



# Pitt and Greene

## Electric Membership Corporation

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

*member newsletter*

*August, 2011*

### ***Pay Your Bill Online.....***

Utility payments can now be made online by check, debit or credit card. Visit our website at [www.pgemc.com](http://www.pgemc.com). On the home page you will see "Select One" hit the drop down button and choose "Pay My Bill" and follow the prompts to register. Not only can you pay your bill but you can view your payment history as well as your usage. For those of you who are going green you have the option to stop receiving bills in the mail. An email alert will let you know when your statement is ready to be viewed online. If you have any questions, please call and speak with a customer service representative at 252-753-3128.

### **Check To See If Your Name Is Listed Below**

Pitt & Greene Electric Membership Corporation is holding unclaimed checks for the names listed below. The owner may claim the check by contacting a Customer Service Representative at Pitt & Greene EMC at the address and/or telephone number listed in this newsletter. If satisfactory proof of claim is not presented by October 3, 2011, the law requires Pitt & Greene EMC to submit these checks to the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer to whom all further claims must be directed.

Adams, Candra Lea  
Albritton, Louise Ham  
Allen, Jeanette Dixon  
Altman, Mary Linda  
Arrington, Gloria J.  
Baker, Mildred B.  
Barnes, Nora Lee  
Beavers, Fannie M.  
Blue, Billy Dewayne  
Bottoms, Gregory Bryan  
Bowen, Elsie Ellis  
Brooks, Walter E.  
Burnette, Mary Emma  
Cherry, Jessica  
Coggins, Louise Norville  
Composter Property  
c/o Environmental Technology  
Cook, Andrew Bailey  
Cox, Lynn Jones  
Croom, Sean Kojak  
Cruickshank, William A.  
Cunningham, Deborah J.  
Dixon, Sharon Ann  
Edmondson, Velma Jean  
Ellis, Harvey Gray  
Exum, Takima Chanel  
Farmer, Staci Darlene

Finch, Andre  
Forbes, Latoya Renee  
Fulford, Carmen D.  
Gardner, Jeffrey T.  
Greenup, David L.  
Gregg, Bobbie Jean  
Hall, Douglas  
Hartsell, Connie A.  
Hedgepeth Jr., Nelson R.  
Hill, Andrea Donta  
Hill, Chelsea B.  
Himes, Jeffery Allen  
Hotaling, Donald Stewart  
Hurley, Jason D.  
Jin Jin Chinese Restaurant  
c/o Wei Liang Lin  
Johnson, Lisa Exum  
Jones, Daniel Adams  
Jones, Sandra Onita  
Joyner, John M.  
Lang, Henry  
Letchworth, Kenneth E.  
DBA Worth Products  
Mendez, Jesica  
Moore, Patrick Ryan  
Munoz-Gomez, Ma Teresa  
Newcome Jr., Roy Kenneth  
Nieto-Valdes, Santiago

O'Neal, Anthony Mark  
Ortiz-Adame, Rosa M.  
Patrick, Hugh Alton  
Perkins, Natalee Dawn  
Plymouth, Winona Platt  
Remsen, Cheryl C.  
Ruffin, April Anne  
Sharp, Benjimen David  
Skipper, Larry Warrington  
DBA Skipper's Well & Pump  
Smith, Amekea McDougald  
Smith, Brenda Dodd  
Taylor, Katherine L.  
Turner, Barbara Coates  
Victoriously Ours Variety LLC  
c/o Ella Stevenson  
Warren, Lorrie Ann  
West, Matthew M.  
West, Ronald Christopher  
Wilkins, Craig Allen  
Williams, Kelvin Lamonte  
Williams, Sudie Gray  
Williams, Timmy Eugene  
Winstead, Ashley Renee  
Wooten, Kendrick L.  
Wright, Jamie Lynn  
Zacharia Church  
c/o Frances Hall



## *Manager's Message*

*By: Mark A. Suggs*

Specially equipped transmission crews are on site repairing damage to the electric distribution and transmission system that resulted from the April 16, 2011 tornado that hit Greene County. Three major steel transmission structures were destroyed which limited the backup capabilities of our substations. New structures have now been built and delivered to the site on Mount Herman Church road. To complicate matters, both the transmission line and the distribution line at this location had major switches that were also destroyed. The work going on now will replace those pieces of equipment and we will regain valuable backup capabilities. This missing link was apparent on the afternoon of June 23<sup>rd</sup> when strong tornado like winds tore through the Walstonburg and Farmville communities. Members served by the Maury and Snow Hill substations experienced longer than expected outages because we had limited backup capabilities. By the time this newsletter gets to you, those facilities will be restored and we will be back to 100%.

This has truly been a year of unusual weather related damages and while we can't control the weather and the degree of damage we experience brought about by these storm's we can and do remain mindful of our members needs and make every effort to restore power as quickly as possible. The June 23<sup>rd</sup> storm caused sever damage as well and we want to thank the folks of Halifax EMC, Roanoke EMC and East Coast Power & Lighting for the additional manpower they provided to get us back up and going. We also want to thank you, the members, for your patience during these times. One can be amazed and proud to witness the power of cooperation among the cooperative family right here in North Carolina.

