

Wake ElectriConnection

For members of Wake Electric Membership Corporation



"The power to make a difference"

JUNE 2012

Cool Off Electric Bills with **TOGETHERWESAVE.COM**

Scorching temperatures and high electric bills don't have to go hand-in-hand this summer. At Wake Electric, we are committed to providing you with not only safe and reliable electric service, but also with information to save energy and money, when the heat is on outside.

One of the most powerful tools in Wake Electric's energy-saving arsenal is TogetherWeSave.com. The website offers nine applications focusing on different actions that, once completed, show an actual savings calculation. For example, in the "Lower Your Water Heater Temperature" application, you can virtually adjust the temperature setting on the water heater dial to see a projection of how much money you could save.

Take the "Virtual Home Tour" on TogetherWeSave.com to find even more ways to cut costs. You will "walk" through a home's family room, kitchen, laundry room, bedroom, basement and attic. Each area reveals at least two actions you can take to improve your home's energy efficiency. As you move through the room and complete suggested changes, you will see a running tally of potential energy dollar savings.

The website also provides access to the Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives TV Web Portal where you can view



short energy efficiency videos. You can even connect with other energy-conscious members by sharing your story about what you are doing to be more efficient. It's remarkable that co-op members just like you from across the country have already visited TogetherWeSave.com and collectively saved an estimated \$40 million by making small energy-related changes at home.

We want to help you reach your energy-saving goals. So go ahead: flip a switch, lower the blinds, raise the temperature on your thermostat and visit TogetherWeSave.com to find out how little changes can cool off your electric bill.

2012 Rural Electric Youth Tour Winners

High-school juniors Megan Izzo of Raleigh and Jeremy Boudah of Wake Forest have been selected by Wake Electric to attend an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., in June through the 2012 Rural Electric Youth Tour. Both students also won a \$1,000 scholarship for college.

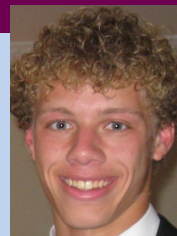
Izzo, 16, a student at Cardinal Gibbons High School, is the daughter of John and Kathy Izzo. Boudah, 17, a student at Heritage High School, is the son of Daniel and Pamela Boudah.

Izzo and Boudah will join nearly 1,500 high school students from across the U.S. to learn about electric cooperatives, American history and the United States government. Youth

Tour participants will also visit the historic sites of the nation's capital, as well as spend time with their congressional leaders. The trip will be June 16-22, 2012.

For more information on the Youth Tour, visit www.wemc.com/youthtours.aspx.

The Youth Tour is funded by voluntary member and employee donations through the Operation RoundUp program at Wake Electric.



Jeremy Boudah



Megan Izzo

 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.-6 p.m., 863.6300 or 800.474.6300
Underground locating service: Call 811
Dedicated pay-by-phone number: 866.999.4593

Wake Electric Awards Scholarships to Local Students through 2012 Program

Wake Electric has awarded 17 college scholarships totaling \$22,000.

The \$2,000 Fred M. Alford Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Brittany Sigrid Besser of Raleigh Charter High School.

The Touchstone Energy Scholarship winners (\$1,250 each) are:

- ★ Kristen Nicole Fulcher of Franklin Academy
- ★ Betsy Ann Dickerson of UNC-Wilmington
- ★ Kaitlyn Elizabeth Speer of North Raleigh Christian Academy
- ★ Monica Thi Nguyen of Franklinton High School
- ★ John Forrest Huffman of Franklin Academy



Brittany Sigrid Besser received the \$2,000 Fred M. Alford Memorial Scholarship.

- ★ George Lawrence Hamilton, III of East Wake School of Engineering Systems
- ★ Sara Kristin Hocutt of East Wake High School
- ★ Trent A. Jones of Wakefield High School
- ★ Havanna Edelle Keeton of UNC Chapel-Hill
- ★ Tara Elizabeth Williams of Franklinton High School
- ★ Mariah Elizabeth Richards of East Carolina University
- ★ Dylan James Moss of Franklinton High School
- ★ Paige N. Fuller of East Wake High School
- ★ Kristen Mone' Allen of Franklinton High School
- ★ Darrell Jamal Lucas of Louisburg High School
- ★ David N. Helbig of The Helbig Academy

Funding for scholarships is made possible by Wake Electric members and Wake Electric employees through the Operation RoundUp Program.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Update on Monitor & Manage Program, AMI Meter Exchange and PowerUp



ADVANCED METER INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI) METER UPDATE

Wake Electric has currently upgraded 18,000 meters to our new AMI meters, which represents about 50 percent of our total membership. It is our goal to have all of the

residential meters exchanged system-wide by the end of 2012. AMI meters store electric use, outage and voltage information, as well as communicate it back to the co-op office through a secure, wireless communication network.

MONITOR & MANAGE PROGRAM



Once your meter has been upgraded, you will have access to the Monitor & Manage

program, an online energy monitoring system that utilizes Wake Electric's "smart grid" communications network to collect monthly, daily and hourly energy data reports from

each home. Interval data reports are available through your eBill account, free of charge. If you haven't created an online eBill account, you may create one at <https://ebill.wemc.com/css/>. The energy usage reports will allow members to better evaluate and manage their energy consumption.

