

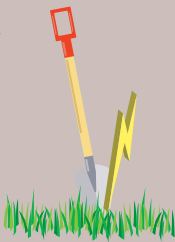


May 2009

Serving 12,000 members of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation

## Dial Before Digging

You never really know what's below the surface when you dig. You may chop right into underground power lines. In addition to causing outages, this is very dangerous. Before digging in your yard, have the underground electric lines located. Please give us three days notice before you dig. Call us at (252) 426-5735.



## Albemarle Sounds

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Visit our Web site at:  
[www.albemarle-emc.com](http://www.albemarle-emc.com)

For outages, call  
**1-800-274-2072**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative   
The power of human connections®

## Albemarle EMC to Sell Water Heater Blanket Kits

To assist members with becoming more energy efficient, Albemarle EMC is now selling water heater blanket kits.

Albemarle EMC will sell the water heater blankets for \$12. In addition, members will receive a low-flow shower head, pipe insulation and two sink aerators at no extra charge, with each purchase of a water heater blanket. The blanket kits can be paid for and picked up at the Albemarle EMC office, located at 159 Creek Drive, Hertford, NC. Members can pay for the blankets by having the charge placed on their bill or they can pay with cash, check or credit card.

Members will be responsible for installing their own blankets. The blankets will be large enough to fit all sizes of water heaters and may need to be trimmed for smaller water heaters. A blanket will typically save between 9 and 4 percent in water heating costs.

The sale of the water heater kits enables Albemarle EMC to begin complying with the North Carolina Renewable Energy law. The state mandate requires power providers to purchase a certain percentage of electricity generated by renewable sources such as wind and solar. The mandate also gives co-ops the option of complying by enacting energy efficiency measures (such as the sale of water heater blankets). By selling water heater blankets, Albemarle EMC can begin earning Renewable Energy Credits (RECs). A REC is equal to one megawatthour of electricity generated by a renewable source or one megawatt of generation that is avoided through energy efficiency initiatives.

"In addition to helping the co-op comply with the state mandate, this should really help our members," said Brad Furr, general manager of Albemarle EMC.

### Each kit will include the following:



# Washington Youth Tour Winner Selected

Heather Taylor, a student at John A. Holmes High School, won the 2009 Washington Youth Tour contest.

Due to a scheduling conflict, Heather said she won't be able to attend the event because she had already committed to another school-contest trip she also won. In her place, Megan Hiner, a student at Camden County High School, will attend the Youth Tour. Megan's Youth Tour application came in a very close second place, according to the contest judges.

The Washington Youth Tour will be held June 13-19. On the trip, Megan will meet fellow participants from across the state at an orientation in Raleigh. From there, she will be off to the 2009 Youth Tour, which will be attended by 1,500 winners from 38 states. Megan will have a busy time learning about electric cooperatives and how they are governed. She will also have the opportunity to compete for one of three college scholarships valued at \$2,500.

Megan will meet with elected representatives and visit historic sites such as the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Smithsonian Museum and Mount Vernon. The visit will also include a trip to the Kennedy Center, a boat ride down the Potomac River and a dinner dance.

"We are delighted that Megan will be able to represent Albemarle EMC on the Washington Youth Tour," said Brad Furr, general manager of Albemarle EMC.



*Heather Taylor, a junior at John A. Holmes High School, won the 2009 Washington Youth Tour contest. She is accompanied by Allan Smith (left) superintendent of Chowan schools, and William Moore, principal of John A. Holmes High School.*

# Co-op Offers Renewable Energy

Do you have the desire to use renewable energy, but you don't have the thousands of dollars needed to install solar panels or a wind turbine?

If so, Albemarle EMC has a way for members to promote clean energy without making a sizable investment. The co-op is a participant in NC GreenPower, a statewide program designed to improve North Carolina's environment through renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and biomass. The all-voluntary program allows co-op members to contribute as little as \$4 per month to NC GreenPower, which then uses that money to purchase blocks of green power. A \$4 tax-deductible contribution will add 100 kilowatt hours of renewable energy to North Carolina's power supply. Not only does the contribution help the environment, the money also provides incentives to produce more green power, which costs more to generate than traditional energy sources.

