

MEMBER

News

From Cedar Island to Cedar Point
and many places in between

A newsletter for members of Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative

October 2006

Join us for Member Appreciation Day

For more than 65 years, Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative has had a unique relationship with its consumers, and the employees want to show their appreciation for the 30,000-plus people the cooperative serves in Carteret, Craven, Jones and Onslow counties.

CCEC will have a "Member Appreciation Day" on Thursday, Oct. 12, at its offices on Highway 24 west of Morehead City and in Havelock.

Light refreshments will be served throughout the day at both offices. Special events are scheduled

from 11 to 2 p.m. at the Highway 24 office, where members will be treated to a hotdog meal as well as pole-top rescue, bucket truck and safety demonstrations.

Just turn where you see the big, colorful Touchstone Energy balloon and you will know you are at the right place. Rain date will be Thursday, Oct. 19.

Throughout the day, members can register for a variety of prizes. If you can't make it to either office, you can register online by going to www.carteretcravenelectric.coop.

This member appreciation event coincides with National Cooperative Month, which recognizes the important role cooperative businesses play in the United States.

Did you know?

- Cooperative businesses generated more than \$210 billion in 2005, and employed more than half a million Americans.
- More than 21,360 agriculture, farm credit, electric, food and housing cooperatives identified by the

National Cooperative Month Planning Committee serve more than 130 million people in the U.S., and 37 million of those members of electric cooperatives.

- The power lines of electric cooperatives cover more than three-quarters of the U.S. land mass.

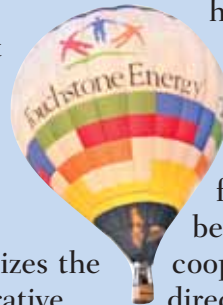
What does it mean to be a member of an electric cooperative?

It means that you're not only a consumer, you're also part-owner of the utility that brings electricity to your home or business.

Cooperatives are owned and controlled by the consumers they serve. In fact, qualified members can run for the cooperative's board of directors and be part of its decision-making process.

You can also participate by attending meetings and voting for your directors.

Help CCEC celebrate by committing to be more active and by learning more about the cooperative through such events as Member Appreciation Day and the Annual Meeting of the Membership, which is conducted the first Thursday in May.



on the web

Members can register for prizes online at:

www.carteretcravenelectric.coop



Electricity safe bet for winter heating

With a very hot summer and high cooling bills almost behind us, you might wonder if you could save money this winter by switching from your electric heat pump system to an alternative heating source.

"If you want to place a safe bet, stay with electricity. Since 1986, the cost of electricity has remained relatively stable compared to natural gas, propane or heating oil," said Gary Zajac, Vice President of Marketing and External Affairs at the cooperative. "The price of these fossil fuels has been far more volatile, which can make them risky choices for home heating."



Gary Zajac,
VP, Marketing &
External Affairs

Compared to other states, North Carolina's average electricity rate is moderate. But, if you have lived somewhere like Kentucky,

where the coal used to generate electricity is plentiful and more readily available, you've enjoyed relatively low electricity rates. Along the same lines, if you moved to the South from the Northeast, your electric bill may have been lower, but were you using natural gas, propane or fuel oil to heat your home or run your larger appliances, such as your stove and water heater? To make a more realistic comparison, you need to calculate your total energy bill - electricity, plus any other fuels you use in your home.

Before you make any changes to your current heating system, we encourage you to do some research to learn more.

Where to look...

www.carteretcravenelectric.coop

www.usepropane.com

If you want to use the calculator on the "propane" site, be sure to type in the average annual cost of electricity, which is \$.09, and the retail price of propane from your local supplier.

Getting the most from your heating and air systems

Heating and air conditioning uses the largest chunk of your home energy dollars. Here are some ways to keep your system running at top performance.

- Your heating system should be checked to be sure it is moving the correct amount of air. A service technician can tell you if it is.
- Return filters should be changed monthly.
- Have a service technician check carefully for duct leaks. Leaks that are found should be sealed with fiberglass mesh and mastic sealant.
- Heat pump and air conditioning systems should be checked annually to verify that they are properly charged in accordance with manufacturer guidelines.
- Inside and outside coils should be kept clean and free of debris.

