favor if a major storm was to impact our electrical system. This is just a prime example of how cooperatives join together during difficult situations to help others in a time of need. It is the cooperative way! You can rest assured that we will have the necessary crews in place before a storm arrives so we are ready to begin restoring power once it becomes safe to do so.

Your cooperative's outage management system plays an integral part in restoring power during a major or small outage. We are confident that it is one of the most advanced systems on the market today and are comfortable in the way it has performed during small system outages in the past. Our employees are continually working to improve it's prediction ability by updating member information and verifying equipment connectivity on the distribution grid.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC is prepared should a major storm blow our way and we will work to restore power to your home or business as quickly and safely as possible.

Cooperatively Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob L. McDuffie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bob L. McDuffie

Revised Rate Riders

(continued from page 21)

Members will begin seeing these new line items on their bills in July 2010. The NC Renewable Charges have been updated for each rate class to collect for the additional renewable resources that we have added to our portfolio. These new rates will be billed monthly as follows: Residential, \$0.42; Commercial, \$2.11; Industrial, \$21.10.

The NC EE Charge will be billed based on the number of kilowatt hours (kWh) used per month. The rate for the NC EE Charge will be \$0.00015 per

kWh. A member using 1,200 kWh per month can expect an additional charge of \$0.18 on their bill to cover the cost of the energy efficiency projects that the co-op has implemented. These programs consist of water heater wraps given away in October 2009, CFLs given away since 2007, discounts given on energy efficient water heater sales to members and some administrative cost.

The board of directors of your co-op approved these new rates at the monthly board meeting held

in April 2010. We will continue to work towards meeting the NC set-aside mandates and the overall provisions set forth in Senate Bill 3. As we implement the projects necessary to comply, we will reevaluate the NC Renewable and NC EE Charge annually to ensure the charges accurately reflect the incremental costs incurred.

Pay On-line and Go Paperless!

Many of us do a good portion of our banking on-line this day and time. Some individuals also choose to pay all of their bills on-line in order to save time and because of the convenience.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC has offered members the option to pay their bills over the internet via a secure connection for several years now. However, members still received a bill through the U.S. Postal Service as another method of ensuring they were aware when their bill was due. Now members have the option to stop paper bills from being delivered to their mailbox. Members can simply call our office at (252) 823-2171 and ask to have their paper bill stopped if they choose to pay on-line.

More than 1,000 members use the e-bill function offered through our website at www.ememc.com on a monthly basis. It is a convenient alternative to sending a check in the mail or coming to the office to pay your bill each month.

Remember we also offer other payment options such as bank draft and we have several remote pay stations located across our service territory for your convenience. Let us know how we can assist you.

Wooten Named 2009 Safety Employee of the Year



Mike Wooten, Mapping/CAD Operator with the co-op, was presented the 2009 Safety Employee of the Year award on April 22, at the co-op's annual safety luncheon. This award is presented to an employee that has not recorded any lost time due to a work related accident during the year.

ALONG THE LINE

www.ememc.com

Board of Directors

Millie Lilley, President
Elbert Ray Pitt, Jr., Vice Pres.
Joseph Suggs, Secretary
Floyd H. Harrell, Treasurer
Billy Trevathan
Jimmie Jernigan
Norman A. Roberson
Dennis C. Briley
Edward B. Simmons, Attorney

CEO

Bob L. McDuffie

Editor

Winston T. Howell

Hwy. 33 East, P.O. Box 188
Tarboro, NC 27886
252-823-2171 • 1-800-445-6486
Office Hours: 8a.m. - 5p.m. (M-F)
After Hours Outage Reporting
1-800-690-0657