

Membership MATTERS

Members Only NEWS For Members of Blue Ridge Electric



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PowerLine® 1 (800) 448-2383
(PowerLine® is an automated account information and outage reporting system.)

Toll Free 1 (800) 451-5474
(for members outside the service area)

To report an outage at any time,
call one of the numbers listed above.

OFFICE HOURS
8:30 am - 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday
Night deposit available.

Visit us on the web:
www.BlueRidgeEMC.com

Outdoor Electrical Safety Tips

With the warm days of summer upon us, you are probably spending more time outdoors. While we all enjoy this special time of year, we need to be aware of a few simple safety tips:

- Teach children to stay away from electric transformers and substations and explain what posted warning signs mean.
- Avoid damp conditions when using electricity. Keep all electrical devices and cords away from water.
- Place waterproof covers on all outdoor outlets.
- Install ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) in outlets where water may be present.
- Only use extension cords marked for outdoor use; match power needs of an electric tool or appliance to the cord's label information.



Source: Electrical Safety Foundation International; CPSC



Energy Efficient Landscaping:

A well-designed landscape not only adds beauty to your home, but it can also reduce heating and cooling costs. On average, landscaping for energy efficiency provides enough energy savings to return an initial investment in less than eight years.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

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Our Energy, Our Future: A Dialogue With America

Blue Ridge Electric remains dedicated to providing you with safe, affordable, and reliable electric power in an environmentally sound way. But with a national growing demand for electricity and pressure mounting in Congress to address climate change, it's time for us to get involved and ask our elected officials some tough questions. And with national energy policy under development, now is the right time to get involved.

To develop the technology needed to keep the lights on and rates affordable, the federal government must exercise committed leadership and provide funding. Without funding for technology, and without a sound, responsible, sustainable energy policy, we risk returning to a time when electric service was a privilege enjoyed only by the wealthy.

As electric cooperative consumers, you can help prevent that from happening. Please contact your elected officials today and ask this question...

"What are you doing to fully fund the research and development required to make emissions-free electric plants an affordable reality?"

To help our consumers easily communicate with elected officials, electric cooperatives across the country have launched a grassroots campaign called "Our Energy, Our Future: A Dialogue With America." This initiative is designed to help us start a discussion by asking our lawmakers a few critical questions. After all, far too often questions don't get asked of policy makers until plans go wrong. We believe it makes sense to know the answers before the laws are passed.

You can help your elected officials and yourself by having this conversation about the cost impact of legislation currently being debated. Please visit your cooperative's web site at www.BlueRidgeEMC.com or go directly to www.ourenergy.coop to contact your elected officials and make your voice heard.



THE Perspective

An Editorial by Chief Executive Officer Doug Johnson



Technology is Key in Keeping the Lights On

Right now, there are a lot of "what-ifs" surrounding electric power. As a nation, we need to add more generating resources to meet growing electric consumption.

As your provider of safe, affordable, and reliable power, it's our job to make prudent, long-term energy decisions that will benefit you and the communities we serve for decades to come. But today those decisions are mixed up with politics like never before. Every question of supplying power is being impacted by the debate surrounding how best to meet climate change goals. Policy limiting carbon dioxide emissions is becoming more likely, although specifics are being debated in Congress.

Massive investments in new technology will be required – and soon – to find a balance in meeting both our nation's energy and climate change goals. The Electric Power Research Institute estimates it will take a research investment of \$1.4 billion a year from now until 2030 to develop new technology such as carbon capture and storage for our power plants. This technology is particularly important for North Carolina's electric consumers since about 50 percent of our electricity comes from coal generation.

Once we add this advanced technology to the equation, we can develop power plants that burn coal and isolate carbon dioxide emissions. The gas can then be compressed and pumped for permanent safe storage deep underground. Many experts believe that with the right financial commitment from the federal government, cost-effective carbon capture and storage technology could become commercially available around 2020.



Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America

engaged in a grassroots campaign called "Our Energy, Our Future" to start a dialogue with lawmakers about critical questions such as technology's role in our energy future. Please visit www.ourenergy.coop to contact your elected officials and add your voice to the campaign.

But, this is just one potential piece of the puzzle, and until our elected officials agree to increase the necessary funding, uncertainty remains.

At Blue Ridge Electric, we are dedicated to keeping you supplied with reliable and affordable electricity. We are, with electric cooperatives across the county,

Audited Financials Complete

Blue Ridge Electric's financial records for fiscal year 2007 have been audited by the firm of Adams, Jenkins & Cheatham, pc. The audit indicates the cooperative and its subsidiary are in sound financial condition and reflects an unqualified (highest level given) opinion of the audit firm.

The cooperative's 2007 Consolidated Audit Report is now available in each district office for your review. The 2007 Blue Ridge Members Foundation financial report is also available.



More News



Finale Fireworks Concert: **The Charlie Daniels Band**

Ticket Order Form

Tickets may be ordered from ASU by phone, FAX, mail, or at www.BlueRidgeEMC.com:

- For mail orders, cut (✂) this form out and send it along with your check, money order, VISA® or MasterCard® number to:
Farthing Auditorium Box Office
Appalachian State University
PO Box 32057
Boone, NC 28608-2057
** Tickets will be held at the box office and can be picked up at the Holmes Convocation Center on the day of the concert, or they can be mailed back if a self-addressed envelope is included and received by July 12.*
- For phone orders using your VISA® or MasterCard®, call toll free: 1-800-841-2787 or (828) 262-4046 in the Boone area. Hours: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday. **Blue Ridge members - to receive your discount, have your electric account number ready.**
- FAX this order form with your VISA® or MasterCard® number to: (828) 262-2848.
- To order tickets over the Internet, go to www.BlueRidgeEMC.com and click on "ASU Concert Tickets."

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Blue Ridge Electric account number *(required for discount)* _____

Phone (day) _____ (evening) _____

Adult tickets	x \$25 = \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Check: (payable to ASU)
Children's tickets	x \$ 5 = \$ _____	Charge to my: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa® <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard®
	<i>(12 years & younger)</i>	Credit Card # _____
	Subtotal \$ _____	Exp. Date _____
	Handling Charge \$ \$2.00	Signature _____
	Grand Total \$ _____	

All tickets must be purchased through ASU.



FOR SALE

Leather jacket, brick color, blazer style, size large, from Wilson's, worn once or twice, \$100. Matching gloves, never worn included. Call 828-260-1657

Children's wooden furniture, 50s style, potty chair, \$15; rocker, \$20; high chair, \$85. Also some toys and a 50s buffet side table, \$350. Call 828-297-2173.

Bush Hog #2446QT, front-end loader, used twice, cost \$3,900. Will take \$2,200. Cargo two-horse wagon, needs axle repair, \$200. Call 828-758-5496.

2001 Mazda Miata MX5-SP, 6 sp w/Nardi wood, BOSE audio, one owner, \$10,000. Call 828-297-1633.

Honey Bee ten-frame hives, \$40 each. Ten-frame supers, \$20 each. Call between 4 and 9 p.m., 828-754-5785.

2005 PolarKraft Boat, 17', 60 Yamaha motor, many extras with 2006 EZ Load trailer, \$17,000. Call 828-773-9591.

WANTED

Canoe, 16', in good condition. Call 828-297-8000.

Head and foot boards for double hook rails on regular size bed. Call 828-754-6631.

NOTICE - Members of Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation are invited to submit ads. However, no real estate, business or ads for animals will be accepted. We will place ads in the "Trading Post" on a first-come, first-served basis and we reserve the right to refuse any ads due to space limitations or questionable content. Ads will be limited to a maximum of four lines. We do not accept ads for wood or coal-burning appliances, or electric thermal storage units. Prices should be included on all items. Ads should be mailed to: Cornelia Cornell, Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, PO Box 112, Lenoir, NC 28645