



CONNECTION

PIEDMONT ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION MEMBER NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2020

THANKFUL

Thankful for the value of electricity

In a year like no other, we've all been spending more time inside our homes than we ever thought possible. If your additional energy use has you worried about the impact on your wallet, you'll be happy to know that staying home can actually help you save money through the value of electricity.

Make working from home work for you

If you've turned part of your house into a home office this year to accommodate your new working from home schedule, you might be worried about the increase in energy you're using as a result.

The good news is that while you are likely using more electricity, you're saving on other costs by not driving into the office each day. That's because, generally speaking, the cost of electricity is more affordable than typical commuting costs.

So when you turn on your computer and start working from your home office, think how much money you're saving (and how you're reducing carbon emissions as well!).

One tank of gas = 4,166 hours of running your computer.*

Save while streaming

The days of taking the whole family out to the movie theater are paused for now, but you can still have fun by hosting an at-home family movie night complete with microwave popcorn and your favorite candy.

Plus, you'll save money while you do it. All

you need is your favorite movie to bring the fun experience of going to the theater right into your living room.

One trip to the movies = 6,250 hours of watching television.*

Become a home chef

Going out to dinner at a restaurant is fun and relaxing, but staying in for dinner can be just as enjoyable and it's much more budget-friendly.

Break out an old cookbook to try a new recipe the whole family will enjoy or get your kids in the kitchen and let them be part of the cooking process. This experience can be a great time to bond with your family and save money while you do it.

One dinner at a restaurant = 321 hours of using your oven.*

Eventually, we'll all be able to go out as much as we'd like. Until then, enjoy the money-saving benefits that come with staying home!

*Calculations are based on 10¢ per kWh, a \$25 tank of gas, a computer that uses 60 watts/hr, a \$50 trip to the movies, a 42 inch LED TV that uses 80 watts/hr, a \$75 meal, and an oven that uses 2400 watts/hr.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 11

Veterans Day

November 26-27

Thanksgiving

Piedmont Electric offices will be closed and employees will be on call.

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November right-of-way maintenance

CASWELL COUNTY

Cherry Grove Road
Brintle Road
Pagetown Road
Shaw Road
Egypt Road
John Oakley Road
Roxboro Lake Road





Be the host with the most (energy savings)

This year, many of us aren't able to travel to spend Thanksgiving with our extended families. As a result, we're faced with hosting smaller holiday gatherings in our own homes with our immediate family members.

While it won't make up for missing out on a feast at grandma's house this year, we have a few tips to make hosting your own gathering more energy-efficient.

Energy-efficient Thanksgiving tips

Create a plan. Dice up your veggies and trim your meats before you turn on the oven. Having all your ingredients prepared and ready to cook will ensure you're only running your appliances as long as necessary.

Take advantage of small appliances. If you're cooking a turkey, your oven will be full for the majority of the day. Use small appliances like a slow cooker, toaster oven or air fryer to handle the side dishes, as they are typically more energy efficient than your oven.

No peeking. Once you put something delicious in the oven, it can be tempting to open the door to check on it. However, this lets hot air out and causes your oven to work harder to bring the temperature back up. Instead, check on your food by using the oven light and looking through the glass.

Let leftovers cool. After the meal is over, leave out any leftovers on the counter to cool down before storing them in the refrigerator. If you put food in while it's still hot, your fridge must use more energy to remain cold.

Make your dishwasher do the work. Did you know that the dishwasher uses less water than washing dishes by hand? Avoid rinsing the dishes with warm water before loading them into the dishwasher to save by reducing hot water usage.

Energy-saving programs

Saving money on Thanksgiving is great, but what about the rest of the year? Piedmont Electric offers a number of energy-saving programs that help you save money year-round.

Time-of-day rates. With a time-of-day rate, you pay a lower rate for any energy used during off-peak hours. In the winter, that means avoiding excess energy use on weekday mornings from 6-10 a.m. The average time-of-day member saved more than \$20 per month last year. Try for a whole year risk free! Visit pemc.coop/timeofday for additional information.

