

MEMBER

News

From Cedar Island to Cedar Point
and many places in between




A newsletter for members of Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative

February 2009

Have you tried a CFL lately?

Choosing the Right Compact Fluorescent Light

	Kelvin	Color	Impact	Compares To
	2700-3000	Warm	Adds yellow to whites and greens, which dulls blues and enhances reds	Standard incandescent bulbs
	3500-3900	Neutral	Emphasizes yellow or blue	
	4100+	Cool	Adds blue to whites and green, which dulls reds and enhances blues	Average daylight

If you tried compact fluorescent bulbs when they first came on the market, you might have been astonished at the price and disappointed at the light quality. But much has changed since the first curly bulbs hit the market as energy efficient replacements for the regular incandescent bulbs.

CFL bulbs have been gaining popularity. Quality has improved, prices have dropped, and many more styles are available.

on the web

Access your account information online with PowerPay 24.

Click the link at:

www.carteretcravenelectric.coop



The majority of CFLs available in the market offer "soft" or "warm" white light (measured in degrees kelvin) at temperatures of 2700K–3000K), which is

comparable to an incandescent bulb. This color range works well in most residential settings and enhances warmer colors (red, yellow, orange) found in your home.

CFLs are also available in higher kelvin color temperatures (3500K, 4100K, 5000K, 6500K) and will emit more white to bluish-white light. These products are usually identified with terms "bright white," "natural" or "daylight" and will enhance cooler colors (blue, green, violet) in your home.

To learn more, click the "lighting" tab on the ENERGY STAR web site at www.energystar.gov.

Each CFL bulb uses about 75 percent less energy than its incandescent counterpart and lasts at least 10 times longer.

Incandescent bulbs, on the other hand, are highly inefficient. In fact, 90 percent of the energy that an incandescent light bulb burns is wasted as heat. That was the reason Congress passed energy legislation to phase out the manufacturing of incandescent bulbs, beginning in 2012. The phase-in will start with 100-watt bulbs in January 2012 and end with 40-watt bulbs in January 2014. By 2020, all light bulbs must be 70 percent more efficient.

carteret-craven electric cooperative

inside-out

Several elements are key to reliable service

At CCEC we work hard to keep the lights on year round because we know that even a momentary interruption in power can mean significant losses to a business or frustration to our residential members. To minimize outages, we are proactive in our ongoing maintenance, planning and use of technology.

Riding the lines

Visual inspection is another piece of the reliability equation. CCEC's field service representatives, line crews and others are trained to look for problems as they ride the system each month.

We also routinely use the aid of an infrared camera to look for "hot spots" that may spell trouble later on.



transformers, cabinets and other facilities are inspected regularly as well.

Power blinks

Power blinks, or momentary power flickers, 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 object remains on the line, the breaker opens and tries to re-close two more times before the power goes out. At this point, a crew is dispatched to remove the obstruction and manually reset the breaker. Without this feature, these obstructions would result in outages lasting much longer.

In addition to this safeguard, CCEC has a Supervisory Control & Data Acquisition (SCADA) system that provides real-time monitoring of our substations and sends out warnings anytime there are problems. When trouble arises, a dispatcher immediately relays detailed information to our servicemen, which helps them quickly find and fix the problem.



Ken Baysden
Director of Purchasing
& Technical Services

"When equipment is not operating properly, is wearing out, or has loose connections, the energy is converted to heat. With this camera, the heat

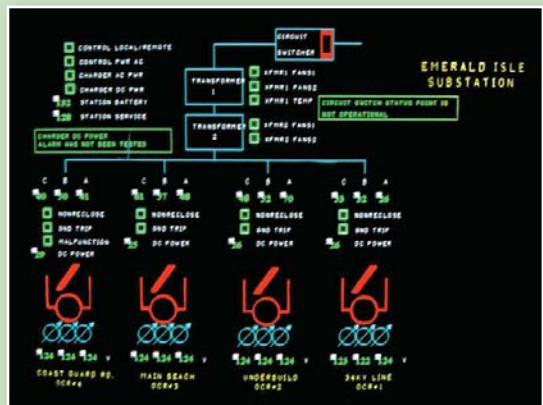
can be detected, problems can be corrected and potential problems can be avoided," said Ken Baysden, Director of Purchasing and Technical Services.

Regular inspection and testing

Our system maintenance efforts start in substations where the protective equipment is regularly tested and calibrated for optimum operation. Mechanical devices are tested and immediately repaired if necessary.

In our marine environment, we inspect lines and equipment exposed to salt air more frequently than inland co-ops might. The corrosive effects of salt require special maintenance, just as the effects of ice storms in colder climates require special maintenance for our sister cooperatives in other areas.

