

Wake ElectriConnection

For members of Wake Electric Membership Corporation



"The power to make a difference"

FEBRUARY 2011

Attention All Members: Join Us for Wake Electric's Annual Meeting March 25

Event offers important co-op information, prizes and fellowship



Jim Mangum,
General Manager
and CEO

Join us for Wake Electric's Annual Meeting on March 25 at Louisburg College Auditorium. It is one meeting you don't want to miss! During this meeting, members will have the opportunity to hear reports on the current plans and progress of Wake Electric, as well as have the chance to ask questions about your co-op.

This year, our meeting will focus on three main topics: 1) the transition from coal to natural gas in our generation mix, 2) meeting "legislative mandates" for renewable energy, and 3) new technology coming soon to help members conserve energy. It is an exciting time at Wake Electric, and we look forward to keeping the membership abreast on all the many challenges and opportunities Wake Electric will encounter in 2011.

Members in attendance will be entered into a drawing for \$5,000 in cash prizes. The Grand Prize will be \$1,000. There is also two second-place prizes of \$500 each, four third-place prizes of \$250 each and 20 fourth-place prizes of \$100 each. There will also be special activities for school-aged children during the meeting.

Members in attendance will also receive a free gift bag from Wake Electric (one gift bag per household) and other freebies from our participating vendors.

Be on the lookout in your March edition of Carolina Country for the special cover wrap. On that cover, you will find an official registration card with your member number on it. Bring this card to the meeting to enter the prize drawings.

Registration for the Annual Meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. The business meeting begins at 7 p.m. and the

cash prize drawing will be at the close of the business meeting, which typically ends around 8 p.m. The Louisburg College Auditorium is located at 501 Main Street, Louisburg.

For more information on the Annual Meeting, please visit www.wemc.com/annualmeeting.aspx or contact us at (919) 863-6300 or (toll free) at (800) 474-6300. You can also e-mail us with questions at information@wemc.com. We hope to see you there!

Wake Electric Accepting Applications for Touchstone Energy Sports Camps

Wake Electric is providing all-expenses-paid scholarships for one deserving young woman to attend the Kellie Harper Basketball Camp at NC State in Raleigh and one young man to attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at UNC in Chapel Hill this summer.

Rising sixth through rising eighth graders are eligible to apply and the deadline to apply is Thursday, March 31. For more information or to download an application, visit www.wemc.com/basketball.aspx.



 Wake Electric
Membership Corporation

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Call to report outages: 919.863.6499 or 800.743.3155
Regular office hours: M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Telephone hours: M-F, 7 a.m.-9 p.m., 863.6300 or 800.474.6300
Underground locating service: Call 811

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard Legislation...

... And what this means for Wake Electric and its members

A new law was set forth in August of 2007 by the North Carolina General Assembly called the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (REPS). This legislation mandates that 10 percent of the energy that electric cooperatives sell is created through renewable energy resources or by energy efficiency measures by 2018.

Wake Electric is striving to meet this mandate in many ways, including:

- ★ The use of renewable fuels in existing electric generating facilities
- ★ The generation of power at new renewable energy facilities
- ★ The purchase of power from renewable energy facilities
- ★ The purchase of renewable energy certificates through organizations such as NC GreenPower

It is important to remember, however, that renewable energy resources are more expensive than traditional generation facilities. A good part of Wake Electric's plan to meet the state's REPS mandate focuses on energy efficiency, which is the more economical and attainable part of the legislation.

Helping our members to use energy more wisely not only works toward meeting the REPS mandate, but it will also help members manage their electric bills.

In 2011, Wake Electric is rolling out a new program called Wake's Monitor & Manage Program. This exciting new program will offer members three options to help you better monitor, manage and conserve on your monthly electric bill.

HOME MONITORING WITH ENERGY AUTOMATION & CONTROL

This program will offer members an unprecedented amount of choice

and control over how they use energy. The technology will allow you to eliminate energy consumption created by electric appliances while you are away from your home or when they are not needed.

Wake Electric is proud to do its part to help meet the growing need for electricity across our state and country, in the most environmentally friendly way possible. Stay tuned for more information on the exciting new offerings available to members in 2011. The new programs will help the co-op meet the REPS mandate, but more importantly, the programs will help better serve you, the members."



ONLINE ENERGY MONITORING TOOLS

This program utilizes our "smart grid" communications network to collect usage data from each home. This information will be available to members so that they can make informed decisions about energy usage.

