



SWITCH TO TIME-OF-DAY RATES, AND SAVE MONEY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Time-of-Day Rate Savings Chart



WINTER AM
OCTOBER TO APRIL *
Minimize power usage from 6AM–10AM to save



SUMMER PM
APRIL TO OCTOBER *
Minimize power usage from 1PM–6PM to save

*Excludes weekends and holidays designated by the Cooperative. The on-peak and off-peak times change in the second full weekends of April and October.

FEATURE ARTICLE

Time-of-Day rates are a great way to save money on your energy bill, especially if you spend most of your day at work or away from home. With Time-of-Day Rates, you pay a lower rate for the energy you use during **OFF-PEAK** hours, and could save money by following these tips.

Do laundry and dishes during off-peak hours. During the summer, avoid doing laundry, dishes and using other major appliances from 1–6PM and from 6–10AM in the winter. This ensures that you won't consume a lot of energy while on-peak and end up with a higher than expected bill!

For heating or cooling, program your thermostat to avoid on-peak hours. For heating, program your thermostat at a lower temperature during on-peak hours. While cooling, program your thermostat to a higher temperature during on-peak hours.

Charge your vehicle during off-peak hours. Electric Vehicle owners who charge their vehicle during off-peak hours can save almost 50% while charging – making your EV more cost effective than ever! Make sure to charge your vehicle during off-peak hours, and don't forget to unplug before peak hours begin.

Take inventory. Review your energy usage patterns and move as much of your energy use to off-peak times as you can.



Time-of-Day Peak Change

APRIL 12

Beginning Sunday, April 12, adjust your power usage to avoid peak times of 1PM–6PM.

IMPORTANT DATES

MAR 8

Spring Daylight Savings

"Spring" your clocks one hour forward at 2am on March 8 for daylight savings!

APR 3

Piedmont Electric & ElecTel CCU will be closed for Good Friday.

Operations crews will be on call.

APR 17

Piedmont EMC Annual Meeting

Enjoy local music and vote for board member positions! Registration begins at 6pm and business meeting begins at 8pm.



SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

Applications for PEMC's College Scholarships, Rural Electric Youth Tour and Touchstone Energy Basketball Camps are due **March 31, 2015**

APPLY AT

pemc.coop/community/scholarships/

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation abides by seven distinct principles and values:

1. Open and voluntary membership
2. Democratic member control
3. Members economic participation
4. Autonomy and independence
5. Education, training and information
6. Cooperation among cooperatives
7. Concern for community

These principles help us to serve our members and our communities as well as tackle tasks too big for individuals to handle alone. They also serve as your direct link to this organization.

As a member-owner of this cooperative, you have the unique opportunity to guide our decisions and the overall direction of the cooperative. You do this each April at our annual meeting, when you vote for and elect your board of directors, who in turn work with the leadership of Piedmont Electric to institute programs and policies that help us distribute safe, reliable and affordable energy.



R.G. Brecheisen
President & CEO of Piedmont Electric

Each of the Seven Cooperative Principles is designed to support the members we serve. Even those that are not directly related to member-based programs, such as autonomy and independence, ensure that this cooperative is always under the control of those who live and work in our communities, rather than a distant investor who is only concerned with profits.

Next month, Carolina Country will include our Annual Report, which highlights the successes from 2014.

7 Cooperative Principles: Your link to Piedmont Electric

You will also receive your invitation to our Annual Meeting of Members, which will be held on Friday, April 17, at Orange High School.

I hope you will join us in April to celebrate 2014's successes and the election of three cooperative directors. Member participation is key to Piedmont Electric's successes – a concept vital to our form of business. When we work together, we are strong, and I know we will continue to accomplish great things!

USE YOUR CO-OP CONNECTIONS® AND ENTER TO WIN A \$25 GIFT CARD



Mary Long of Timberlake, NC, won a \$25 Visa Gift Card just by submitting her Burger King of Roxboro receipt to Piedmont EMC.

You too can be a winner – submit your receipt from a local Co-op Connections® business for a chance to win a \$25 Visa Gift Card. One winner from each Piedmont EMC office location will be chosen. For a listing of Co-op Connections® Card businesses, visit <http://bit.ly/1CaFfEe>

1

GATHER YOUR RECEIPTS from purchases made at a local Co-op Connections® participating business.

All receipts must be received by April 30.

2

RECEIPTS MUST INCLUDE:

- Printed Name
- Address
- Phone Number

Receipt must clearly show the participating Co-op Connections® Card business.

3

MAIL TO:

PEMC Co-op Connections®
Card Contest
PO Box 1179
Hillsborough, NC 27278

OR you can mail the receipt in with your bill. You can also drop off receipts at your local office in Hillsborough, Roxboro or Caswell.

QUESTIONS?

CALL 800.222.3107

YOUR GUIDE TO HOME ENERGY SAVINGS

Spring days are just around the corner, which means soon the outside of your home will start taking priority as warmer days get you out of the house. If energy efficiency is a goal for your household in 2015, use the last few cold days of winter to make some interior improvements that can help your household use energy more efficiently and save you money.