Poles are inspected for their integrity, and questionable ones are replaced. Underground

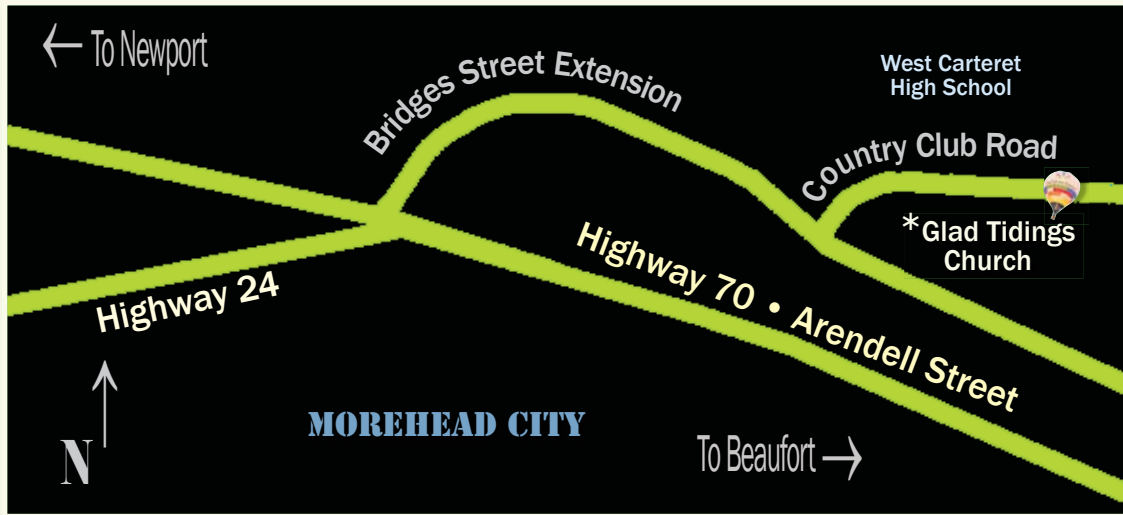


2009 ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2009

GLAD TIDINGS CHURCH

COUNTRY CLUB ROAD • MOREHEAD CITY, NC



Look for details and your ballot for director elections
in the April issue of Member News

Directors to consider energy efficiency standards

CCEC's Board of Directors will consider four proposed standards established by the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) of 2007 as amendments to the 2005 Public Utilities Regulatory Policy Act (PURPA).

CCEC is not obligated or required to adopt any of the standards. Rather, CCEC's directors must consider if these proposed standards are in the best interests of their members, based in part on input received from members and the general public.

The N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives (NCAEC) is managing the public hearing process on behalf of CCEC and other North Carolina electric cooperatives. CCEC's

directors are required to make a determination on the four standards by Oct. 30.

The four proposed standards include: Integrated Resource Planning; Rate Design Modifications to Promote Energy Efficiency Investments; Consideration of Smart Grid Investments; and Smart Grid Information.

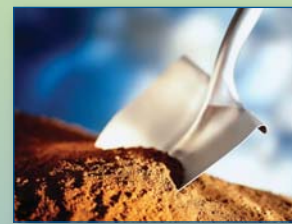
Additional information on the EISA amendments and the public hearing process may be found online at www.ncelectriccooperatives.com/purpa. Additional information also is available by email at purpa@ncemcs.com or by mail: ATTN: PURPA Coordinator, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611-7306.

Planting & Landscaping Tips

Here are a few planting and landscaping tips you should follow to help prevent outages and give our field workers easy and safe access to electrical equipment:

- Use grass, gravel or 2-inch rock around electrical equipment, but do not change the grade.
- Do not use ivy or other climbing plants around equipment.
- Trees, plants, shrubs and fences should be planted so that at maturity, they remain a minimum of 10 feet away from pad-mounted equipment and far enough away from overhead lines so they do not need to be removed or trimmed and will not obstruct a boom truck when access is needed.

To find trees and shrubs that suit your planting needs but won't interfere with the cooperative's equipment, go to the National Arbor Day Foundation's Tree Line USA program at www.arborday.org.



Tree trimming helps keep the power on

Our area is prone to high winds all year, not just during hurricane season. Fallen trees and branches are a major cause of widespread power outages in our area.

For that reason, CCEC has a comprehensive, industry-standard vegetation

management program that includes trimming trees in a three-year cycle along its more than 1,250 miles of line. The trimming may seem excessive to some, but it is done with storm damage mitigation in mind.

The tree crews strive to preserve as much of a tree's

beauty as possible while providing enough clearance between limbs and lines to help prevent storm damages.

A methodical tree-trimming and right-of-way maintenance program for power lines is crucial to delivering reliable electric power to consumers.

Let time change be reminder to change filters, check batteries

When you set your clocks ahead for Daylight Saving Time on March 8, let that be a reminder to do a few other things, like checking your filters and changing your smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector batteries.

You should check your heating and cooling system filters every month, especially during heavy use months (winter and summer). If the filter looks dirty after a month, change it. The federal government's ENERGY STAR program recommends that should change filters every 3 months at a minimum. A dirty filter will slow down air flow and make the system work harder

to keep you warm or cool — wasting energy. A clean filter will also prevent dust and dirt from building up in the system, which can lead to expensive maintenance or early system failure.

Spring is also a good time to have your heating and cooling system serviced and to keep it running at peak efficiency for the hot summer months.

Just like your air filters, you should check the batteries in lifesaving smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors once a month and use the Daylight Saving Time change as a reminder to replace the batteries.



carteret-craven electric cooperative



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