Smart thermostat savings program. Lower your monthly bill by allowing Piedmont Electric to make small adjustments to your Nest smart thermostat through in-home WiFi. Of course, you can change your thermostat back at any time if you choose. In addition to bill credits in the summer and reduced energy use, you'll get a \$50 rebate just for signing up for the program! Learn more at pemc.coop/thermostat.

Load Management. Our air conditioning and water heater load management programs help you save money by cycling off and on your air conditioner or electric water heater during extreme temperatures. You'll receive credits on your bill for participating and get an additional \$25 credit when you sign up for either program. Start saving by visiting pemc.coop/load-management.

Bundle and save from the comfort of your couch!

The best deal this Black Friday is bundling your Piedmont Electric programs and rebates to maximize your savings.

Wonder just how much you can save?

Visit pemc.coop/bundle-and-save to find out and sign up today!



For more savings tips, visit pemc.coop/101-energy-saving-tips for 101 easy ways to save energy and money.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETS DECEMBER 5, 2020

Three seats on the Piedmont Electric board of directors are up for election in 2021. These seats are currently held by Cy Vernon (District 3), Bill Barber (District 7) and Andy Oakley (District 8). As a reminder, there will be no voting at the annual meeting next year. All voting will be conducted online or by mail-in ballot.

The members serving on the nominating committee are:

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|---|--|--|--|---|
| KAY FERGUSON Hillsborough, At Large | GREG MARTIN Mebane, District 2 | DIANNE MURPHY Mebane, District 4 | CORY MELTON Roxboro, District 6 | RON BRIGGS Rougemont, District 8 |
| JOE CURRIN Chapel Hill, District 1 | GREGORY RUDD Yanceyville, District 3 | ADAM SARVER Roxboro, District 5 | MARTIN A. DAVIS Timberlake, District 7 | SUSAN GRAY Timberlake, District 9 |

The cooperative's bylaws provide an alternative to the nominating committee. Any fifty (50) or more members of the cooperative, acting together, may make additional nominations in writing over their signatures, in like manner listing the nominees separately with respect to the directorate districts from which they are nominated, on or before Jan. 14, preceding the next election of directors. Any member nominated by petition as a candidate for any Directorate must meet the qualifications to serve as a director set forth in section 4.02 before the nominee will be considered for election.

Piedmont Electric's bylaws can be found at www.pemc.coop/bylaws

READY TO SAVE ON YOUR POWER BILL? TRY OUR TIME-OF-DAY RATE RISK FREE FOR A YEAR!

If you're spending more time at home this holiday season, you might notice an increase in your power bill. However, we're here to help combat higher bills with our risk-free time-of-day rate.

Once you've signed up for this special rate, shift your energy use during winter mornings away from 6-10 a.m. to an earlier or later time and enjoy your power at a lower rate! Our members saved an average of \$20 a month last year when they switched to a time-of-day rate.

Try this rate for a year and if you don't save compared to our regular rate, we'll refund you the difference, no questions asked. As your local cooperative we are here to help you manage your energy use. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us for advice at info@pemc.coop or 800.222.3107.

PIEDMONT ELECTRIC CONNECTION

Published monthly for the members of Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation **Piedmont Electric is an equal opportunity provider and employer.**

Hillsborough and Roxboro

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Caswell Office Hours:

Wednesday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Report outages, make payments and access account information by phone 24-hours-a-day by calling 800.222.3107.

Voice instructions will direct you through the system.

2500 NC Highway 86 South
PO Drawer 1179
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Stephen B. Hamlin

President and CEO

DIRECTORS

Bill R. Barber, Chairman

Randy Kinley, Vice Chairman

Sam T. Woods, Secretary

Richal Vanhook, Treasurer

Steven P. Bailey, Stephen

C. Long, Andrew M. Oakley,

David Poythress, Elizabeth

Townsend & Cyrus Vernon

IF YOUR POWER GOES OUT, CALL OR TEXT 800.222.3107

Opt in for text alerts by texting "pemc" to 800.222.3107. Once you've opted in, report an outage by texting "#out" to 800.222.3107 or "#status" for an update on your outage.

Our automated outage reporting system uses your phone number to determine your service location. Update the number connected to your account online through SmartHub, by completing the form on your monthly bill or by calling 800.222.3107.

Please note that it may take up to 24 hours for our system to recognize new cell phone numbers in the text outage alert program.