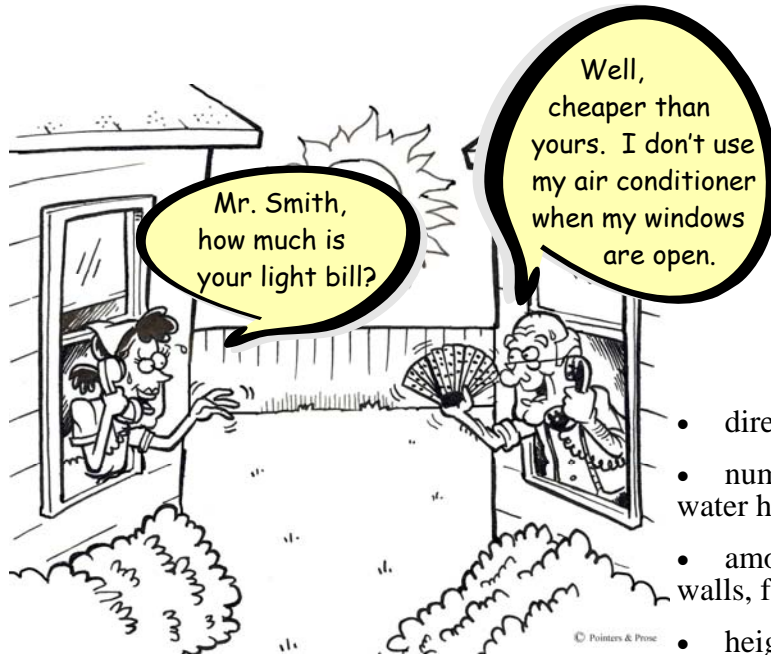




## WHY IS MY NEIGHBOR'S ELECTRIC BILL LOWER THAN MINE?!?

Even if your home may appear identical to your neighbor's, houses often vary in terms of insulation values, heating and cooling needs, the condition of the home and appliances, insulation levels and the temperature settings of the heat and water heater. Your bill reflects the amount of electricity you use and represents the unique needs of your family. Before you compare your bill with someone else's, keep these differences in households in mind:

- square footage of the home
- heating and air-conditioning systems (age, type, condition, size)
- number of people living in the home



- length of time the family members are at home
- thermostat settings
- type and number of windows
- direction home faces
- number, size and age of water heaters
- amount of insulation in walls, floors and ceiling
- height of ceilings
- type and number of electrical appliances in use
- how tightly the home is sealed

*So how much is that 10-year old fridge costing me anyway?*



Now that you've thought about the ways that your household differs from others—think about how much your house and its appliances are adding to your

electric bill.

Want to get a detailed look at your costs?

- Want to know how much that brand new, high-end dryer is costing you per month?
- Or how much energy that 20-year old deep freezer sitting in your 110 degree garage is costing you? (you can bet that it's costing you more than all of

*those 5-year old frozen packs of lima beans and venison you're saving in it are worth)*

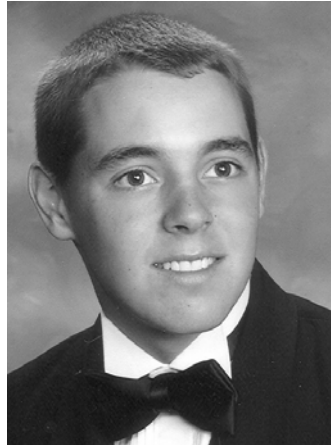
- Or how much energy keeping three color televisions on morning, noon, and night are costing you?

You can find out how much practically any appliance or any kind of lighting in your home costs just by checking out the FREE Home Energy Suite on Wake Electric's website. Just click on the Home Energy Suite icon in the menu bar. It's simple and easy to use, it's fun, and most of all, IT'S FREE! Check it out today at [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com).

# It's a freshman's life for me!



**Kristen Overby** of Henderson will attend Catawba College



**Samuel Richards** of Zebulon will attend NCSU



**Amanda Howard** of Kittrell will attend ECU



**Courtney Bailey** of Selma will attend N.C. State University

Every year hundreds and hundreds of students in Wake Electric's service territory—that's Franklin, Granville, Durham, Johnston, Nash, Wake and Vance counties—head off to college in August.

And every year, Wake Electric grants scholarships to high-achieving young students who demonstrate great potential in their academic pursuits. Thanks to our members who contribute to our Operation RoundUp program, we can help deserving graduates achieve their dreams.

This year, Wake gave 9 top-notch students scholarships:

**The Fred M. Alford Memorial Scholarship winner for 2007** is **Amanda Mae Howard**, a resident of **Kittrell**, who attends Southern Vance High School. She was granted \$1,500 to attend East Carolina University.

**Touchstone Scholarships** went to: **Courtney Bailey**, Selma, of Smithfield-Selma High School, \$1,000, to attend N.C. State University. **Camille Bartholomew**, Wake Forest, of Neuse Baptist Christian School,



**Torrie Thomas** of Wake Forest will attend Elon University



**Camille Bartholomew** of Wake Forest will attend Piedmont Baptist College

tist Christian School, \$1,000, to attend Piedmont Baptist College. **Mackenzie Hurley**, Youngsville, of Franklinton High School, \$1,000, to attend East Carolina University. **Rebecca Elizabeth Marion**, Creedmoor, North Raleigh Christian Academy, \$800, to attend UNC-Charlotte.

