



FEATURE ARTICLE

PIEDMONT ELECTRIC CELEBRATES CO-OP MONTH AND \$2 MILLION IN SAVINGS

Join Piedmont Electric and cooperatives across the United States to celebrate National Cooperative Month this October. During this celebration, we recognize the qualities that make the cooperative structure unique: commitment to supporting our communities, member ownership and the implementation of programs that help our members save energy and money.

2014's National Cooperative Month celebration is especially exciting as it comes on the heels of a huge success. Thanks to our Load Management programs, Piedmont Electric members saved two million dollars in wholesale power costs, lowering bills across all rate classifications.

Our load management programs, such as Load Control, Beat the Peak and Time-of-Day Rates are perfect examples of the benefits of cooperative membership. We are committed to providing our members with all of the information they need to be an active part of the cooperative. This includes energy saving tips, as well as the opportunity

to participate in programs that help the cooperative save as a whole. By educating our members with as much information as possible, they are able to make informed decisions that can strengthen our cooperative.

Of course, the success of Piedmont Electric's programs depends on member participation. In many ways, October's National Cooperative Month is a celebration of all the members that make this cooperative great, as well as the cooperative structure itself. That's why we encourage all of our members to stop by their local Piedmont Electric branch for Co-op Day on Wednesday October 22. Members who attend Co-op Day will receive refreshments and have a chance to spin the prize wheel. We can't wait to see you there!

The "cooperative difference" is only possible when we all work together. Remember: together we save and together we can make decisions that are good for the entire cooperative.

OCT
22

Join Piedmont Electric for our Co-op Day celebration!

Spin the prize wheel and enjoy some refreshments at our Hillsborough, Caswell and Roxboro offices from 8am-5pm.

PIEDMONT EMC LEADS THE WAY WITH SMART TECHNOLOGY

LEARN MORE ON PAGE 27

WILL R-O-W ACTIVITY TAKE PLACE IN YOUR AREA?

TURN TO PAGE 27 TO FIND OUT



LED REBATES FOR \$1

Piedmont Electric now offers a \$1/LED bulb rebate up to \$15/year. Visit pemc.coop for more info.

Co-op Connections® Card Contest

No tricks ONLY TREATS!

Use your Co-op Connections® Card at local and national businesses or online, and you can be entered to win up to a \$100 gift card!

—VISIT—

www.pemc.coop/save-energy-money/co-op-connections-card for contests drawing details and eligibility.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am excited to announce the success of the “cooperative difference” here at Piedmont Electric. Each day, we work hard to keep your power affordable. Starting in November, you will see the culmination of this effort in the form of a wholesale power adjustment credit on your bill. We attribute this credit to the member participation received in our numerous load management programs, such as Load Control, Time-of-Day rates and Beat the Peak. Your participation helped your cooperative lower our peak demand charge from Duke Energy – resulting in a wholesale power cost savings of two million dollars! Congratulations to all of the members who made this savings possible! We couldn’t have done this without you and your neighbors working together to “beat the peak!”

We also continually evaluate our rate structure to ensure that we “send the right price signal.” To do this, we design rates that cover our fixed costs (the costs necessary to run the cooperative – including property taxes, maintenance expenses, the



Sending the Right Signals

R.G. Brecheisen
President & CEO of Piedmont Electric

cost of substations, transmission and distribution lines, transformers, meters, etc. – regardless of how many kWhs are sold) and the wholesale power purchase variable cost from Duke Energy, which is our largest expense.

In November, you will see your cooperative move to a “decoupled” rate that recovers our fixed costs in the facilities charges and the first 800 kWhs, allowing us to “send the right price signal” to members.

This revenue neutral adjustment will help members see the true cost savings when evaluating energy-efficient equipment and solar panels.

Piedmont Electric knows that by making these changes, we can focus on saving our members money with real energy-efficiency savings and load management programs that keep electricity affordable.

SIGN ME UP FOR LOAD MANAGEMENT

Sign up for load control and get a **FREE GIFT!**

Join now and receive a **FREE electric water heater wrap kit!** (\$55 retail value)

Sign up for our Air Conditioning or Electric Water Heater Load Control programs!

Join today by including this insert with your next electric bill or by calling 800.222.3107

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Best Time to Call Morning Afternoon Evening

CO-OP CONNECTIONS® CARD

Use your card to access thousands of local and national discounts like these!



Full listing of participating businesses available at connections.coop/pemc

ICE CREAM	YODER'S COUNTRY MARKET Blanch BUY ONE SCOOP. GET ONE SCOOP.
SAVE 10%	SOUTHERN VINTAGE TABLE Chapel Hill 10% OFF RENTAL ORDER.
SAVE 10%	BROOKLAND EATS Roxboro 10% OFF ENTIRE BILL EXCLUDING ALCOHOL.
SAVE 10%	HOOF BEAT FARM Hillsborough 10% OFF A BEEF ITEM EVERY SATURDAY.



OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER OVERVIEW

RIGHT-OF-WAY ACTIVITY

Right-of-Way Activity is a proactive measure to keep the power lines clear of vegetation, keeping our power reliable and our members safe.

Locations are SUBJECT TO CHANGE due to weather and other uncontrollable circumstances.

**October
ORANGE COUNTY**

- Mt. Willing Rd.
- Chestnut Ridge Church Rd.
- Holmes Rd.
- Borland Rd.
- (and surrounding areas)

**November
ORANGE COUNTY**

- Buckhorn Rd.
- Yarborough Rd.
- West Ten Rd.
- Hebron Church Rd.
- Whitaker Rd.
- Ben Wilson Rd.
- Old Hillsborough Rd.
- (and surrounding areas)

**December
ORANGE COUNTY**

- Oak Grove Church Rd.
- Mebane Oaks Rd.
- Jones Rd.
- Jim Minor Rd.
- Turner Rd.
- Nicks Rd.
- Pollard Acres Subdivision
- (and surrounding areas)

PIEDMONT EMC LEADS THE WAY WITH SMART TECHNOLOGY

At Piedmont Electric, our commitment to providing safe, affordable and reliable energy to our members can only be sustained by keeping the technology that powers our organization as up-to-date as possible.

A few years ago, we introduced Smart Grid technology and now every member has an advanced meter attached to their home with access to SmartHub. This advancement gives our members access to daily-usage data that provides a deeper understanding of individual energy consumption.

We have also made a number of tools

available that can help all members save energy and money on their monthly power bills. Calculators help members see the effect of various appliances and lighting choices on their power bill. For example, the Heating Calculator shows the savings you could make by switching from gas to electric heat. There is even a calculator to help you see if an electric vehicle makes sense for your family, from an energy savings perspective.

Of course there are many technological updates going on behind the scenes that you may or may not notice. We are continuously

upgrading and maintaining our equipment to ensure that the power is always flowing. One change you may notice in the coming years is our transition from mercury vapor and high pressure sodium fixtures to LED security lighting. This change will not only improve the efficiency of these lighting systems, but the new LED lights also require less maintenance than the older models. Visit pemc.coop/save-energy-money for savings that improve the bottom line for both members and the cooperative.

IS IT TIME FOR A NEW HEATING SYSTEM?

If you are like many of our members, the crisp autumn air may have you preparing for the winter cold and high heating bills. The winter can bring some of the highest power bills, especially for our members who use electric space heaters. Luckily, Piedmont Electric has expertise and financial incentives available for those who would like to invest in a new HVAC system and reduce their costs this winter.

Did you know that an energy-efficient electric heat pump is one of the least expensive methods of heating your home? Even compared to gas, electric heating is the most efficient option for those looking to save on their energy bills. Piedmont Electric is here to help our members who have questions about upgrading their HVAC systems. Energy-efficiency experts are on call to offer advice and help you choose the system that is right for your home. There are also rebates and low-interest

HEATING CALCULATOR

Available at pemc.coop/save-energy-money



loans available to Piedmont Electric members, call 800.222.3107 or visit pemc.coop/save-energy-money today for more information!

PIEDMONT ELECTRIC SUMMER INTERN EXPERIENCE



For rising Cedar Ridge High School Senior, Thomas Santos, this summer was more than a time to kick back and relax, it was also an opportunity to gain real-world experience with Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation's six-week Summer Linemen Internship Program. During the program, Thomas was able to see firsthand how line crews service electrical equipment and had the opportunity to work in the dispatch center learning how all the

components work together to make our maintenance and repairs run smoothly.

Working directly beside the linemen was a great learning experience for Thomas, which taught him the rewards of hard work, and earned him the nickname "mouse" because he was as quiet as a church mouse. Thomas had the opportunity to work with a number of departments and found that the operations and construction department was his favorite. The job responsibilities offered the most hands-on experience in the field, including the opportunity to go up in a bucket truck – an experience he enjoyed immensely. This internship program is just one of the many ways Piedmont Electric supports the communities we serve.

PIEDMONT ELECTRIC CONNECTION

Published monthly for the members of Piedmont Electric Membership Corp.

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IF YOUR POWER GOES OUT, CALL US...

800.449.2667

Our automated outage reporting system uses your phone number to determine your service location. That's why it's important to update the number connected to your account. If your number has changed, or if you no longer have a land line, let us know by completing the form that comes in your monthly billing statement or calling 800.222.3107.

To report an outage 24 hours a day
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*Voice instructions will direct you through the system.

Call 811 BEFORE you dig

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