

# Wake ElectriConnection

For members of Wake Electric Membership Corporation



"The power to make a difference"

MARCH 2009



## Wake Electric college funding

**A**pply now for Wake Electric college funding for students planning to attend either an accredited four-year college, community college, technical or vocational school in North Carolina.

The Fred Alford \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded to the top candidate selected by an independent judging panel. Requirements for this

scholarship include the following criteria:

- ★ Must be a child of a Wake Electric member or live in a home served by Wake Electric
- ★ Must be a high school graduating senior
- ★ Must pursue a regular four-year undergraduate course leading to a baccalaureate degree

- ★ Must plan to attend an accredited four-year institution in North Carolina

Eight Touchstone Energy Scholarships of \$1,000 or more will also be awarded. These are not limited to recent high school graduates, and may be used at one of the state's community colleges, vocational or technical schools, as well as at a four-year college.

The requirements for these scholarships are:

- ★ Must be a child of a Wake Electric member or live in a home served by Wake Electric
- ★ Must use these funds at a N.C. college or university, community college, vocational or technical school.

To apply for these scholarships, visit the Wake Electric Web site at [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com) to download an application. The deadline is March 27, 2009.

Funded through voluntary contributions to Operation RoundUp.



### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Check your water heater thermostat. Many manufacturers set thermostats to 140° F, although most households only need a setting of 120° F. Each 10 degree drop in water temperature can save you between 3 percent and 5 percent in energy costs.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

## Wake ElectriConnection

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Avenue, Wake Forest, NC  
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Regular office hours: M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

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# Our Town



An Operation RoundUp grant repaired Granville County Fireman's Association's smokehouse trailer. From left to right on the picture (names and fire departments): Kelly Whitehead, Oxford and Corinth; Donnie Boyd, Fire Marshall; David Adcock, Corinth; Joel Adcock, Corinth; Wayne Champion, Berea Fire Dept. and Fireman's Assoc. President; Robert Land, Chief of Corinth; Doug Logan, Fire Marshall; Powell Wilkins, Oxford; Doug Dickerson, Oxford, Kneeling; Sheldon Land, Oxford and Corinth and his son Holden Land.

Joel Adcock, 16, a junior at J.F. Webb High School, got an early jump on his senior project, as he applied for an Operation RoundUp grant from Wake Electric for money to have the Granville County Fireman's Association's smokehouse trailer repaired.

"There was a meeting at the Fire Department and they were talking about needing fundraisers for the trailer," said Adcock, who plays baseball and football at Webb. "I had a senior project coming up, so I decided I could do it for my project and get the grant and it would be a good way to teach the kids fire safety."

The trailer, which belongs to the Granville County Firemen's Association, is used as an educational tool. It had suffered

water damage and was structurally not sound enough to tow and use for training.

"It had rotted out in the front and there were leaks in the windows and in cracks," he said. "It wasn't safe."

Part of the agreement in the grant was for Adcock to schedule and organize the trailer being taken to each of the eight elementary schools in the county and for those students to complete the training.

"I'm going to plan with Mr. Gillespie, head of the elementary schools, to get that under control."

Angela Perez, PR Coordinator for Wake Electric, visited the Oxford Fire Department where the smokehouse is stored to present Adcock with a check for \$3,500.

"One of the purposes of

Operation RoundUp," said Perez, "is to promote non-profit service organizations that meet the needs of members within Wake Electric's service territory. Joel's project is a perfect fit for the grant."

Joel's father, David Adcock, is a member of the Corinth Volunteer Fire Department and also a member of Wake Electric. He read about Operation RoundUp in his member newsletter, Wake ElectricConnection, and shared this information with his son. From there, the enterprising young junior took the ball and ran with it. "He knew what he wanted to accomplish with this money and with his project," said David Adcock. "And we all had input as a family, but this was Joel's idea."

Representatives from the county, area fire departments, and the local school system were on hand for the presentation.

As for his son and the senior project, Adcock was obviously very proud.

"The boy is used to, on the ball field, stepping up to the plate and going the extra mile," his father said. "He really hit a home run this time."

Operation RoundUp grants for the 1st quarter of 2009 were awarded to:

- ★ Granville County Fireman's Assoc., repair fire safety trailer, \$3,500
- ★ Assistance League Triangle Area, youth program, \$2,000
- ★ Central N.C. Chapter Red Cross, training camp, \$1,500
- ★ WakeMed Health & Hospitals, safety program, \$1,500
- ★ Meals on Wheels Wake Co., meals in Wake Forest, \$1,000
- ★ Kerr Family YMCA, Camp High Hopes, \$1,000

## Operation RoundUp

Grant requests can be made for up to \$5,000 and are given out in January, April, July and October. The next grant application deadline is Friday, March 13, 2009. Grant winners will be notified by mid-April 2009. Non-profit organizations in Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Wake and Vance counties should apply. Through its Operation RoundUp program, the Wake Electric Foundation board will consider grant requests for projects and proposals that:

- ★ Serve a broad range of individuals
- ★ Use funds for educational, charitable, or economic development purposes

The funds for the Operation RoundUp grants come from WEMC members who agree to round up their light bill to the nearest whole dollar. For example, if the bill is \$104.91—the bill will be rounded up 9 cents to \$105.00.

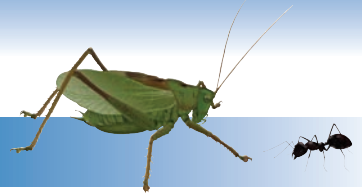
For more information, to sign up to give to Operation RoundUp, or for an application, go to [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com) or contact Angela Perez, Public Relations/Communications Specialist, at 919.863.6300 or 1.800.863.6300.

