

# Wake ElectriConnection

For members of Wake Electric Membership Corporation



"The power to make a difference"

SEPTEMBER 2013

## Save the Date!

# Memory Advisory Committee Meetings in October

**M**ark your calendars for October 14, 16 and 17 for our fall 2013 Member Advisory Committee (MAC) meetings. These meetings are an excellent way to discuss electric utility issues and the current plans and progress of Wake Electric with its senior management team.



These casual meetings are open to all Wake Electric members. As an incentive, we will have several drawings for a \$25 credit on your next electric bill. A catered dinner is included for all attendees.

The October MAC meetings will be held at Wake Electric's Youngsville office at 228 Park Avenue at 6:30 p.m. Members can choose to attend ONE of the following dates:

- ★ Monday, October 14
- ★ Wednesday, October 16
- ★ Thursday, October 17

If you have any questions or wish to RSVP, please contact Darnell Alford, Business Operations Specialist, at (919) 863-6312 or 1-800-474-6300 or via e-mail at [darnell.alford@wemc.com](mailto:darnell.alford@wemc.com). You must RSVP by October 9th at 5 p.m. Space is limited and attendance is on a first come, first serve basis. If the date you have chosen is full, you will be notified. Be sure to leave a contact number in your RSVP message.

# Teachers!

## Deadline Is Sept. 12 to Apply for Grants through Bright Ideas, Classroom Technology Programs

**T**ime is running out for teachers to apply for grants of up to \$3,000 through Wake Electric's Bright Ideas education grant program and Classroom Technology Awards grant program.

Please note that the Classroom Technology Awards grants and the Bright Ideas grants are two separate and distinct grant programs offered by Wake Electric. A teacher can apply for both grant programs, but he or she must submit a different item or project for each. (For example, a teacher cannot apply for SmartBoard funding through the Classroom Technology Awards grant program and then also apply for a SmartBoard through the Bright Ideas grant program.)



### BRIGHT IDEAS

Certified K-12 public school teachers in Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Vance and Wake counties are eligible to apply for a Bright Ideas grant. Educators with creative ideas for hands-on classroom projects must submit their grant applications by 5 p.m. Thursday, September 12, 2013. Teachers can find the application, grant-writing tips and other information at [www.ncbrightideas.com](http://www.ncbrightideas.com).

### CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY AWARDS

Eligible teachers include public school K-12 and community college teachers working in Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Vance and Wake counties. Grants will be awarded in any discipline for specific technology such as computers, digital cameras, scanners and software. The technology must benefit the students in the classroom. Applications for the Classroom Technology Awards grant program are also due Thursday, September 12, 2013, by 5 p.m. For more information, please visit [www.wemc.com/classawards.aspx](http://www.wemc.com/classawards.aspx).

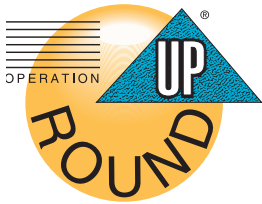
For more about either program, you may also contact Darnell Alford, Business Operations Specialist, at 919-863-6312 or 1-800-474-6300 or e-mail her at [darnell.alford@wemc.com](mailto:darnell.alford@wemc.com).



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 \$6,000 in Operation RoundUp Funds to Deserving Nonprofit Organizations in the Area



**W**ake Electric awarded \$6,000 in grant monies during the 2nd quarter of 2013 to deserving nonprofit organizations located in counties it serves. These grants were available through the Operation RoundUp program.

Nonprofit agencies located in counties that Wake Electric serves, which includes Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Vance and Wake 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 the service area of Wake Electric.

The next deadline for Operation RoundUp grant applications is Friday,

September 13, 2013, by 5 p.m. A simple and convenient downloadable application can be found at [www.wemc.com/oproundup.aspx](http://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.



## The 2nd quarter 2013 Operation RoundUp grant winners are:

Name of Nonprofit Organization	Amount Awarded	County Nonprofit	Info about Grant
Autism Society of North Carolina	\$1,000	Wake	Camper scholarships
Brassfield Fire Department	\$2,000	Franklin	Purchase firefighting helmets
Franklin-Vance-Granville Smart Start Reach Out & Read Program	\$500	Vance	Supplies
Meals on Wheels of Wake County	\$1,000	Wake	Meals for seniors
Remnant Community Development	\$500	Franklin	School supplies for Annual Back-to-School Rally
Safe Space, Inc.	\$1,000	Franklin	Food supplies for Safe Space shelter

The funds for the Operation RoundUp grants come from Wake Electric members who agree to round up their electric bill to the nearest whole dollar.

## Don't Forget— You Can Recycle Your Old, Working Fridge or Freezer

**We'll Pick It Up for You AND Give You \$50, Too!**

Wake Electric is still partnering with Appliance Recycling Centers of America (ARCA), Inc., to bring its members the Fridge and Freezer Farewell program.

Wake Electric members can call 1.877.341.2310 to schedule to have their old, working secondary refrigerators or freezers picked up, free of charge, and have them properly recycled.