**Octavia Mirabel**, Franklinton, of Franklinton High School, \$1,000, to attend Western Carolina University.

**Kristen Overby**, Henderson, of Southern Vance, \$1,000, to attend Catawba College.

**Samuel Richards**, Zebulon, of Wake Forest-Rolesville High, \$1,000, to attend N.C. State University.

**Torrie Thomas**, Wake Forest, of Wake Forest-Rolesville High, \$1,000, to attend Elon University.

And rising seniors, be sure to check back to Wake Electric's website next winter to apply for 2008. Wake also offers basketball camp scholarships, all-expense paid youth tours to Washington D.C., grants to area non-profits, teacher grants and more. Be sure to visit [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com) for all of Wake's programs.

# BORN IN THE U.S.A.

*A scrumptious meal for the Fourth from the heartland*

## GRILLED SPARERIBS WITH CHERRY COLA GLAZE

Before using the cherry cola, pour it into a bowl and allow it to stand at room temperature until no longer effervescent, about four hours. Start with a relish platter, then serve the spareribs with the State Fair Potato Salad and corn on the cob. What to drink: Tall glasses of iced tea.

4 12-ounce cans cherry cola (flat)  
2 cups cherry jam or preserves  
2/3 cup Dijon mustard with horseradish  
3 tablespoons soy sauce  
2 tablespoons malt vinegar or apple cider vinegar  
1 tablespoon hot pepper sauce

7 1/4 to 7 1/2 pounds well-trimmed pork spareribs

Boil cherry cola in heavy large saucepan over medium-high heat until reduced to 1 1/2 cups, about 45 minutes. Stir in next 5 ingredients. Reduce heat to medium and simmer until mixture is reduced to 2 1/2 cups, stirring occasionally, about 35 minutes. Transfer glaze to large bowl. (Can be made 1 week ahead. Cover; chill. Bring to room temperature before using.)

Position racks in top and bottom thirds of oven and preheat



Photo by Mark Thomas

to 325°F. Sprinkle ribs with salt and pepper. Wrap each rib rack tightly in foil, enclosing completely. Divide foil packets between 2 rimmed baking sheets. Bake until ribs are very tender, switching positions of baking sheets halfway through baking, about 2 hours total. Cool ribs slightly in foil. Pour off any fat from foil packets. (Can be prepared 1 day ahead. Keep covered in foil packets and refrigerate. Let stand at room temperature 1 hour before continuing.)

Prepare barbecue (medium-low heat). Cut each rib rack between bones into individual ribs. Set aside 1 cup glaze. Add ribs to bowl with remaining glaze and toss to coat. Grill ribs until brown and glazed, turning to prevent burning, about 5 minutes total. Serve, passing reserved glaze separately.

Makes 6 servings.

## STATE FAIR POTATO SALAD



Photo by Mark Thomas

Drizzling sweet pickle juice over the warm potatoes is the secret to this delicious salad.

3 1/2 pounds red-skinned potatoes, peeled, cut into 3/4-inch pieces  
1/4 cup juices from jar of sweet pickles

3/4 cup mayonnaise  
1/3 cup buttermilk  
4 teaspoons Dijon mustard

1 teaspoon sugar  
1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper  
3 hard-boiled eggs, peeled, chopped  
1/2 cup chopped red onion  
1/2 cup chopped celery  
1/2 cup chopped sweet pickles

Cook potatoes in large pot of boiling salted water until just tender, about 10 minutes. Drain; transfer to large bowl. Drizzle pickle juices over potatoes and toss gently. Cool to room temperature.

Whisk mayonnaise, buttermilk, mustard, sugar, and pepper in medium bowl to blend. Pour over potatoes. Add eggs, onion, celery, and pickles and toss gently to blend. Season to taste with salt. (Can be made 8 hours ahead. Chill. Bring to room temperature before serving.)

Makes 6 to 8 servings.

# Climate change— is the planet melting?



We've all seen the headlines. Climate change is a topic of increasing interest to our members and to the energy industry. But what is climate change, how does it affect electric cooperatives and what does it have to do with co-op members? In an effort to clarify this issue, Wake has tackled some of the basic questions about climate change, and how it affects electric cooperatives.

tions, primarily from hydro-power from Kerr Lake. This current energy mix keeps your rates down.

## What are climate and climate change?

Climate refers to the average weather—temperature and precipitation, among other variables—over a long period of time. The Earth's climate is always changing. Natural climatic changes may occur over seasons, decades and centuries. The periodic rapid warming trend in the eastern Pacific Ocean, known as El Niño, is an example of climate change on a shorter time scale.

## What causes climate change?

Natural factors and processes contribute to climate change and include changes in the Earth's orbit and changes in the output of the sun. Human activities, such as fossil fuel consumption and deforestation, contribute to climate change.

## What does climate change have to do with electric cooperatives?

The process of generating electricity is the single largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, representing 38 percent of total carbon dioxide emissions from all sources in 2004. Electric cooperatives generate only about 5 percent of the nation's electricity. 49% percent of N.C. co-ops' generation is from fossil fuels. As a result, your co-op has a well-developed interest in technologies that reduce, avoid and store greenhouse gas emissions.

## What are electric cooperatives doing to address climate change?

Currently, there is a lack of cost-effective technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel-based generation. N.C. co-ops are working to develop new technologies and energy sources to reduce, avoid and sequester or store emissions. Currently, 2% of N.C. co-ops' generation is from alternative and renewable energy op-

**Call Wake Electric any time to report outages:**

**919.863.6499 or 800.743.3155**

**Regular Office Hours: M– F, 8 am—5 pm,**

**Telephone Hours: M– F, 7 am—9 pm,  
863.6300 or 800.474.6300**

**Underground locating service call N.C. One-Call Center, 811**

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