# Grant Brings Heat to Classroom

Students at John A. Holmes High School, in Edenton, were able to learn from an innovative project, thanks to a Bright Ideas grant from Albemarle EMC.

Using the \$1,000 grant, teacher Stephen Karl was able to create a method of heating one classroom, using a nearby greenhouse that is heated by the sun. Karl's students connected the Greenhouse to the classroom with large plastic piping that was buried underground for insulation. An air handler was installed in the greenhouse to blow the air from the greenhouse to the classroom, and a thermostat was installed so the air handler would only blow air as long as the temperature inside the greenhouse exceeded the temperature inside the classroom.

"Once the pipes started arriving, the students really started to get excited about the project," Karl said. "This is a great lesson in energy efficiency."



*Stephen Karl and his students dig a trench that will hold the piping used to transfer warm greenhouse air to a nearby classroom.*



# Demo. Device Under Construction

Students at the College of the Albemarle helped build an air filter demonstration device that will be used by the co-op to demonstrate how air flow in heating-and-air systems decreases when filters become dirty.

**ncGreenPower**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Account No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to participate, please fill out the above form and indicate how much you would like to contribute to the NC GreenPower program. The form should be cut along the dotted lines and mailed to P.O. Box 69, Hertford, NC 27944. Or you can visit [www.albemarle-emc.com](http://www.albemarle-emc.com) to enroll online.



## At Your Service

How Albemarle EMC works to provide its members with the highest-quality service.

### AEMC Looks for Balance

American ingenuity has always produced creative solutions to meet new challenges. American innovation is again the key to one of the most vexing issues facing our world today: climate change.

It is clear that the President and Congress will address the issue of climate change, and we must be involved to help them find the right solution - a solution that marries America's tradition of developing cutting-edge technology with our fundamental respect for the land on which we live and the air we breathe. The wrong solution will cause steep increases in electric bills for families, businesses and our economy as a whole. We can't solve the issue of climate change by placing impossible burdens on the backs of hardworking Americans. We CAN have a cleaner environment and a healthy economy if we make the right choices.

As we seek a solution to energy challenges, it is clear that any legislation to decrease carbon emissions must be balanced and avoid long-term economic consequences to consumers and the economy. It must have achievable targets and tangible benefits. Priority should be given to policies that lower energy costs by improving energy efficiency because such policies would help alleviate financial burden to consumers.

A call to make reliability and affordability of electricity the central considerations in climate change legislation is a call to do the right thing, to choose significant, long-term greenhouse gas reduction that imposes the smallest increases in energy bills to mitigate the impact of rising electricity prices on consumers. The wrong choices on the

issue would devastate our economy and our future. What are the right choices?

Albemarle EMC, along with cooperatives across the state, proposes the implementation of a broad range of new technologies over the next two decades. Electric cooperatives propose reducing carbon dioxide emissions in a way that softens the impact to already increasing energy costs. Congress must focus on technology development to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and make the timing of reductions more in line with technology developments.

A sensible plan to protect the environment and our economy must include:

**Consumer Protection** - Consumer price protections must be put in place to mitigate harmful economic conditions on the end consumers of electricity.

**Careful Timing** - Any defined emission reduction targets must be achievable and timed with the advancement and commercialization of technologies.

**Regulatory certainty** - Utilities need to know the rules of the road if they want to keep the lights on. Further, the rules cannot change once a non-reversible decision has been made and should provide a uniform playing field for the entire country to avoid detrimental regional economic impacts.

**All sectors must be included** - Every entity that produces greenhouse gas emissions must be included in the legislation, not just electric generation.

World-wide effort - It's not just the United States producing CO2. A world-wide effort is needed to make a measurable CO2 emission reduction.

You can make a difference on this issue that's critical to our future. Let your Congressional representatives know that they need to find a balanced solution for climate change. Contact your Congressional representatives today by logging onto [www.findabalancedsolution.com](http://www.findabalancedsolution.com) or calling toll-free 877-402-2526.

## Find A Balanced Solution



*The home page of the website Find a Balanced Solution directs visitors to the Our Energy, Our Future site where they can register to send a letter to their legislators. It also gives them a phone number they can call that enables them to get in touch with their legislators.*