

NEWS Central

Monthly newsletter from Central Electric Membership Corp.

MAR 2018

POINT OF VIEW

Electric vehicles

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Watch savings grow

LEADERSHIP CAMP

Apply now!

Vegetation maintenance is key to reliability

The spring and summer months are right around the corner and your cooperative is gearing up for its annual vegetation maintenance program. There are many ways that Central Electric provides you with safe and reliable electric service. One of the most common ways is referred to as right-of-way (ROW) clearing.

Clearing the ROW is critical to keeping the power flowing. Without an effective ROW clearing program, power interruptions occur when trees, shrubs or bushes grow too close to power lines.

We use two ways to manage ROW areas: mechanical mowing and an environmentally safe herbicide that interrupts photosynthesis, so plants aren't able to convert sunlight to energy. While the herbicide is considered safe for humans and is a much cheaper method for managing ROW areas,



Right-of-way refers to a strip of land underneath or around power lines that your electric cooperative maintains and clears. By managing vegetation, the co-op keeps power safe and reliable for its members.

we respect that some people may prefer mowing on their property.

If you prefer that we only mow at your home or business, simply call the office at (800) 446-7752. We'll send you a form to get your name on a list of "mow-only" properties that can be displayed at your residence.

This spring, look out for our ROW crews who will be working in several different areas across the system. Remember to contact the cooperative if you notice trees near any power service or line, and **NEVER** trim a tree in the right-of-way zone on your own.



- ▶ Applications for Central Carolina or Sandhills Community College scholarships are due May 1. Visit CEMCPower.com for more details.
- ▶ The Cypress Creek Fire District will hold its Annual Member and Budget Meeting April 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Cypress Point Fire Station near Woodlake.

POINT OF VIEW

Electric vehicles

From the desk of CEO & General Manager Morris McClellion

Electric vehicles (EVs), powered either fully or partially by electricity as their name implies, have been around for decades. While they have become more popular in recent years, with companies like Tesla investing heavily in battery technology, the market still has not fully embraced this technology.

Today, EVs only account for about 3 percent of all auto sales, according to the Center for Automotive Research. Despite the numerous benefits they offer over traditional gas-powered vehicles, including energy efficiency, reduced environmental impact,

and lower fuel and maintenance costs, most consumers have shied away.

Why is that you may ask? The primary barriers to adopting EVs have been cost and “range anxiety.” It is no secret that EVs are currently priced higher than comparable traditional models. However, as the technology evolves and the cost of lithium-ion batteries continues to drop over time, EVs are expected to become more affordable. Furthermore, as the technology improves, the range of vehicles will only increase. As more people begin to adopt electric vehicles



and they make up more of the auto market, more charging stations will also be made available.

These elements hold true for all new technology. As the technology improves and it moves into the “early majority” adoption stage, the price goes down and the quality of the product continues to improve.

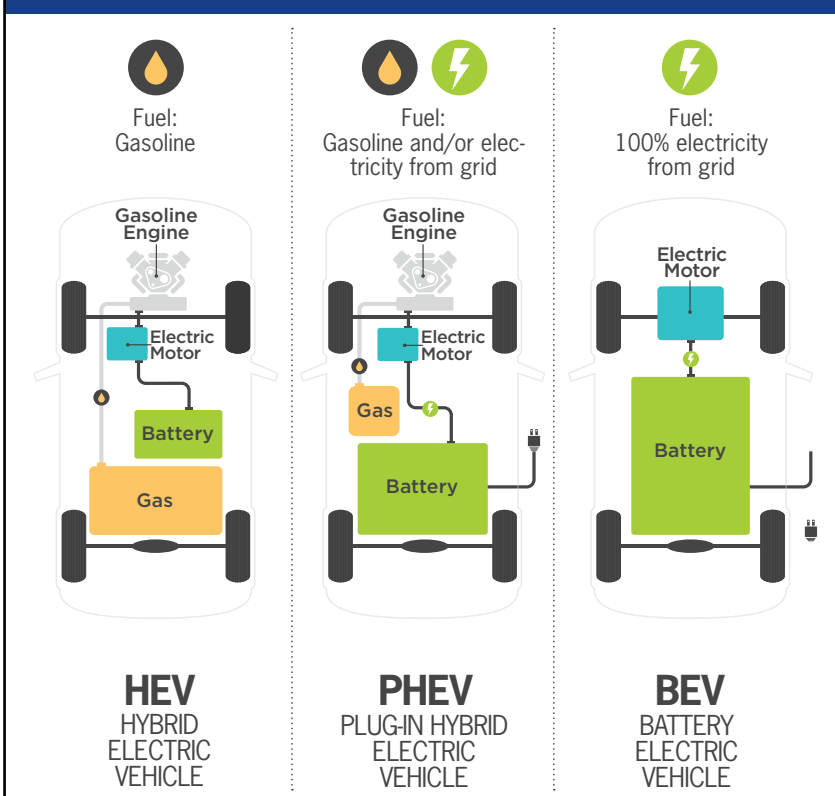
Auto manufacturers are also beginning to place big bets on this technology over the next five to 10 years. Ford, General Motors and Toyota are just a few of the major players that are rushing to get deeper into the EV game, each with plans to roll out more all-electric models by 2023.

As more of our members start to consider electric vehicles, we strive to provide you with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions. We exist to serve you, not to generate a profit. So, if you have questions about EVs, please contact us. We are here to support your needs.

Until next time,

Morris McClellion

Types of Electric Vehicles



Watch your household savings grow

Winter is coming to a close, and spring is just around the corner! As you welcome the new growth of spring outside, it's a great time to take advantage of cooperative programs that will help you grow your energy savings, too.

FlexPay

Want more control over your electricity payments? Sign up for our FlexPay program, which allows you to pay for your electricity in advance. You decide when, and how much, to pay toward your electric bill. When your balance gets low, we'll let you know. And you want to know the best part? Members enrolled in the FlexPay program tend to be as much as 11 percent more energy efficient as they become more aware of their household energy consumption.

Mobile app

Download the co-op's free mobile app to take your account with you on-the-go. You can view bills, account information, payment history, usage data, manage alerts and reminders, make payments and also view the outage map. Find it in the App Store or Android Market by searching "Central EMC."

Energy efficiency

The least-expensive energy is the energy you don't use, so take action! Find lots of energy and money-saving tips by visiting the "Energy Efficiency" section at CEMCPower.com.



Central Electric is owned and directed by you, our members. Because of that, we're focused on providing you excellent service, and finding ways to help you save money. Use these cooperative services to help you grow your energy savings!

Deadline for TESC is quickly approaching

Touchstone Energy®
**Sports Camp
Scholarships**

Apply by March 31

The graphic features a basketball on the left side. The background is a blurred image of a basketball court floor. The text is white and orange.

Central Electric is sending a young man to the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a young woman to the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp at NC State University in Raleigh.

To be eligible to apply, the student must be in the sixth, seventh or eighth grade during the upcoming school year, have permission from a parent or guardian to attend the overnight camp and must be able to provide their own transportation if selected to attend.

The deadline to apply is March 31. Visit CEMCPower.com to download the applications, or contact Janet Jackson at (919) 708-1638 for more information.



Cooperative Leadership Camp

This summer, Central Electric is sending a rising sophomore, junior or senior to Cooperative Leadership Camp hosted by the N.C. Cooperative Council.

The week-long, overnight camp will be held at White Lake, N.C., June 18-22. It will feature energetic and interactive workshops, presentations, outdoor recreation and leadership building exercises.

The camp is designed to provide a learning experience that concentrates on the cooperative way of doing business, building a better understanding and appreciation for the cooperative model. Each year, five campers are selected to receive leadership awards for their unique leadership abilities and receive an all-expense-paid trip to the National Institute on Co-op Education at Virginia Tech University. All campers will also be eligible to apply for the \$1,000 Jim Graham Cooperative Leadership scholarship their senior year of high school.

The deadline to apply is quickly approaching. All applications must be received by May 15. For more information or to apply, visit the "Cooperative Leadership Camp" section at CEMCPower.com.

**Students: Apply for
Cooperative Leadership Camp
at CEMCPower.com**



**Central Electric
Membership Corporation**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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