Garner Memorial Motorcycle Rally is set for Oct. 28



Come enjoy fall on the Crystal Coast and contribute to the fight against cancer in the second annual Jerry Garner Memorial Motorcycle Rally.

The ride, sponsored by the co-op's Relay for Life Team, will begin and end at our office on Highway 24 west of Morehead City, traveling Bogue Banks from Emerald Isle to Atlantic Beach, and back along the mainland via Highway 70 and Highway 24.

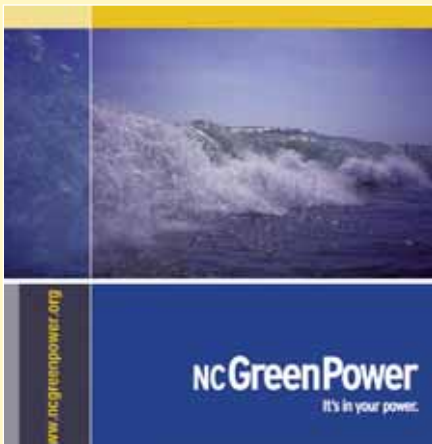
Food will be served at the end of the ride, and prizes will be awarded for the Most Chrome, Best Paint Job, Most Accessories, Oldest & Youngest Bikers.

Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. The ride begins at 2 p.m. Donations are \$20 per bike. In the event of rain, registration monies will be considered donations to Relay for Life.

Online Registration: www.carteretcravenelectric.coop

E-mail: info@ccemc.com

Phone: 252.727.2296 or 1.800.682.2217



The power to choose. The power to change.

NC GreenPower is a great first step in promoting renewable energy and cleaner air in North Carolina.

This independent, voluntary program is an easy and affordable way for citizens and businesses to increase the use of renewable energy to help protect our environment and improve air quality. Renewable energy and energy efficiently also help ensure energy supply stability for the future.

To contribute or learn more, go to www.NCGreenPower.org

You can extend your day with a CCEC safeguard light



As the hours of daylight get shorter, you can extend your day with an automatic safeguard light.

Safeguard lights cost only pennies a day. They are the most affordable way to welcome visitors, work or play outside after dark and protect your property throughout the year. When Daylight Saving Time ends you will be ready to continue enjoying time outdoors. Your safeguard light will turn itself on at dusk and off at dawn.

Maintenance and bulb changes are handled by Carteret-Craven and cost you nothing. The low monthly rate covers the light, wiring, and even the electricity (it doesn't

run through your meter).

Charges listed below include installation, maintenance, and operation of lights including electricity for illumination. Taxes are not included in these prices.

The prices listed are for overhead lights on existing poles.

Underground lights cost \$4.75 per month in addition to the monthly fee listed above. For additional poles, add \$2.25 each to the monthly fee.

Two styles of decorative lights are also available. Each requires an additional initial cost, but the monthly fees are the same as for other safeguard lights.

Sign up now for service by calling 252-247-3107 or 1-800-682-2217 or make your request on the Web at www.carteretcravenelectric.com

Cost/Month	Type
\$ 8.25	175-watt Mercury Vapor
\$16	250-watt Metal Halide
\$22	400-watt Metal Halide
\$40	1000-watt Metal Halide

Power blinks have always been a part of electric service - they just weren't as noticeable until sensitive electronics began filling our homes.

Blinks occur when an obstruction, like a tree limb, animal or car, comes into contact with a power pole, line or transformer. To minimize the possibility of damage to the utility system or your home, a circuit breaker interrupts the flow of electricity for a fraction of a second. If the limb remains on the line, the breaker opens and tries to re-close two more times before the power goes out. At this point, a utility worker is dispatched to remove the

obstruction and reset the breaker.

Without this feature designed into the system, every brief interruption would result in an outage lasting an hour or longer.

Ultimately, power blinks improve the overall system reliability by reducing measurable power outages, protecting the cooperative's equipment and actually reducing the total time you would be without power if the technology were not in place.

Newer appliances are more able to "ride" through these brief interruptions. Also, when you buy an alarm clock, be sure to get one with a battery backup.

Did you know?



carteret-craven electric cooperative

Offices

1300 Highway 24, Newport
450 McCotter Boulevard, Havelock

Contact

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On the Web

www.carteretcravenelectric.coop