

Along the LINE

APRIL 2020

For members of
Edgecombe-Martin County EMC



2019 GOLF TOURNAMENT WINNERS. LAMAR ADVERTISING COMPANY

24th Annual Golf Tournament

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC is excited to announce the date for the 24th Annual Golf Tournament. The tournament will be held on Friday, May 15, 2020, at the Links at Cotton Valley in Tarboro.

Proceeds from the tournament will go to the Edgecombe County 4-H.

Edgecombe County 4-H reaches youth through clubs, after-school programs, field trips and workshops spanning a wide spectrum of interests such as STEM, civic engagement, animal science and much more! 4-H programs help youth to develop valuable citizenship and life skills while encouraging them to practice service to others. These learned values help to develop leaders and independent thinkers.

If you would like to enter a 4-person team in the tournament, please contact the cooperative

before April 17. The cost to enter a team is \$300 (This includes a red tee, mulligan and raffle ticket). We look forward to seeing you on May 15 for a day of fun and fellowship.



Holiday Closing

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC will be closed on Friday, April 10, in observance of Good Friday.

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.

Apply for a Bright Ideas Grant Beginning April 1

Starting April 1, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC is accepting applications for the 2020 Bright Ideas Education Grant Program. Educators can apply for grants of up to \$1,500 to fund creative, hands-on projects in K-12 classrooms.

Teachers can apply individually or as a team, and grants are available for projects in all subject areas.

Since the program began 26 years ago, North Carolina's electric cooperatives have collectively awarded more than \$12.9 million in grants to K-12 teachers for 12,300 projects benefitting 2.5 million students across the state. In 2019, over \$700,000 was awarded for more than 660 projects across the state, the most funding ever given in a single grant cycle.

Applications are accepted through Sept. 15, 2020. To learn more and apply for a Bright Ideas grant, visit ncbrightideas.com.



Help Us #ThankALineworker on April 13

On Monday, April 13, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC will join other electric cooperatives across our state and nation to celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day, an annual tribute to the outstanding contributions of our lineworkers.

"North Carolina has been hit hard by hurricanes and storms in recent years, and our lineworkers have gone above and beyond to serve our members," CEO Winston Howell said. "They work in extremely challenging conditions to provide the power we all depend on, and we're proud to honor their skill, dedication and expertise."

In addition to serving their own communities, lineworkers



are also called on to aid others in times of great need. This

commitment to "cooperation among cooperatives" is one of the principles that sets electric cooperatives apart and demonstrates the true strength of our national cooperative network.

While Edgecombe-Martin County EMC appreciates the work of our lineworkers every day, the second Monday in April is set aside each year to thank them and give them much-deserved recognition.

Please help us thank our lineworkers for all they do using the hashtag #ThankALineworker!



This year marks the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, which was first celebrated on April 22, 1970, and serves as an annual recognition of the importance of protecting our planet and its resources.

At Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, we are committed to delivering power that is affordable, reliable and low carbon. More than half our power comes from emissions-free nuclear, and we are increasingly incorporating renewable energy sources and grid-optimizing technologies to take this commitment even further.

As a co-op member, you can help amplify the benefits of electricity by using it as a cleaner, cheaper and smarter alternative to fossil fuels. Appliances, equipment, agricultural and industrial processes, and even your car, can now be powered by electricity, resulting in cost savings, lower emissions and increased productivity and efficiency.

Electric cooperatives are building a statewide electric vehicle charging network and implementing other innovative initiatives that support increased commerce, tourism and economic development in the communities we serve. And we offer incentives like special rates and rebates to make it easier for co-op members like you to access the savings and efficiency that electricity has to offer.

On Earth Day and every day, we are building a brighter energy future for our members and the communities we serve. To find out more about our programs and services, visit ememc.com or call 1-800-445-6486. You can also learn more about the benefits of driving electric at ncdriveelectric.com/edgecombe-martin-emc.

Cooperatively,

Winston Howell
Winston Howell



Door Notice Final Reminder

As of April 1, 2020, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC will no longer leave door hangers as a way to notify members that their electricity will be disconnected for non-payment. Instead, they'll be notified by an automated text message or email. Please make sure your phone number and email address are up-to-date by calling 1-800-445-6486.

Members will continue to get a final notice in the mail with a disconnect date. In the event you are unable to pay the bill, you may contact the cooperative's office prior to the disconnection date to discuss possible payment arrangements. Edgecombe-Martin County EMC allows two payment arrangements within a 12-month period. If accounts are not brought current by that date, the member is subject to be disconnected for non-payment with no further notice.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC has a number of easy and convenient ways for you to pay whether you want to pay online, like to call in, need to drop it in the mail or want to stop by our office and say hello! We also have great options like paperless billing, prepay, auto draft and budget billing. You can establish an online account today through the SmartHub app and enroll in automatic bank draft and never worry about a late payment again. You can also change your mailing address, update your phone number and report an outage through your SmartHub account. Once enrolled in SmartHub, you will receive an electronic bill notification each month. Another way to make a payment is through our automated telephone line by calling 1-855-356-6358. For cash payments, members can also use the kiosk at the office to make payments on their account 24/7.

Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarships Available

The Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarships are offered to members of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC who plan to complete a one- or two-year vocational/technical/community college program of study.

The technical school or community college must be accredited in North Carolina.

These scholarships give prospective students the opportunity to further their education so they can acquire new skills and knowledge to better prepare them for their future careers.

Applications will be accepted now through May 11, 2020. You can access, complete, and submit applications online at ememc.com. If you wish to receive an application form by mail, please call Monica Speight at (252) 641-9502.

The Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarships are made possible through the dedicated work of the Volunteer

Action

Committee of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC and other

private donations. The Volunteer Action Committee helps raise funds for the scholarship by selling desserts and raffling off various items at the Annual Meeting of Members each year.



Statement of Non-discrimination

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

Along The LINE

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