



Along the LINE

NOVEMBER 2020

For members of
Edgecombe-Martin County EMC



Edgecombe-Martin County EMC Donates Line Truck to Line Technician Program

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC recently donated a line truck to the Martin Community College Apprentice Line Technician program, giving current and future students a chance to gain skills that will better prepare them for employment.

This partnership is a perfect example of how community colleges help serve a need in the community and demonstrates Edgecombe-Martin County EMC's commitment to serving the community by being directly involved in the educational training of local students.

The Line Technician program is an outstanding course that provides the skills needed to build a career in the electrical utility industry. Edgecombe-Martin County EMC is dedicated to leading and supporting initiatives that strengthen our rural communities, and our contribution to the college fits in perfectly with this commitment.

We are excited to partner with Martin Community College to help make this program successful.



Holiday Closing

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC will be closed on Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Payments after office hours and on holidays can be made at the kiosk under the drive-thru canopy, by calling our automated telephone service at 1-855-356-6358, placed in the night deposit box or you may choose to utilize the convenience of online bill-pay by logging on to ememc.com.

To report a loss of power or an emergency after hours, please call 1-800-690-0657

NC Co-ops Vote: Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3

This year's Election Day will be held Tuesday, Nov. 3, and North Carolina voters will have the opportunity to vote for president, governor, members of Congress and state legislators, as well as other races.

In recognition of the importance of making your voice heard at the polls, North Carolina's electric cooperatives have launched NC Co-ops Vote, a non-partisan effort to provide relevant information to co-op members and encourage them to vote. Like NC Co-ops Vote on Facebook and follow us on Twitter using @NCCoopsVote and #NCCoopsVote #CoopsVote to learn more.

Voters are also encouraged to visit the North Carolina State Board of Elections at <https://vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup/> prior to Election Day to check voter registration details, find their Election Day polling place, and view election districts and a sample ballot (when available), among other information.



Local Educators Receive Bright Ideas Grants

New creative learning projects are brightening this school year for students near you!

This month Edgecombe-Martin County EMC is awarding approximately \$9,000 in Bright Ideas education grants to exceptional local teachers. These grants are awarded each year to K-12 educators for innovative projects that enhance student learning.

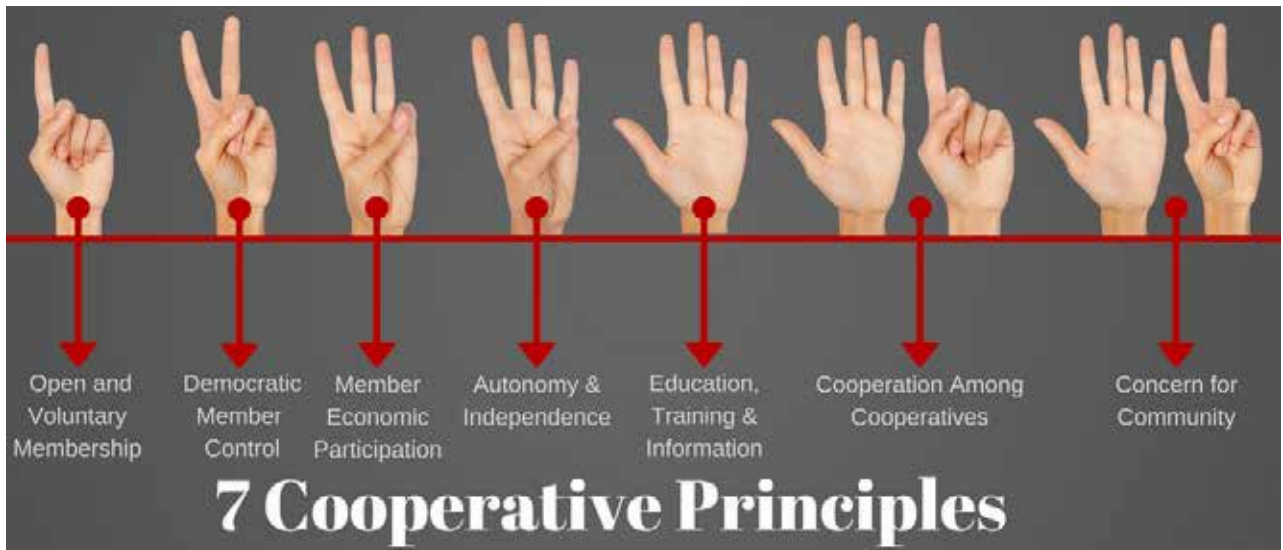


2019 Bright Idea Grant Winner with judges

Typically, these grants bring creative projects to life inside classrooms. However, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC has been flexible with the types of projects awarded to ensure that all students are able to benefit, whether they are in the classroom or learning remotely. Grants are awarded for projects in all subject areas, such as music, art, history, reading, science, math, and more.