SEAL LEAKING AIR DUCTS



Your HVAC equipment is one of the largest contributors to your monthly power bill. Don't waste that money by losing air through your duct system. If not properly sealed, leaking air from your HVAC system can cost you hundreds of dollars a year in wasted energy. Consider re-sealing your ducts to ensure you only spend money to heat and cool your living spaces, instead of the crawlspace or your attic.

The key to tight duct work is mastic NOT duct tape. Mastic is a thick paste and can be used on all duct material's providing a permanent seal; it comes in tubs and costs about \$10/gallon.

CORRECT AIR LEAKS

7-12% of your home's energy loss occurs around doors and windows. When your home has drafts and air leaks, energy and money are literally being blown out the window. Luckily, fixing these leaks is as easy as applying caulk or weather stripping to seal the leak.



7-12%
ENERGY LOST
THROUGH WINDOWS

Often you can feel drafts in your home and follow the flow of air to the source of the problem. However, if you are having trouble discovering the source of a leak, light a candle or incense stick in various rooms of your home and watch the smoke. If it is pulled toward or pushed away from one of your doors and windows, you may be leaking air in that area.

SCHEDULE A FREE HOME ENERGY AUDIT



If you think your home is losing energy, but you're having trouble identifying problem areas, Piedmont Electric is here to help. Sign up for one of our free home energy audits to have an experienced Energy Specialist come to your home and identify areas where you could be losing energy. The analysis includes a check of your home's insulation amounts and inspection of windows and doors. To sign up for your free home energy audit, call 800.222.3107.

BY THE NUMBERS

6,158 MEMBERS ↑ 5 MEMBERS
are participating in the A/C Load Control Program

4,695 MEMBERS ↑ 8 MEMBERS
are participating in the Electric Water Heater Load Control Program

1,011 MEMBERS
are participating in the PrePay Program

30 MEMBERS ↑ 3 MEMBERS
have turned in receipts for 195 LED bulbs, representing a total of 114,270 kWhs saved toward our Senate Bill 3 Mandate

43 MEMBERS
received solar water heater rebates

930 MEMBERS
have installed electric water heater wrap kits

618 RESIDENTIAL MEMBERS ↑ 5 MEMBERS
have signed up for Time-of-Day Rates

680 MEMBERS ↑ 32 MEMBERS
have signed up to participate in the "Beat the Peak" program

1,375 MEMBERS ↑ 22 MEMBERS
are participating in Project Helping Hand

1,036 VISITS ↑ 1 VISIT
made to TogetherWeSave.com, where you can learn more about the power of your electric cooperative membership

THIS MONTH'S RIGHT-OF-WAY ACTIVITY

ORANGE COUNTY

- Moonridge Rd.
- Damascus Church Rd.
- Bowden Rd.
- Ferguson Rd.
- Heritage Hills Subdivision

(and surrounding areas)

Locations are SUBJECT TO CHANGE due to uncontrollable circumstances.

KEEP CHILDREN SAFE WHILE PLAYING OUTDOORS



WARMER WEATHER IS ON THE WAY, AND THAT MEANS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WILL LIKELY BE SPENDING MORE TIME OUTDOORS.

Before you let them out of your sight, make sure you and your children understand electrical equipment that may be around your home, and how to avoid potential electrocution.

Remember the following tips to stay safe should you find yourself in a potentially dangerous outdoor environment...

NEVER Play on pad-mounted transformers. Pad-mounted transformers are the large green boxes found outside of many homes across our service area. They are responsible for powering the electrical line underground that brings power into your home. The equipment housed inside these pad-mounted transformers carries massive amounts of energy and can easily hurt or kill anyone who comes into direct contact.

Look up before climbing trees. We all know how much kids like to climb trees. However, sometimes power lines run through the branches of trees. Teach your children to look up before climbing any tree and to avoid climbing in trees that have power lines running through them.

Also, be sure to keep children away from professionals that are trimming branches or shrubs near power cables as part of our Right-of-Way maintenance. These professionals use heavy, loud equipment and may not always see a small child if they are climbing through the trees.

Avoid Downed Power Lines. No matter what, ALWAYS avoid power lines that are lying on the ground. Remember, just because a power cable isn't sparking or humming, doesn't mean it is safe to touch. Never try to step over a downed power line. If you or your children come across a downed line, call Piedmont Electric immediately at **800.222.3107** and vacate the area.

PIEDMONT ELECTRIC CONNECTION

Published monthly for the members of Piedmont Electric Membership Corp.

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President and CEO

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Sam T. Woods, Secretary
Richal Vanhook, Treasurer
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David Poythress, **Richard Roberts**,
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OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm
Hillsborough 919.732.2123
Caswell County 336.421.1296
Roxboro 336.599.0151
Elsewhere in North Carolina
800.222.3107

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
800.449.2667*

To pay account and access account
information by phone 24 hours a day
877.999.3394*

*Voice instructions will direct you through the system.

Call 811 **BEFORE** you dig
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative