

NEWS Central

JUNE 2018

Monthly newsletter from Central Electric Membership Corp.

POINT OF VIEW

Beat the heat

SAFETY CORNER

Use caution near equipment

GIVE US AN "A"

Local students "cash" in

Let your electric bill relax while on vacation

Going on vacation this summer? Even if you plan to just be away a few days, you can save energy in your home when you travel. Even though you are on vacation or away from home for an extended period of time, certain appliances continue to operate and use electricity unless they are turned off. Here are a few tips to help give your utility bill a break when you take one.

Thermostat. While away, set your thermostat to 85 degrees Fahrenheit. That way, you'll save energy while ensuring your home doesn't get too warm.

Water heater. Check the temperature of your water heater. If you're going to be gone for a lengthy period of time, you may want to adjust it to a lower temperature or turn it off.

Windows. Make sure all windows and doors are tightly closed so cool air is not escaping. Also close blinds and shades to help keep your home cooler.



Electronics. Unless you're recording something while away, unplug all of your electronic devices including computers, TV and cable boxes, microwaves and digital clocks. Any electronics with digital displays, instant-on features, or remote controls will consume energy even if they're not in use.

Some other things to also consider to help save energy throughout the summer:

- ▶ Turn off lights and ceiling fans when you leave a room

- ▶ Plant trees and shrubs to shade the exterior of your home.
- ▶ Replace air filters (or clean permanent filters) once a month to maximize efficiency.
- ▶ Use solar lighting to brighten up your outdoor space. Solar lights are easy to install and provide free electricity.

For more tips on how to save energy and money year-round, visit the "Energy Efficiency" section at CEMCPower.com.



- ▶ Applications for 2018 third-quarter Operation Round Up® grant opportunities must be submitted by Aug. 1. Recipients will be announced following the Trust board meeting on Aug. 16.

POINT OF VIEW

Ready to respond to storms

From the desk of CEO & General Manager Morris McClellion

” When thunderstorms inevitably illuminate our warm, summer nights, we are here for you. Our dedicated crews are ready and prepared to respond to whatever Mother Nature may send our way. ”



Summer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that your cooperative is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages is from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year round through our right-of-way clearing program to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

However, during storms damage can occur to transmission equipment, substations and power lines, despite our best efforts. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. The biggest outages affecting the largest number of members are handled first, like damage to transmission lines, which serve

thousands of people. These problems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

Our line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there, or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, line crews check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Line crews repair the damaged equipment, restoring power to hundreds of people. If you continue to experience an outage, there may be damage to a tap line outside of your home or business.

The beauty of our advanced metering infrastructure is that we are aware of power outages prior to reports from members. This allows us to respond much quicker than in the past.

However, it is always a good idea to make sure you report an outage by either calling our 24-hour reporting line,

877-766-6769, or texting “OUT” to 800-446-7752. That way, you can ensure we are fully aware of your outage. [Please note, before you use the outage texting service you must first opt-in to the service by texting “PWR.” Once you are opted-in and your outage has been reported, you can text “STATUS” to receive restoration updates specific to your outage.]

When thunderstorms inevitably illuminate our warm, summer nights, we are here for you. Our dedicated crews are ready and prepared to respond to whatever Mother Nature may send our way.

We will continue to do our best to avoid power disruptions, but as you know, the weather sometimes presents challenges beyond our control. In the event of a power outage, be sure to visit the “Outage Center” at CEMCPower.com to track outages in our area and to receive the latest outage restoration updates.

Until next time,

Morris McClellion

Use caution around pad-mounted transformers

For your safety and the safety of others around you, be cautious around pad-mounted transformers (the big green box). While safe, they are not meant for touching, climbing or playing around. Pad-mounted transformers carry high voltages of electricity.

Never touch, climb or play on pad-mounted transformers. Never put fingers, sticks or other objects through cracks in the transformer.



Keep areas surrounding the pad-mounted transformer clear so that workers can safely maintain transformers as needed. Keep shrubs and structures at least 10 feet away from the transformer doors and 4 feet away from the sides.



Never dig near a pad-mounted transformer. They are surrounded by underground cables. Hitting the cable could result in electrical shock or disruption of service.

Always dial 8-1-1 before you dig.



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

Report problems. If you notice anything amiss, like an unlocked transformer or one that has been damaged, please contact the cooperative immediately by calling 919-774-4900.



Students rewarded for classroom efforts

Five outstanding students earned a Visa® gift card for receiving at least one “A” on their recent report cards. The reward is in connection with Central Electric’s “Give us an A” program.

Local students from kindergarten to college with a grade of at least one “A” are invited to send in a copy of their most recent report card. Four times each school year, Central Electric will draw from the entries and award a \$25 Visa gift card to four winners with at least one “A” and a \$50 Visa gift card to one winner with all “A’s.”

If you have at least one “A” on your next report card, send in a copy to Janet Jackson at Central Electric by June 22 for a chance to be selected in the next drawing.



Zachary Thompson
San Lee Middle



Griffin Moon
Grace Christian



Kennedi Gillis
Tramway Elem.



Elijah Cutler
Western Harnett



Mason Blell
Broadway Elem.



Central Electric
Membership Corporation
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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CEO & General Manager

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To report an outage
24 hours a day: (877) 766-6769

James Taylor, *Editor*

This institution is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.

Nominating Committee to meet June 4 to set Director elections

In accordance with Section 4.06 of the Cooperative’s bylaws, the Central Electric Board of Directors has appointed a group of members to prepare a slate of nominees for election at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Members on Oct. 5, 2018.

Those appointed to the Nominating Committee include:

- ▶ Ronnie Lambert, Siler City
- ▶ Lonell Smith, Cameron
- ▶ Robert Howington, Sanford
- ▶ Michael V. Perry, Sanford
- ▶ Carolyn Cameron, Sanford
- ▶ Jackie Williams, Pittsboro
- ▶ C. Richard Williams, Siler City
- ▶ John S. Blue, Carthage
- ▶ Bradley Wadsworth, Carthage
- ▶ Cathy Cagle Callahan, Cameron
- ▶ Janet Brower, Cameron.

The committee will meet June 4, 2018. During the meeting, they will consider three-year terms for the following incumbents: Tommy Dalrymple, District 1; W. Phillip Thompson, District 2; Dr. Nancy Holmes, District 3.

Once the slate of nominees has been determined, the list will be posted at the cooperative’s office at 128 Wilson Road, Sanford, N.C.

The deadline for additional nominations is Aug. 7, 2018. Any 100 or more members of the cooperative, acting together over their signatures not less than 60 days prior to the meeting, may make additional nominations in like manner listing the nominees separately with respect to the Directorate Districts.