



Pitt and Greene

Electric Membership Corporation

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

“Where Customers Have A Choice”

June 2018

Member Newsletter

Increase Energy Savings

Adding a few items to your list of spring chores can help make your home more energy efficient and deliver electric bills that won't make you sweat when temperatures soar.

Spring and early summer are good times to make sure that your air conditioning unit is ready to work when you flip the switch:

- Get help from a professional who can inspect and service your unit.
- Give your air conditioner a do-it-yourself cleaning. Shut the unit off, and clear away leaves and yard debris outside. Inside the unit, clean or replace filters that can restrict air flow and reduce overall efficiency by making the air conditioner work harder on hot summer days. Dust the fan blades if you can do so safely. Make sure air can flow freely over the inside and outside coils. Vacuum registers to remove any dust buildup.
- Check weather stripping. When using window units, ensure that weather stripping is in place. Placement should be between the middle of the top window pane and the bottom pane.

Check out your roof. See how well your roof has weathered the winter. Few things can shorten the life of your home faster than a roof leak, even a minor one can damage your attic insulation before you know it. A roofing professional can assess and repair things like loose or missing shingles, repair leaks, and clear gutters.

You can also visit TogetherWeSave.com to find out how little measures around the house can add up to big energy savings as temperatures outside climb.

Change Habits To Beat The Peak

Laundry for less:

Full loads mean fewer cycles, and washers and dryers that run in the late evenings add less heat and humidity to the home. Energy can cost less outside of peak hours.

Cool Off:

Turn off unnecessary lighting and electronics that generate heat. Resist the urge to move the thermostat to a lower setting, the lower the thermostat setting the more energy is used.

Intramural Competition:

Online gaming with each active player using their own computer, display gaming console and internet connection gets pricey. Play each other at home on one screen and save.

Countertop Convenience:

Range or oven cooking can really warm up a kitchen. Microwaves, convection ovens, induction cooktops, Crock-Pot and toaster ovens put more cooking heat where you need it.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Laundry Tip: Use rubber or wool dryer balls, which help separate clothing in the cycle, providing better airflow and a shorter drying time. Wool dryer balls can help absorb moisture, which also reduces drying time.

Source: energy.gov





Manager's Message

By: Mark A. Suggs

Co-ops to Congress: Fund Rural Broadband

Congress has a good opportunity this year—actually, more than one—to jump-start rural economies and promote rural broadband deployment. The Trump administration and lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have expressed support for funding rural broadband to help bridge the digital divide, so the political climate is right for striking a deal that makes a significant down payment toward this goal.

The Bipartisan Budget Agreement enacted in February contained a \$20 billion “infrastructure initiative” for fiscal years 2018 and 2019. House and Senate appropriators could set aside some of this funding for broadband in spending bills for either of the two years.

In order to maximize the impact of those funds, America’s electric cooperatives urged Congress to dedicate some of this funding to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Rural Utilities Service for rural broadband deployment, disbursing the funds through loans and grants to qualified organizations, including electric co-ops.

Another piece of legislation to be considered by Congress this year is the Farm Bill, which is reauthorized every five years. The bill sets the nation’s food and agriculture policy, affecting everything from what crops are grown to funding for food nutrition programs. But the bill also sets funding levels for many programs important to electric co-ops run by USDA—again, a possible source of broadband funding.

Finally, there has been plenty of discussions on Capitol Hill and within the administration on moving legislation to deal with the nation’s aging infrastructure. Roads and bridges are often the first topic of any infrastructure conversation. But in the modern economy, gleaming roads and bridges are irrelevant if they lead to rural communities that lack high-speed internet access. Quality broadband service is a necessity, not a luxury, in the 21st century economy and should be addressed by any proposed infrastructure package.

Whichever path Congress chooses, the imperative of funding rural broadband can’t be understated.

Rural America faces stiff economic challenges. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, less than 15 percent of American businesses are located in rural areas and small towns. Inadequate broadband ac-

cess is making this problem worse and contributing to the exodus of talented, young people.

