



Pitt and Greene

Electric Membership Corporation

“Where Customers Have A Choice”

Member Newsletter

June 2020

Making payments on Member accounts

Members who call the office to make a Debit or Credit card payment on their account will now be directed to an automated telephone payment system. In order to successfully use the automated phone system you will need to have your account number. If you need assistance with your account number, need to update your phone number or add a secondary contact to your account, please call Pitt & Greene EMC at 252-753-3128. You may also dial **252-643-5643** to directly enter your account number and make a payment. This change is being made due to Federal Regulation in order to protect our members personal financial information. Cooperative representatives will still be available, as they have in the past, to help with additional business our membership may have regarding an account.



ELECTRICAL SAFETY

While Working From Home

⚡ Do you have a **home office** or **work from home**? Follow these **electrical safety tips** to keep you and your home safe from electrical hazards.



1 Avoid **overloading outlets**.



2 **Unplug appliances** when not in use to save energy and minimize the risk of shock and fire.



3 **Regularly inspect** electrical cords and extension cords for damage.



4 Extension cords should only be used on a **temporary basis**.



5 Never plug a space heater or fan into an **extension cord** or power strip.



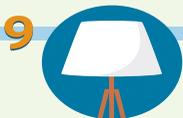
6 Never run cords under **rugs / carpets, doors, or windows**.



7 **Plug in smartly**. Make sure cords do not become tripping hazards.



8 Keep papers and other potential combustibles at least **three feet away** from space heaters and other heat sources.



9 Make sure you use **proper wattage** for lamps / lighting.



10 Make sure your home has **smoke alarms**. Test them monthly, change batteries yearly, and replace the unit every 10 years.

Wherever you work, it's always important to be safe.



Manager's Message

By: Mark A. Suggs

Home Solar Offerings Warrant Careful Consideration

North Carolina may be home to some unscrupulous marketers misleading consumers with offers to go solar and eliminate the electric bill. When you consider all capital and finance costs, solar is not cheaper than residential and small commercial electric rates offered by North Carolina utilities. Even after applying rebates and tax credits, it could take years to break even.

Study the offers. Beware of sales gimmicks that predict electric rates will rise 4 to 6 percent annually. Pitt and Greene EMC's last rate adjustment was over eleven years ago. Ask for actual installation results of the kilowatt-hours to be delivered by the system over time as well as a list of clients whom you can contact and get actual comparative results and experiences. Request plain language explanations of pricing terms over the life of the contract, warranties, operations, maintenance costs and responsibilities. The lowest cost option for solar arrays may not even be a lease but paying cash or using a home equity loan and taking the 30 percent federal tax credit oneself.

Think twice about solar back-up systems. Before investing in a solar battery backup system at \$5000 to \$10,000 every 10 years or so, be sure to weigh that cost against more practical investments in nonperishable foods and other goods necessary to ride out those rare power outages. If backup power is necessary, a standby generator is likely more cost-effective.

Speak with real estate appraisers. Even if cost calculations suggest you will break even in 15 to 20 years; it may not be a good idea to install solar if you may move before then. A solar array may be a selling point in some communities, but in others it can be a liability that harms resale value. Few buyers are willing to have arrays on their houses, much less willing to assume leases of older, less efficient equipment.

What about roof replacement? If the roof must be replaced the panels have to be removed and then reinstalled after the new roof is put on. What will this cost?

Be aware of restrictions. Some developments may require that solar arrays not be visible from the road. Considering the arrays perform best when facing south, this may limit your options. If you have trees that shade your home, your house may stay cooler with the shade and save you more money than cutting down trees to install solar. Make sure the orientation of your roof offers full exposure to the path of the sun, otherwise you will not get the full benefit of the panels.

Before investing a large amount of money in a home solar system in hopes of saving a few dollars a month, have an energy audit performed on your home to see if there are other things that could be done to save energy costs every month. As consumer protections develop, technology improves and prices decline, solar energy shows great promise under the right application. Please, be an informed investor and make your choices wisely. Don't hesitate to call us if you have questions regarding your plans.

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors
Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation
Farmville, NC

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, 2019 and 2018, 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 judgement, 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, 2019 and 2018, and the results of its operation 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 27, 2020

FREE WI-FI IN THE PARKING AREA available 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

At Pitt and Greene EMC we understand the importance of having reliable internet service available. Especially now more than ever since children are having to be homeschooled due to the Coronavirus. To help those students who may not have internet service or service that is reliable, we have installed free Wi-Fi at our Farmville and Snow Hill offices. Please feel free to park in our parking lot and take advantage of this free service. Together we will get through the COVID-19 crisis.

Please make room for roadside crews

When the power goes out, so do Pitt & Greene EMC's line crews. Lineworkers are the first to respond after an outage occurs, and they work tirelessly to restore power to the communities we serve.

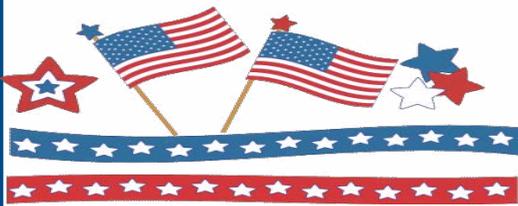
If you're traveling and see one of our Pitt & Greene crews on the side of the road, we kindly ask that you move over if possible and give them a little extra space to work. We deeply care about the safety of all, and this extra precaution ensures just that.

If you approach a Pitt & Greene line crew while traveling on a two-lane road, moving over to the next lane might not be an option. In this case, we simply ask that you slow down when approaching roadside crews. If you approach a crew while traveling on a four-lane road, and safety and traffic conditions allow, we ask that you move over into the far lane.

Utility crews aren't the only ones who could use the extra space. Emergency responders, such as police officers, firefighters and emergency medical technicians, often find themselves responding to emergency situations near busy roadways. We ask that you follow the same procedures mentioned above to help keep these crews safe.

There's plenty of room for all. Let's work together to keep everyone safe on our local roadways.

***Pitt & Greene EMC will be closed
Friday July 3, 2020 in
observance of Independence Day.***



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Home cooling makes up a large portion of your energy bills. Try to keep the difference between the temperature of your thermostat setting and the outside temperature to a minimum. The smaller the difference, the more energy you will save.



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

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

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