PRE-PAY SERVICES

This program will allow members to maintain flexible payment options and better usage information. It is designed to allow members to pay for electricity as they need it, and it is a great alternative to paying high security deposits since electricity is purchased prior to use.

Wake Electric has already implemented the following energy efficiency measures and will continue to do so in 2011 to help meet the required REPS mandates:

- ★ Providing energy savings compact fluorescent lights (CFL's) to members as part of a state-approved energy efficiency program
- ★ Offering information on no-cost and low-cost energy efficiency measures in the newsletter and via our website at www.wemc.com
- ★ Working with our Commercial & Industrial members to help them find energy efficiency solutions
- ★ Participating in GreenCo Solutions, a not-for-profit company formed by a majority of North Carolina's electric cooperatives, which focuses on energy efficiency initiatives and renewable resources, such as solar and wind power.

As communicated previously to the membership, Wake Electric had to implement a REPS Compliance Charge on your monthly electric bill to help the co-op accrue the money required to accomplish the REPS mandate set forth by the state's legislation. This charge was implemented in January 2010. For more information on the REPS Compliance Charge, please visit www.wemc.com/documents/wake-1109.PDF.

MAC Meetings Are Right Around the Corner

Do you want to discuss recent energy legislation and electric utility issues that matter to you? Then join Wake Electric at one of its Member Advisory Committee (MAC) meetings on Tuesday, February 15, Wednesday, February 16, or Monday, February 21. All members are invited to meet and talk with members of the Wake Electric management team.

Dinner is included for all attendees and there will be several drawings for a \$25 credit on your next electric bill. All February MAC meetings will be held at Wake Electric's Youngsville office at 228 Park Avenue at 6:30 p.m. For more information on the meetings or how to RSVP, visit www.wemc.com/membermeetings.aspx.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP Wash Your Clothes in Cold Water

Ninety percent of the energy it takes to wash clothes is used to heat water. If you wash in cold water, you could save \$40 per year if you have an electric water heater and \$30 annually if you have one powered by natural gas.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

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Deadlines Coming Up in March for Youth Tour and Wake Electric's Scholarship Program

WAKE ELECTRIC SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR 2011 YOUTH TOUR

Wake Electric seeks applicants for a \$1,000 scholarship for college, plus a free, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for the 2011 Rural Electric Youth Tour. The trip will be from June 11–17, 2011.



Applicants must be current high school juniors living in Wake, Durham, Johnston, Vance, Granville, Nash, or Franklin counties. Students do not have to live in households served by Wake Electric in order to win.

For more information on eligibility or to download an application, please visit www.wemc.com/youthtours.aspx.

WAKE ELECTRIC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Wake Electric is currently seeking students to apply for its scholarship program. Students can apply for the coveted Fred M. Alford Scholarship (\$2,000), as well as 16 Touchstone Energy Scholarships (each \$1,250).

All applications will be under consideration for one of the two scholarship categories. Students only need to submit one application to be considered for both scholarship programs.

To find out the requirements for both scholarships and to download an application, please visit www.wemc.com/scholarships.aspx.

DEADLINES FOR BOTH PROGRAMS

The deadline for Youth tour and Wake Electric's Scholarship Program is Friday, March 11. Questions about either program? Just contact Wake Electric at communications@wemc.com or (919) 863-6312.



Tips To Help You Stay Safe at Work

Most people are fortunate to enjoy safe working conditions, but potential hazards that could cause harm to you or your co-workers do exist in work places. It's easy to overlook safety hazards at work, but remember, you spend about one-third of your time there. Take a few minutes to consider, and follow, these tips:

- ★ Never overload wall sockets and extension cords in your office or cubicle.
- ★ To remove a plug from an outlet, firmly grip the plug and pull it from the outlet. Never pull a plug by the cord.
- ★ Replace all cords in your office that are frayed or worn.
- ★ Be careful with connections behind furniture: Files and bookcases may push against plugs in electrical outlets, severely bending the cord at the plug and causing damage.
- ★ Extension cords should only be used on a temporary basis and should be unplugged at night. Never run extension cords across walkways or aisles.
- ★ Disconnect electrical machines before cleaning or adjusting.
- ★ Familiarize yourself with any emergency evacuation routes.
- ★ Do not use or bring coffee makers, radios, lamps, etc., that are poorly maintained, unsafe or low in quality. If your office has a facilities manager or safety specialist, have that person inspect these types of items, even if they're new, before use.