*Parts of this story are courtesy of the Oxford Public Ledger.*

"Our Town" is dedicated to local events, people and places in our service territory, which includes Durham, Franklin, Nash, Johnston, Vance, Granville and Wake counties. Suggestions for events, businesses, people, or points of interest for "Our Town" should be e-mailed to Angela Perez, Public Relations Specialist, at [angela.perez@wemc.com](mailto:angela.perez@wemc.com) or call at 919.863.6376 or 1.800.474.6300.

## Straight Talk about

# How Being Energy Efficient Can Save You Money



Have you ever heard the fable about the ant and the grasshopper? On a sunny summer day, a grasshopper was flitting about, and came across an ant toiling under the weight of a kernel of corn.

"Why all the hard work?" the grasshopper asked.

"I'm collecting this corn for winter, and recommend you do the same," the ant replied.

"Why bother storing corn now? There's plenty to go around!" the grasshopper scoffed, hopping off into the sun.

Well, we all know how that winter went for the grasshopper, who never did get around to storing any corn.

That valuable lesson also applies to the electricity we use every day. Wake Electric and electric cooperatives across the country stand at a crossroads. At the moment, we are able to power our homes with the mere flip of a switch, as safe, reliable, and affordable electricity remains readily available. The grasshoppers of the world are happy.

But in recent years, several factors—increasing demand for electricity, rising fuel and construction costs, and decisions limiting what types of power plants we can build—place our energy future in limbo. The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) predicts that our need for electricity will climb by 30 percent between now and 2030. Unfortunately, the power available may not be able to keep up with this growth as construction of new generation capacity is being put on hold while Congress reworks national energy policy.

However, we do have a powerful resource to tap in the meantime: energy efficiency. With widespread energy efficiency measures in place, including those we've implemented on our distribution lines as well as measures you can take at home, annual growth in electricity demand could drop by almost half of 1 percent, to 2.2 percent, according to the Arlington, Va.-based Cooperative Research Network.

In other words, saving electricity now will both reduce your current utility bills and soften the blow against future power supply shortcomings. And being energy efficient doesn't mean being flat-out stingy with energy use. It means doing things in your home you normally would, but in a smarter way. Compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) are a great example. By simply changing an old incandescent bulb to a swirled CFL equivalent, you can get the same light while using 75 percent less electricity.

Wake Electric is on your side in this effort, and we have a long history of helping members get the most out of the power coming down our lines. The vast majority of electric cooperatives across the nation—92 percent—join us in these efforts.


Please visit us at [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com) if you would like to learn more about making your home more energy efficient. Or go online at [www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov), a valuable Web site maintained by the U.S. Department of Energy. Together we can save those "kernels of power" for an uncertain future, and reduce our electric bills in the meantime.



# Home Energy Calculator

home energy use costs at your fingertips

## Try Our Online Home Energy Cost & Savings Calculator

**HomeEnergyCalculator** 

This calculator will provide you with estimates of energy use costs based on your inputs. The Annual and Monthly results are not intended to be extremely accurate, but rather, to provide a comparison platform to give you the differences between the energy your home is currently using ("Base House") versus various "Scenario" variations. After you run a few variations, be sure to click the View Details and View Chart buttons for different views. To go back to view the details of a "Scenario" variation, click on its number.

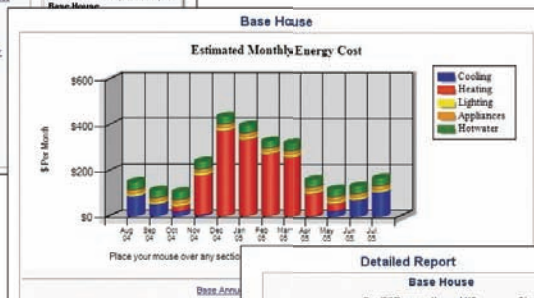
**Base House**

Home Type: Single Story | Gas | Water Heat Type: [ ]  
 Year Home Built: 1990 to Present | Medium | Water Heat Settings: [ ]  
 Sq Ft Heat/Cool: 2500 | Average | Air Leaks: [ ]  
 Occupants: 4 | Double Pane | Windows (panes): [ ]  
 Heat Type: Electric | Gas | Cook Stove: [ ]  
 Heat Settings: 77 | Electric | Dishwasher: [ ]  
 Air Conditions: Electric | Electric | Clothes Washer: [ ]  
 Cool Settings: 76 | Gas | Clothes Dryer: [ ]

Calculate | View Details | View Chart | E-mail Report

[Online Summary](#)

- Estimate your home's monthly and annual energy costs



- See how much changes to your home will save
- View charts showing where your energy dollars are going

**Detailed Report**

**Base House**

Gas/Oil Propane**	kWh	Tyr
Refrigeration	0	1,200 \$113
Lighting	0	1,500 \$132
Cooling	44	0 \$61
Waterheat	0	141 \$12
Drate	38	0 \$0
Bathweather	0	157 \$14
Cooling	0	4,044 \$361
Heating	0	18,161 \$1,673
Water Heating	269	0 \$403
	371	25,283 \$2,676
	31	2,487 \$233

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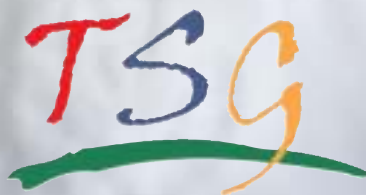
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