

Wake ElectriConnection

For members of Wake Electric Membership Corporation



"The power to make a difference"

SEPTEMBER 2008

Wake Electric and ACE Home Centers offer special deal to members

Local cooperatives are working together to help their members save money—that's what the partnership between Wake Electric and Ace Home Centers of Youngsville, Zebulon, Creedmoor, and Louisburg is all about.

Inside of this month's Carolina Country, Wake Electric members will receive an INSTANT SAVINGS COUPON that enables them to purchase Energy Star® compact fluorescent bulbs from participating Ace Home Centers at a substantial savings.

How much of a savings? Well, let's just say that it's a deal you'll be hard pressed to find anywhere else!

Members will be able to use the coupon to purchase a 5-pack of 60, 75, or 100 watt equivalent bulbs for only \$6.99.

We hope that all of our members will use this special incentive offer.

Instant savings on CFLs and years of savings on your electric bill when you install them in your home—now that's a great deal and a wise investment no matter how you look at it!



Members could win \$150 by simply changing a light bulb!

Wake EMC is encouraging members to replace their old incandescent light bulbs with Energy Star® fluorescent bulbs by December 31, 2008. Two winners will receive a \$150 credit on their electric bill. Winners will be notified in January 2009.

All the member has to do is mail-in or drop-off a receipt that shows a compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) purchase made between September 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008. On the back of the receipt, the member must include an account number, name, email address (if applicable), and a telephone number to be entered in our drawing. If all of this information is NOT included, the entry will be null and void.

Only ONE receipt per member household can be entered. The number/quantity of CFLs purchased does not matter—as long as there is at least one CFL purchase listed on the receipt.

Only two lucky members will win the \$150 credit on their electric bill, but every member that installs a fluorescent bulb in their home or business stands to save as much as \$30 per year.

All receipts must be received at our office by 5 p.m. on December 31, 2008, in order to be eligible for the drawing.

Receipts may be enclosed in the electric bill or mailed separately and directly to:

Wake Electric
Attention: Change a Light Program
P.O. Box 1229
Wake Forest, NC 27588

WIN \$150 CREDIT!



 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

Wake Electric seeks Classroom Technology Award grant applicants



Wake Electric seeks applicants for its Classroom Technology Awards grant program.

The company will award grants to North Carolina teachers serving grades K–12 and area community colleges to be used during the 2008–2009 school year. Grants will be awarded in any discipline for specific technology such as computers, digital cameras, scanners, and software. The technology must benefit the students in the classroom.

Public school teachers in Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash,

Vance and Wake counties are eligible to apply.

The final deadline to submit all grants is Sept. 19.

For more information or to apply go to www.wemc.com or call Angela Perez, Public Relations/Communications Specialist at 919.863.6376 or 1.800.474.6300.

Funding for community projects are made possible by Wake Electric member-consumers and Wake Electric employees through the Operation Round-Up® Program.

Bright Ideas deadline on the horizon

Wake Electric reminds area teachers that the deadline for Bright Ideas grant application submission is fast approaching. The final deadline to submit all grants is September 26.

All North Carolina certified K–12 teachers are eligible for a Bright Ideas grant, the only program exclusively for the state's classroom educators. Wake Electric will award grants in November for innovative instructional projects that teachers will execute during the 2008–2009 school year. Wake Electric Bright Ideas grants are awarded to teachers serving grades K–12 in Durham, Granville, Franklin, Johnston, Wake, Vance, and Nash counties, and are awarded for projects in any discipline as long as they use creative teaching techniques to improve instruction. Projects are eligible for grants of up to \$1,500.

For information or to apply go to www.ncbrightideas.com. Only online applications will be accepted.