Access to broadband also is essential for modern education, health care and business. But at least 23 million rural Americans lack access to high-speed internet. We can’t turn our backs on this digital divide.

For more than 75 years, America’s electric cooperatives have powered local economies across 56 percent of the nation’s landmass. As times and technology change, broadband has become an indispensable part of electric utility operations – extending beyond the electric meter and into household energy management. These state-of-the-art energy efficiency services increasingly require access to high speed internet.

Now, nearly 100 electric co-ops are reinvesting in rural America by bringing high-speed internet access to rural homes, businesses and schools. This connectivity serves two key purposes: bridging the digital divide for co-op members and enhancing the co-op business operation network, allowing the co-op and members to adopt emerging energy management technology. These newly connected co-op communities are proven to create jobs, attract new employers and directly jump-start local economies.

The convergence of new technology and partnerships has made rural broadband deployment more achievable than ever. As electric cooperatives work to bring broadband to rural America, some have formed innovative partnerships with local telecom companies and others.

Yet despite these advances, the high cost of rural broadband deployment remains the biggest obstacle to successfully closing the digital divide. Rural service territory is often rugged and remote, which drives up the cost of deployment. At the same time, there are fewer customers to defray the costs.

That’s why an expanded combination of federal grant and loan funding is essential. An infrastructure package, the Farm Bill and annual appropriations bills present opportunities to secure that necessary financial backstop.

What’s good for rural America is good for the entire nation. We can’t afford to leave our rural communities behind. Now it is time for Congress to allocate the necessary funding so that all Americans can enjoy quality broadband service.

Independent Auditor's Report

**To the Board of Directors
Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation
Farmville, North Carolina**

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation, which comprise the balance sheets as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related statements of revenue and expenses, changes in members' equity and cash flows for the years then ended and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance in accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

RSM US LLP
Morehead City, North Carolina
March 26, 2018

Do you or a loved one rely on medical equipment that is supplied by electricity? If so, do you know what you will do if the lights are out for an extended length of time due to damage caused by a storm, tornado or hurricane?

Now is the time to put a backup plan in place in the event power is knocked out. We will restore power as soon as possible, but depending on the type of damage caused and where the damage may be, we cannot guarantee how long you may be affected by an outage.

Important Sales and Use Tax Notice

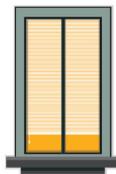
A purchaser (farmers, manufacturers and commercial laundries) that is eligible for a preferential tax rate on electricity should complete and furnish the seller/ electricity supplier Form E-595E, Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement Certificate of Exemption, to take advantage of qualifying reductions.

*Pitt & Greene EMC
will be closed
Wednesday, July 4th
in observance of
Independence Day.*

Happy July 4th

Summer Energy-Saving Tips

Costs associated with cooling your home can make up a large portion of your summer electric bills. Stay cool and save money with these energy efficiency tips!



NO-COST TIPS

Close blinds and drapes during the day to keep heat out.



Set your thermostat to 78 degrees when you are home. Set it to a higher temperature when you're away.



Turn off lights and ceiling fans when you leave a room.



LOW-COST TIPS

Plant trees and shrubs to shade the exterior of your home.



Replace disposable air filters (or clean permanent filters) once a month to maximize efficiency.



Use solar lighting to brighten up your outdoor space. Solar lights are easy to install, low maintenance and provide free electricity.

De lunes a viernes de 8:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m.
252-753-3128 / 1-800-622-1362 / 252-747-7600

Co-op Office Hours
Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
252-753-3128 / 1-800-622-1362 / 252-747-7600

CORTES DE SUMINISTRO ELÉCTRICO Y EMERGENCIAS:
Durante fines de semana, días festivos y después del horario de oficina
252-753-8778

POWER OUTAGES & EMERGENCIAS
During weekends, holidays and after office hours
252-753-8778