Because the co-op cares about the environment and wants to help members save on their electric bills, Wake Electric will even pay its members \$50 for properly recycling their old refrigerators or freezers through the program.

To participate, you must be a residential electric customer with a valid account number. Refrigerators and freezers turned in for recycling must be secondary units in working condition (cooling), 10-30 cubic feet, owned by the person calling and picked up from the residential address listed on the billing account.

The \$50 rebate will be mailed as a check within 4-6 weeks after collection. There is a limit of two appliances per household per year.

For more information, please visit [www.wemc.com/fridgeandfreezer.aspx](http://www.wemc.com/fridgeandfreezer.aspx) or call 1.877.341.2310 or email [communications@wemc.com](mailto:communications@wemc.com) with questions.



## Play It Safe

# Take Precautions on Labor Day Weekend

**L**abor Day marks the end of summer and for many it's a last ditch effort to visit that favorite get-away. While Labor Day means relaxation for many, it can also mean terrible traffic.

According to the National Safety Council, there were 390 traffic fatalities during Labor Day weekend in 2010. By following some simple tips you can make your Labor Day trip safer.

### VEHICLE SAFETY

- ★ Always make sure to buckle up. You are endangering your life when you choose not to buckle up, and traffic tickets are expensive.
- ★ Know where you are going before setting off on your journey. Knowing the route will eliminate distractions.
- ★ Do not use your phone at all while driving. Texting and driving is illegal in North Carolina, and those who text are 23 times more likely to be involved in a crash, according to Texting and Driving Safety, a group dedicated to stopping texting and driving injuries and deaths in North America.
- ★ Remember the basic principles of driving: follow at a safe distance, drive defensively, don't speed and make sure your car is in good working order.
- ★ If you are pulling a boat or trailer make sure the tires are inflated, the boat is properly secured, lights are working and the hitch and hitch ball fit correctly.
- ★ Think about when you're most likely to encounter traffic and leave before or after those times to avoid hassle.

### BOAT & WATER SAFETY

Bodies of water are popular destinations for travelers on Labor Day. Boats can be a lot of fun if used safely.

- ★ Just as you need to buckle up in the car you need your life jacket for the boat. By U.S. Coast Guard and state law requirements, everyone in the boat needs a personal flotation device.
- ★ Make sure you have a tow rope and dock lines. If you ever break down, they will come in handy.
- ★ Keep an eye on the weather. If it starts to storm, dock your boat and get out of the water; water conducts electricity.



- ★ Never jump off the boat and onto the dock before the boat has been properly secured. The boat could move, causing potential injury.
- ★ Always keep an eye out for swimmers and other boaters when on the water. Be respectful and give everyone space.
- ★ Heed rip tide warnings from life guards. If you are at a beach without a lifeguard, pay attention to local news channels for more information about rip tides.
- ★ Make sure you carry a two-way radio or cell phone on the boat in case you need to call someone. Put it in a dry bag to prevent water damage.
- ★ Always carry a signaling device such as a horn, whistle or flare in case of emergency.

Labor Day weekend is a time to get away, have fun and enjoy friends and family. Just don't forget to be safe. While you are packing snacks and drinks for the trip, include a first-aid kit. Happy Labor Day!



*Labor Day  
Holiday Closing*

Wake Electric's offices will be closed on Monday, September 2, in honor of Labor Day. For emergencies, please contact us at (919) 863-6300 or 1-800-474-6300.

The graphic features a calendar icon on the left with the words "LABOR DAY" in bold, blue and white text on a red and white background. To the right, the text "Labor Day Holiday Closing" is written in a cursive font, followed by the closing information in a sans-serif font.



# Safety Training is a Top Priority at Wake Electric

**W**ake Electric takes safety very seriously, and we believe in conducting regular safety training to sharpen our employees' skills both in the field and in the office.

On June 11, Wake Electric held its Pole Top Rescue recertification. Pole Top Rescue recertification participants must carry out a scenario where they complete a series of events, including: placing an emergency radio call, donning climbing gear, scaling 20 feet up a utility pole, rigging a rope, lowering a 105-pound mannequin and beginning CPR.

This summer, Wake Electric also conducted Bucket Rescue Training. This training is similar to Pole Top Rescue, and requires linemen to help a co-worker who is in trouble while working on a line get down safely to the ground, as well as perform CPR. They must complete the steps within five minutes to be a qualified second person on the job when Wake Electric is performing bucket work.

We are proud to announce that all participating climbers met the requirements for recertification. Wake Electric remains committed to upholding high safety standards to help provide you with the safest, most reliable electricity possible.



Cory Lawrence, serviceman, scored the fastest Pole Top Rescue time of 2 minutes, 9 seconds.



Senior serviceman Jeff Garrett scored the fastest Bucket Rescue training time of 38 seconds.

## Wake ElectriConnection

Published monthly by Wake Electric

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## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

Like homes and other businesses, farms of all types can lower their electricity bills by turning off or reducing use of lights and small equipment in

outbuildings. Timers and sensors can help, too. Regular cleaning, maintenance and seasonal tune-ups help keep larger equipment running at top efficiency.



Source: E Source