POWERUP WITH PREPAY

Consider PowerUp, a prepaid billing option for residential members designed to optimize payment flexibility. PowerUp allows members to take control of their account by permitting them to pay for only the amount of electricity they want, when they want to pay for it. Other benefits of PowerUp include no deposit, no late fees, trip charges, or reconnect fees. You can also use existing deposits for down payments at conversion, and by pre-purchasing your electricity, you can budget and monitor your usage more closely. For more information, please visit www.wemc.com/powerup.aspx.

Wake Electric continues to look for better ways to serve its members by leveraging technology to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP



Want to beat the heat? Run appliances like dish washers and dryers late in the evening. Use cold water to wash clothes, and remember to unplug electric chargers, televisions and any appliances when you are not using them. Learn more ways to save and stay comfortable at TogetherWeSave.com.

Source: *Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives*

Unauthorized Payment Agencies

Additional payment centers may exist in your area that are not Wake Electric authorized payment locations. While these unauthorized locations may accept your Wake Electric payment, they will charge a fee for doing so, and your payment will be delayed in reaching Wake Electric. For a complete list of our authorized payment locations, please visit www.wemc.com/resmemserviceshowtopay.aspx.

Wake ElectriConnection

Published monthly by Wake Electric

P.O. Box 1229, 414 East Wait Avenue,
Wake Forest, NC 27588, www.wemc.com

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Think lightning can't get into your house and ...

- ⚡ **Damage your computer?**
- ⚡ **Ruin your dimmer switches?**
- ⚡ **Harm your flat-screen TV?**

Think again.

**Protect Your Appliances—
Get Surge Protection Today!**

Today's homes have more appliances and electronics than ever before. Lightning is a dangerous source of raw electricity that can destroy those appliances and electrical equipment in a flash.

Triangle Services Group (TSG) offers Surge Protection that can save your investments by helping to prevent destructive lightning surges from entering your home.

Our surge protection for your whole house includes:

- ⚡ Leased equipment (1 point of entry PEMCO Meter Base Whole House Surge Arrestor)
- ⚡ Cost of only \$5.95 per month added to your electric bill
- ⚡ \$50 installation fee

Are you ready to sign up and start protecting your home now? Call 919.863.6306 or email info@wemc.com.



Triangle Services Group Inc.



Wake Electric Awards 1st Quarter Operation RoundUp Grants to Deserving Nonprofits

Wake Electric awarded more than \$5,500 in grant monies during the 1st quarter of 2012 to deserving nonprofit organizations located in counties served by the co-op. These grants were made available through the Operation RoundUp program.

Nonprofit agencies located in counties that Wake Electric serves, which include Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Wake and Vance counties, are eligible to apply. The agency does not have to be a member of Wake Electric.

Grants are open to all project and subject areas that enhance economic infrastructure and job creation, promote service or charitable organizations, and meet emergency needs of individuals within Wake Electric's service area.

The next deadline for Operation RoundUp grant applications is 5 p.m. Friday, June 8, 2012. Download a simple application at www.wemc.com/oproundup.aspx.

Each quarter, the board of directors for the program's administrative body, the Wake Electric Foundation board, meets to determine who will be awarded funds.

1ST QUARTER 2012 OPERATION ROUNDUP GRANT WINNERS

Nonprofit Organization	Amount Awarded	County	Grant Information
Assistance League of the Triangle	\$1,000	Wake	Operation School Bell program, which provides new clothes and shoes to needy elementary students in the Triangle area
Boys & Girls Club of Johnston County	\$1,000	Johnston	Power Hour program
Boys & Girls Clubs of Wake County- Zebulon Club	\$1,000	Wake	Power Hour program
Granville County Extension	\$720	Granville	Food for Backpack Program
Meals on Wheels of Wake County	\$1,225	Wake	Two meals per week for needy families
Hospice of Wake County	\$600	Wake	Purchase new books

Prepare for Hurricanes

Hurricane season lasts from June to November. Let's start June with a preparedness plan.

WHAT TO HAVE ON HAND:

- ★ An evacuation plan for your family, including pets
- ★ Flashlights, battery powered lanterns and other light sources (ensure batteries are fresh)
- ★ An adequate supply of medicine and first-aid items
- ★ Two-week supply of bottled water, non-perishable food items and firewood on hand
- ★ Your social security card, driver's license, birth certificate and insurance information

DURING A HURRICANE:

- ★ Get inside a building and stay away from windows.
- ★ Take cover in a small interior room, closet or hallway on the lowest level.
- ★ Lie on the floor under a table or something sturdy.
- ★ Do not be fooled if there is a lull. This could be the eye of the hurricane and winds will pick back up after the eye passes.

AFTER A HURRICANE:

- ★ Listen to local radio stations or NOAA Weather Radio for updated news.
- ★ Always treat downed power lines and poles as if they are live and dangerous—stay away! Inform your electric cooperative immediately.
- ★ Post-storm debris can hide fallen power lines. Even the ground can become energized near fallen power lines; be careful as you clean up debris, and if you think it's possible that there's a downed line under debris, call your electric cooperative.
- ★ If you are without electricity and use a portable generator, follow the generator's safety guidelines to avoid carbon monoxide emissions, burns and possible electrocution. If you have safety questions, call your electric cooperative.
- ★ If you cook with charcoal; make sure to do so outside to avoid build-up of carbon monoxide fumes.

