



Connection

PIEDMONT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE MEMBER NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2021



A cornucopia of savings

As your local cooperative, we work hard every day to bring you affordable and reliable power. One of the ways that we do this is by providing you with tips and free programs to help you save energy and money all year long.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, here's a refresher on how to save on energy costs on the most delicious day of the year.

Lower the thermostat

Before your guests arrive, lower your thermostat by a few degrees to save on heating costs. Using the oven and having more people in your home will help generate enough heat to keep everyone comfortable.

Choose the right turkey*

The bigger your turkey, the more time it takes to cook and the longer you'll need to use your oven. When choosing your turkey, count the number of guests you'll have and plan for one pound of turkey per person to help you avoid buying one that's too large.

Prepare all ingredients at the same time

Before you start cooking, try to gather all your ingredients at the same time. When you open and close your refrigerator and freezer doors frequently, the appliance has to work harder to maintain a steady temperature. By doing your prep work ahead of time, you can help lower your energy costs.

Double-up when cooking

Take a look at the recipes you're planning to make before you get started. If you have multiple items that need to cook at the same temperature, try to put them in the oven at the same time to help reduce the total amount of time that your oven is on.

Put your dishwasher to work

Give yourself a break after cooking and socializing by using the dishwasher instead of washing dishes by hand. Newer dishwashers are more energy-efficient than hand washing, so you can save money while you relax.

Curious to see how much it costs to cook your Thanksgiving meal? Check out pemc.coop/appliance-calculator to see how much it costs to use your kitchen appliances.

Implementing all of these tips can help you save energy, but you can save even more when you sign up for our free energy and money-saving programs. Learn more at pemc.coop/save-energy-money.

**Based on Information from Energy.gov and the USDA*

IMPORTANT DATES

November 11

Veterans Day

November 25-26

Thanksgiving

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

November 30

Giving Tuesday

Support our local community by donating to the Helping Hand Foundation at pemc.coop/donate.

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Want to get half-off your power this Thanksgiving?

Turn to page 19 to find out how!



Make an impact this Giving Tuesday - November 30

The Tuesday after Thanksgiving is known as Giving Tuesday, which is a day to give back to others by doing good. To participate in Giving Tuesday, all you have to do is commit to doing an act of generosity for someone else, whether a stranger, friend or neighbor.

This can be done through performing a random act of kindness, volunteering at a local organization or donating to an important cause. If you're looking for ways to make an impact in your own community this Giving Tuesday, consider giving to the Piedmont Electric Helping Hand Foundation which provides direct support to our members and your neighbors.

Thanks to your donations to the Helping Hand Foundation, our cooperative is able to:

- ♥ Provide energy assistance to members in need.
- ♥ Support local educators through Bright Ideas grants.
- ♥ Help students continue their education through college and community college scholarships.
- ♥ Support community organizations on projects such as public broadband and youth camps.
- ♥ And more!

How to support the Helping Hand Foundation

Unless you've opted out, you're already helping to support your fellow members by rounding up your bill each month to the nearest dollar.

If you'd like to make additional donations, there are several options available to you, all of which are tax-deductible.

- ⊕ Set up a one-time or recurring monthly donation on your bill through the SmartHub app or website.
- ⊕ Donate future capital credits through our capital credits beneficiary designation form.
- ⊕ Donate online through the Piedmont Electric Pay Now portal.
- ⊕ Donate by mail by sending a check made payable to "Helping Hand Foundation" to this address: Attn: Helping Hand Foundation, Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation, P.O. Drawer 1179, Hillsborough, NC 27278
- ⊕ Donate by phone when you call us at 800.222.3107.

While Giving Tuesday is one day a year, you can make your impact year-round right here in your own community by supporting the Helping Hand Foundation. We can't thank you enough for your support!

To learn more about how to contribute to the Helping Hand Foundation, please visit pemc.coop/donate or call us at 800.222.3107.



Get 50% off the energy you use on Thanksgiving (and beyond!)



Whether you're spending all day cooking in the kitchen or on the couch watching football with your family, Thanksgiving is a day of higher energy use.

However, when you sign up for our time-of-day rate, you'll get half-off the energy you use during off-peak times. This includes weekends and most holidays like Thanksgiving. This means you'll get 50 percent off the energy you use on Thanksgiving day plus unlock savings year-round!

Think of it this way; by signing up for half-priced power this Thanksgiving, you could have nearly four extra pumpkin pies* on your dessert table.

Plus, try this rate risk-free for a year and if you don't save compared to our regular rate, we'll refund you the difference, no questions asked.

Now that's something to be thankful for this year!

Visit pemc.coop/timeofday or call us at **800.222.3107** to learn how to sign up so you can pay a lower rate for the power you use.

**Calculation based on the 2020 average member savings of \$22 per month and a \$6 frozen pumpkin pie.*

TIME-OF-DAY

OFFICIAL NOTICE

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETS DECEMBER 4

Three seats on the Piedmont Electric board of directors are up for election in 2022. These seats are currently held by Stephen C. Long (District 4), Elizabeth (Beth) Townsend (District 6) and Sam T. Woods (District 9). As a reminder, there will be no voting at the annual meeting. All voting will be conducted online or by mail-in ballot.

The members serving on the nominating committee are:

SYLVIA WADE Rougemont, At Large	GREG MARTIN Mebane, District 2	DIANNE MURPHY Mebane, District 4	CORY MELTON Roxboro, District 6	ALVIS LONG Hillsborough, 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's name can be placed on the ballot for election.

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

Person County, sign up for internet now!

If you live in Person County, a new high-speed internet solution may be available to you, thanks to the RiverStreet Networks broadband program. Now, your home, business or farm can stay connected with faster, more reliable internet access right in your community.

Visit join.buildpiedmont.com or myriverstreet.net/piedmont to enter your address to see if you are eligible for service. If you are, a RiverStreet representative will reach out to you to help sign you up for high-speed internet today.

Free public WiFi available to our members

Piedmont Electric is providing free WiFi hotspots at our Person and Caswell County office parking lots and at the Cherry Grove Ruritan Club parking lot, in partnership with RiverStreet Networks. Individuals can access the internet from the safety of their vehicles. The free access name is PEMC-Free-WiFi at both locations. No password is needed.

LOCATIONS FOR FREE WIFI ACCESS

- **Cherry Grove Ruritan Club: 7152 Cherry Grove Road, Reidsville, NC 27320**
- **Person County: 1125 Oxford Road, Roxboro, NC 27573**
- **Caswell County: 64 Rascoe Dameron Road, Burlington, NC 27217**



PIEDMONT ELECTRIC CONNECTION

Published monthly for the members of Piedmont Electric Cooperative. Piedmont Electric Cooperative 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.
(Subject to change)

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 & General Manager

DIRECTORS

- Bill R. Barber, Chair
- Randy Kinley, Vice Chair
- Sam T. Woods, Secretary
- Richal Vanhook, Treasurer
- Steven P. Bailey, Stephen C. Long, V. Kay Scurlock-Ferguson, 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.