Since 1994, Statewide, North Carolina's 26 electric cooperatives have collectively awarded more than \$12.9 million for 12,359 projects benefiting 2.5 million students.

Follow Edgecombe-Martin County EMC on Facebook to see how programs, such as Bright Ideas, are impacting local students and communities. To learn more about Bright Ideas grants, visit ncbrightideas.com and follow @NCBrightIdeas on Facebook and Twitter.



Over the years, you’ve probably heard or read about Edgecombe-Martin County EMC’s concern for our community. This is one of the core principles that sets cooperatives apart from other types of utilities and businesses. We’ve always taken this mission and responsibility to heart. It’s who we are as a co-op.

Over the past few months, like so many of you, we’ve risen to meet new challenges and strengthen the safety net for our community, particularly for those who are most vulnerable. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we’ve made numerous adjustments to programs and operations to maintain business continuity while staying focused on the bigger mission of helping our consumer-members during this turbulent time.

Now, with the holidays fast approaching, these recent events have made me pause and think about the role we play in our community. While our purpose is to provide safe and reliable energy to you, the members we serve, we have a greater mission—to be a catalyst for good.

Or our Youth Tour program, where we take our community’s brightest young people to Washington, D.C., for a week-long immersion to experience democracy in action.

We also have a strong commitment to safety—not just for our employees, but for our community as well. We visit schools to teach children of all ages how to stay safe around electricity. We hold safety demonstrations at community meetings and other gatherings. We have

annual farm and fire safety training also.

You’ll also see our employees serving on local boards, coaching youth sports, volunteering at charitable events and volunteering around the community. Because when you work at a co-op, you understand how important a strong community is—after all, without you, the co-op wouldn’t exist.

We know that our core job is to keep the lights on; but our passion is our community. Because we live and work here too, and we want to make it a better place for all.

If there’s anything we can do to help you—whether providing energy-saving advice to help lower your monthly bill or discuss payment plan options during these difficult times—please reach out to us at 252-823-2171.

Concern for community is the heart and soul of who we are. And no matter what the future brings, you can count on your electric co-op to care about you.

Cooperatively,

Winston Howell

Winston Howell

Detached Ductwork Can Lead to High Bills this Winter

When was the last time that you ventured into your homes crawl space or attic to inspect your HVAC system's ductwork?

If it has been a while, then it would be a good idea to slip on some old work clothes and have a peek at the condition of the ductwork in these seldom seen areas.

Ductwork should be inspected twice a year; once before you turn on your cooling system in the summer and once more before you begin using your heating system. Ducts often fall or become detached due to improper installation techniques. Mastic sealant is the only thing that should be used to seal ducts to register boots and plenum connections. HVAC or duct tape should NOT be used. Over a period of time, these tapes will lose their adhesive properties allowing ductwork to fall down in the homes crawl-space or attic. When this happens, all you are doing is dumping conditioned air, that you paid good money for, under your home or in the attic!

So, take a few minutes and survey your ductwork before it cost you high energy bills this winter.

Add an LED Area Light to Extend Your Day

Daylight Savings Time ends this month, and that means it will be dark earlier.

With days getting shorter and nights growing longer, outdoor lighting can help you better utilize your outdoor space during the fall and winter months.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC offers LED lights that come on automatically at dusk and go off at daybreak. Maintenance is handled by Edgecombe-Martin County EMC and does not cost the member extra on top of the monthly security light charge.

Installation of any security light requires a deposit of thirty dollars. A 48 Watt LED light on an existing pole is \$9.72 per month; a 98 Watt LED on an existing pole is \$10.40 per month.

For more information about having a security light installed, please call one of our member services representatives at 252-823-2171.



Along The LINE

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