Even with all the storm related activities, we are proud to report that progress on the automated metering system continues to be on schedule. To date, some 4,000 meters have been replaced. Testing of the system is complete and the meters that have already been installed are now being read remotely. Still, there is a lot of work to be done to complete the project by years end. Thank you for your patience as our work continues.



## Insulating Your Attic: More Is Better

Is there enough insulation in your attic? This question is especially important if you live in an older home. They tend to have less attic insulation than newer ones. By adding insulation, you can improve your home's energy efficiency and save money. Here's a tip that can help reduce your energy consumption, and your electric bills.

With adequate attic insulation, your home's heating/cooling system will operate more efficiently. It will keep you cooler in the summer and warmer in winter, and it will keep more money in your wallet.

Before adding insulation to your attic, determine how much insulation is already installed, what kind it is, and how thick it is. Next, you'll need to know the R-value of existing attic insulation. The R-value indicates the insulation's resistance to heat. The higher the R-value, the greater the insulating effectiveness. Once you know the R-value, you can determine how much insulation to add by using the U.S. Department of Energy's Zip Code Insulation Program by visiting [www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov).

Now you're ready to decide what kind of insulation to install: loose-fill or blanket (batt and roll) insulation. Loose-fill insulation consists of small particles of fiber, foam, or other materials. Blanket insulation, the most common and widely available type of insulation, comes in the form of batts and rolls made from mineral wool, plastic fibers, and natural fibers. Loose-fill insulation is usually less expensive to install than batt insulation. And when installed properly, loose-fill insulation can provide better coverage.

For other tips on how to save energy and money visit [www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov) or [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com).

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## Treat Power Tools With Care

Before you fire up that power tool for your next do-it-yourself home project, remember these electrical devices must be treated with care. Even though many tools are equipped with safety mechanisms, it's still important to heed precautions. Keep in mind these tips from the U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) when using power tools:

- Do not carry tools by their cords.
- Pull the cord out of the outlet by the plug, not by pulling on the cord.
- Do not use in a wet or damp job site, unless the tool is specifically approved for those conditions. Store them in a dry place when not being used.
- While carrying a tool, do not touch the switch or trigger that operates it to avoid accidental starts.
- Ensure your work area is well-lit.
- Unplug tools when cleaning or fixing, while changing other parts of the tool such as blades or bits, and when not in use.
- Ensure that all extension cords are not worn or frayed.
- Wear proper clothing – no ties, jewelry, or other loose items that could get caught.

Whether you're on the job or working at home, staying safe around power tools is a must. Following a few rules could mean the difference between a successful project and an accident.

# Grill Safety Tips

As the cooler weather approaches and football season gears up, we can count on more North Carolinians firing up their grills. However, the National Fire Protection Association estimates that grills caused approximately 8,000 fires from 2004-2008, so before you start grilling this fall, take a moment to become familiar with a few simple safety tips.

## Before Starting the Grill

- Position your grill at least three feet away from all objects, including your house, deck rails, and any shrubs or bushes.
- Check the connection between the propane tank and the fuel line to make sure that it is not leaking. Do not use a match to check leaks. If you detect a leak, turn off the gas immediately and do not attempt to light the grill again until you have had the leak fixed by a professional.
- Check for broken parts, rust or any other structural damage and replace any part that needs attention.
- Only use starter fluid that is made for grills when starting a fire in a charcoal grill. This fluid is made to minimize flare-ups.

## When You're Grilling

- Keep all children and pets away from the grill until it is completely cool.
- Avoid wearing exceptionally loose-fitting clothing when grilling. Be especially careful to not wear loose-fitting sleeves because they could catch on fire.
- To avoid burns and splatters, use tongs or spatulas with long handles when turning food on the grill.
- Keep your grill clean to minimize flare-ups.

## Other Grilling Safety Tips

- Never bring a grill indoors or into any unventilated space. This creates fire and carbon monoxide hazards.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when starting and operating your grill.

Go ahead and make your next mouth-watering meal on the grill. With these tips in mind, you'll stay safe while enjoying time outdoors with family, friends and good food.



### Energy Efficiency

### *Tip of the Month*

Is your washing machine more than 10 years old? According to the U.S. Department of Energy, families can cut related energy costs by more than a third—and water costs by more than half—by purchasing a clothes washer with an ENERGY STAR label. Choose a front-load or redesigned top-load model.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

De lunes a viernes de 8:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m.

252-753-3128 ó 1-800-622-1362

Snow Hill

De lunes a viernes

De 8:00 a.m. a 12:30 p.m. y de 1:30 p.m. a 5:00 p.m.

252-747-7600

CORTES DE SUMINISTRO ELÉCTRICO Y

EMERGENCIAS:

Durante fines de semana, días festivos y después del horario de oficina

252-753-8778

## Co-op Office Hours

Farmville

Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**252-753-3128 or 1-800-622-1362**

Snow Hill

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

**252-747-7600**

**POWER OUTAGES & EMERGENCIAS**

During weekends, holidays and after office hours

**252-753-8778**