**BRIGHT
IDEAS**

Follow precautions when working outside

Late summer and early fall often finds many of us working outdoors before the weather turns cooler, but these outdoor chores require caution, especially around electricity. Faulty extension cords are a common source of injury, as are metal ladders coming into contact with overhead power lines. Here are some safety tips to follow when working outside:

EXTENSION CORDS AND POWER TOOLS

- ★ Check power tools and electrical cords to make sure they are in good repair, and only use power tools outside that are designed for outdoor use.
- ★ Extension cords should also be designed for outdoor use. They are thicker, more durable, and have features for preventing moisture damage.
- ★ Use three-wire extension cords with three-pronged plugs.

Apartment living: Ideas for reducing energy costs

Simple energy conservation measures can lower your utility bills while increasing the comfort of your apartment. Although your landlord or management company is ultimately responsible for your building's energy efficiency, you can make money-saving energy decisions. Many ways for cutting electricity costs in houses also apply to apartments. You can reduce electricity use by focusing on these areas. (You might need permission from your landlord or management company to implement and/or do some of the work on some tips.):

APPLIANCES AND ELECTRONICS

Purchase energy-efficient products and utilize any efficiency-related settings. These include microwaves, toasters, computers, alarm clocks, televisions, stereos, DVD players, and room air conditioners, etc.

LIGHTING

Purchase energy-efficient lighting products, like compact fluorescent lamps. Switch lights off when not in use, and incorporate more daylight into your apartment through windows and window treatments.

HEATING AND COOLING

You might need permission from your landlord or management company to implement some of these, or ask that they do the work:

Caulk and weather strip around windows and exterior doors.

Carefully select, install, and use window treatments or coverings.

WATER HEATING

Again, you might need permission from your landlord or management company to implement some of these:

- ★ Reduce hot water use.
- ★ Lower your water heating temperature.
- ★ Insulate your water heater tank and pipes.
- ★ Install a timer and use off-peak power.

For more information on energy efficiency, visit www.eere.energy.gov



Incorporate more daylight into your apartment through windows and window treatments.

Stay safe during, after fall storms

Late summer and early fall often bring hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods to much of North America. As a result, take precautions with your home's electrical system.

Keep in mind that debris from storms can easily ignite if it comes into contact with downed power lines, especially when electrical wires are severed. Also, standing water and even appliances can become electrically charged. These tips should help keep you safe following storms this season:

GENERAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY

- ★ Never touch a downed power line. Call your electric co-op to report it immediately. Avoid contact with overhead lines during cleanup and other activities. Assume all wires on the ground are electrically charged.
- ★ Be sure all electric and gas services are turned off before entering buildings for the first time.
- ★ If water has risen above the electrical outlets in your home, contact a licensed electrician before turning on your main circuit breaker. Outlets and wiring that have come in contact with water could present a fire and shock hazard.
- ★ Allow all electrical appliances and electronic equipment, once submerged, to dry thoroughly. Have them checked by a qualified repair person before turning them on.
- ★ Look for and replace damaged extension and appliance cords, loose prongs, or plugs.

Follow precautions

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- ★ Check the amperage rating of the extension cord to make sure it's large enough to meet the power demand of the tool.
- ★ Do not plug one extension cord into another. Use the proper length for the job.

LADDERS

- ★ If you must use a metal ladder, carefully check the location of all overhead power lines to avoid contacting the wire or touching the ladder to something that touches the electrical source, such as a tree branch.
- ★ Lower a ladder before carrying or moving it.
- ★ Never work on a windy day, as a gust of wind could shift a ladder into an overhead power line.



GENERATOR SAFETY

- ★ Portable electric generators are often put into use for temporary power. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's directions for installation and operation.
- ★ Use generators or other fuel-powered machines outside the home. Carbon monoxide fumes are odorless and can quickly poison you indoors.
- ★ Take special care not to overload the generator. Use appropriately sized extension cords to carry the electric load. Make sure the cords have a grounded, three-pronged plug and are in good condition.
- ★ Never run cords under rugs or carpets.
- ★ Never connect generators to another power source such as power lines. The reverse flow of electricity can electrocute an unsuspecting utility worker.

Sources: U.S. Fire Administration, www.usfa.fema.gov; Consumer Product Safety Commission, www.cpsc.gov; Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service

Wake ElectriConnection

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