

Wake ElectriConnection

For members of Wake Electric Membership Corporation



"The power to make a difference"

SEPTEMBER 2012

Participation Growing in PowerUp with PrePay Program



Did you know that many of your fellow residential member-owners have switched to PowerUp, a new and convenient pay-as-you-go billing option for residential members? PowerUp is designed to optimize payment flexibility and allow more control over personal finances.

PowerUp allows you to pay for only the amount of electricity you want and to choose when you want to pay for it. You can prepay

anticipated charges a full month in advance, or pay just enough to get you through the next week. It's your choice.

PowerUp allows you to put dollars in your account, and as you use electricity, the balance in your account will decrease. Since you provide us with an email

and/or valid phone number, the PowerUp program will automatically notify you when your account gets low on funds. Then, you simply reload your account and see how far you can stretch your dollars before making your next payment. By pre-purchasing your electricity, you can budget and monitor your electricity usage more closely.

One of the more exciting features of PowerUp allows members to

apply any existing deposit from their traditional post-pay account toward outstanding balances at conversion. Remaining credit is then applied to the PowerUp account for the purchase of future electricity.

Other benefits of PowerUp include no late fees, trip charges, or reconnect fees. There is no cost to switch to the PowerUp rate. You will have easy access to view electric usage, payment history and credit balances online, which allows for more control over your finances and planning.

For more information about PowerUp, please contact us at (919) 863-6300 or 1-800-474-6300 or visit www.wemc.com/powerup.aspx.

Note: Members must have an updated Advanced Metering Infrastructure meter (AMI) to utilize this flexible energy prepayment option. If you have questions about when your meter will be replaced, please call us at (919) 863-6300 or 1-800-474-6300.

HOLIDAY CLOSING



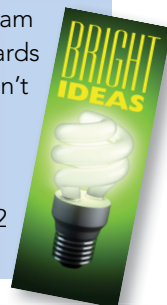
Wake Electric's offices will be closed on Monday, September 3, in honor of Labor Day. For emergencies, please contact us at 1-800-474-6300 or 919-863-6300.



Bright Ideas and Classroom Tech Grants

Teachers, the deadline for both the Bright Ideas Education Grant program and the Classroom Technology Awards program is **Wed., Sept. 12**. You don't

want to miss applying for these amazing grant opportunities! For more information, please visit www.wemc.com/brightideas.aspx and www.wemc.com/classawards.aspx or contact Darnell Alford, Business Operations Specialist (for either program) at 919-863-6312 or 1-800-474-6300 or e-mail her at darnell.alford@wemc.com.



 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 to Switch Area Lights to Environmentally Friendly and Cost-Effective LEDs

Wake Electric has a long history of encouraging the wise use of electric energy and being a good environmental steward. Federal and state laws now lead us to further improve energy efficiency. Based on this, Wake Electric has decided to change out yard and area lights (also known as security lights) located on members' properties with efficient and environmentally friendly Light-Emitting Diodes (LEDs).

LED lights offer great energy efficiency, environmental and cost benefits as compared to our existing yard lights. The lights do cost more to purchase, but they use significantly less energy while producing a comparable amount of light. LED lights have a very long life, meaning they should provide worry free service for many years, helping Wake Electric save on its annual lighting maintenance expenses. Even though the initial light fixtures costs are greater, the monthly charge for the new LED lights will remain the same as existing yard lights. After Wake Electric completes this project, we will save over 3.5 million kWh per year.

LED lighting reduces light pollution as a whole and will direct light where our members want it to be. It will provide similar ground illumination to our existing area lights, with the preferred white-colored light and zero upward light pollution. Switching to LED lighting will help Wake Electric meet the requirements of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (REPS) mandate set forth in 2007. This state legislation mandates that 10 percent of the energy that electric cooperatives sell be created through renewable energy resources or by energy efficiency measures by 2018.

Federal laws have also been designed to eliminate less efficient lighting sources, and the type of security lights we are currently using likely will not be available in the future. Wake Electric, which is purchasing LED fixtures made in North Carolina, is taking a proactive approach. It has found LED lights to be a suitable, cost-effective and "green" lighting alternative for our members.

Wake Electric plans to change out area lights over the next two years. We will notify members before their area light is replaced and also leave a notice when the light is changed out. Streetlights will not be changed out at this time.

For more about the new LED lighting, look for updated information on our website and in upcoming issues of this newsletter.



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TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Update on New App, AMI Meters and Managing Energy Program

SMARTHUB

Wake Electric will soon be offering SmartHub, a convenient account access and two-way communication app that will be available to members online, as well as through mobile devices, including iPhone, iPad and Android smart phones and tablets. SmartHub will replace our current eBill program and provide a more intuitive and easy-to-navigate way to manage your Wake Electric account online, with the option to also access your account via these mobile devices.



SmartHub will allow members to:

- ★ Manage account information directly from mobile devices or the web
- ★ Make secure payments
- ★ Notify customer service of account and service issues
- ★ View bills, see payment history, and make payments on one or more accounts
- ★ Set up recurring payments
- ★ Report outages
- ★ Check monthly, daily and hourly electric usage

The two-way communication available with SmartHub will also allow Wake Electric to notify you about special offers, programs, events and more. In addition, the app will give you directions to office locations, payment drop boxes and payment kiosks using the map feature on your device.

ADVANCED METER INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI) METER

Wake Electric has currently upgraded 24,000 meters to our new AMI meters, which represents about 68 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. The energy usage reports will allow members to better evaluate and manage their energy consumption. For more information, visit www.wemc.com/monitorandmanage.aspx.

Member Advisory Committee Meetings are Just Around Corner

Attend one of Wake Electric's fall Member Advisory Committee (MAC) meetings on any of the following dates: **October 15, 16 and 18**. Discuss electric utility issues and the current plans and progress of Wake Electric with its senior management team.

For questions or to RSVP, contact Darnell Alford, Business Operations Specialist, at (919) 863-6312 or 1-800-474-6300 or via e-mail at Darnell.Alford@WEMC.com. RSVP by Wed., Oct. 10, before 5 p.m.

For times and locations of the MAC meetings, visit www.wemc.com/membermeetings.aspx.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP



Is your washing machine more than 10 years old? According to the U.S. Department of Energy, families can cut related energy costs by more than a third—and water costs by more than half—by purchasing a clothes washer with an ENERGY STAR label. Choose a front-load or redesigned top-load model.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



Isabelle Henry



Kaitlyn Woollen



Kassie Grissom



Wake Electric's "Give Us an A" Program Rewards High-Achieving Local Students

Wake Electric recently awarded 40 \$25 Visa gift cards to area students who received at least one "A" (or its equivalent) on their report cards through the co-op's "Give Us an A" program.

Due to recent changes by the United States Treasury in how savings bonds are purchased, Wake Electric began giving the \$25 gift cards instead of savings bonds so students can purchase a \$50 savings bond through www.treasurydirect.gov with their gift cards. These awards are part of a drawing held three times a year.

Students in any grade in Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Vance and Wake counties are eligible to apply.

Funding for the "Give Us an A" program is made possible by Wake Electric members through the Operation RoundUp program. Members who sign up to participate in the Operation RoundUp program elect to have their monthly electric bill rounded up to the next whole dollar. These pennies collectively add up to major dollars for community programs.

Deadline for the next drawing is Thurs., Sept. 20, by 5 p.m.

Because each school district may have a different time for issuing report cards, if a student's entry misses one deadline, the entry will automatically be included in the next drawing. For more information, go to www.wemc.com/giveusana.aspx.

THE MOST RECENT "GIVE US AN A" WINNERS INCLUDE:

Name	School
Adam Baker	Wakefield High
Emily P. Berrier	North Raleigh Christian Academy
Timothy Cannizzaro	Wakefield Middle
Caleigh Crane	Wake Forest-Rolesville High
Shivani Desai	Heritage High
Katherine Dougherty	South Granville High School of Health and Life Sciences
Olivia Dougherty	GC Hawley Middle
Violet Evans	Atlas International School
Kassidy Grissom	Franklinton Elementary
Kyndal M. Gunter	Franklin Academy
Ramsey M. Gunter	Franklin Academy
Isabelle Henry	Youngsville Elementary
Cameron Hill	Cedar Creek Middle
Devin Hoffman	Franklinton High
Matthew Hoffman	Cedar Creek Middle
Taryn Hoffman	Franklinton High
Louis Isabella III	Franklinton High
Daniel Lee	Southeast Raleigh Magnet School
Rebecca Martin	Franklin Academy
Jacqueline Ann Minella	Wake Forest-Rolesville High
Anna Moss	Franklinton High
Noah Neal	Butner-Stem Middle
Rebecca Neal	Granville Central High
Ebadirad Nickolas	North Forest Pines Drive Elementary
William Oakes	Franklinton High
Megan Orander	Heritage Middle
Madison Perry	Sanford Creek Elementary
Taylor Robinson	Long Mill Elementary
Michael Roland	Forest Pines Elementary
Phoebe Rutter	Tar River Elementary
Addison Selna	Heritage Elementary
Elijah Sharpe	Royal Elementary
Nolan B. Schulz	Franklin Academy
Hannah Stutts	Franklinton High
James Vick	Bunn High
Austin Walters	Wake Forest-Rolesville High
Sarah Watts	Heritage Middle
Ryan Wimmer	Jones Dairy Elementary
Kaitlyn Woollen	Millbrook High
Fennell Xavier	Carnage Magnet Middle