

Tideland Topics

REAL PEOPLE. REAL POWER.

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBER-OWNERS OF TIDELAND ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

MERRY MARGINS: Capital credit refunds will be issued in December

Tideland EMC's board of directors has approved a general retirement of capital credits totaling \$318,855. The refund applies to members served during the years 1985 and/or 2012. Active account holders will receive a check this month if their electric account was current at the time of the distribution and if their refund totaled at least \$50.00. All other active members will receive a credit on their December electric bill.

As a not-for-profit, member-owned cooperative, Tideland provides service at cost. Any



funds remaining after expenses have been paid are eventually returned to members through a series of capital credit refunds. The amount returned to each member is based on the total amount they paid for electric service during the year for which the refund is made.

During the first 10 months of 2013, Tideland refunded capital credits totaling \$193,713 to the estates of deceased members. So by the end of the year the co-op will return to current and former members over half a million dollars in capital credits.

Over \$1.5 million credited to members through WPCA

As the December magazine went to press, Tideland EMC had just passed the \$1.5 million mark in wholesale power cost adjustments (WPCA) that have been credited back to members on electric bills since January 2013. As we noted in the November magazine, we will finish the year out with a WPCA credit of 0.4498¢ per kilowatt hour (kWh) and we predict credits to remain in effect through most or all of 2014, albeit at lower levels.

When combined with current year capital credit refunds, Tideland members have had access to over \$2 million in funds during 2013 that would otherwise have been used to pay electric bills. Of course that's one of the many advantages of being served by a not-for-profit cooperative like Tideland EMC.



Message to our Member-Owners: Operation Round Up helps real people

By Paul Spruill

General Manager & CEO

They say little things mean a lot.

Being kind to your neighbors, returning a lost wallet, picking up after yourself while enjoying the great outdoors. While each action might not seem individually significant, if everyone does a little, we see a big impact in our communities.

That's the beauty of Tideland EMC's Operation Round Up® program. Six dollars isn't a lot of money—it's about what you would pay for a meal at a fast food restaurant. But \$6 equals the average amount folks who support our Operation Round Up program give every year, all through spare change.

Many members—people like you who receive electricity from the co-op—

have agreed to round up their monthly electric bills to the next whole dollar amount. Let's say your bill is \$82.90. It would be rounded up to \$83, with a dime going to Operation Round Up. The extra pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters then flow into the Tideland Electric Care Trust, a 501c3 which makes home energy grants to members in need. Individual energy grants cannot exceed \$100, which should be enough to provide basic electric service for a month.

On average, Operation Round Up helps 17 families per month in the six counties served by Tideland EMC. Most grant recipients are required to participate in the cooperative's free energy audit service to help reduce the amount of future electric bills. In the past several months we've helped several senior citizens

who are dependent on home medical equipment that requires electricity to operate. We've also helped a Hurricane Irene flood victim whose replacement home was subsequently lost to fire. We routinely help cancer patients, the working poor, and veterans.

Operation Round Up is more important than ever as we see cuts being made to traditional energy assistance programs. Even many charitable organizations are no longer helping with energy bills due to limited donations.

If you're one of the members who makes Operation Round Up possible, thank you. If you haven't heard about the program before and would like to participate, visit our website at www.tidelandemc.com or call us at 1-800-637-1079.

Right-of-Way Maintenance Update

Tree trimming will resume in January 2014 with Lucas Tree Experts at the helm as our new right-of-way contractor. We are currently on a five-year trim cycle, which means we are able to cover approximately 20% of our electric system annually.

Mowing crews will continue to work south of the Pamlico River in December on the West Rd., Hwy 306 North of Aurora, Hickory Point Rd., Idalia Rd., Bay City Rd., Hwy 33 East of Aurora and Spring Creek Rd.



Wrap up in Savings

Save Energy, Save Water, Save Dollars

Gift wrapped kits at all Tideland offices just \$14.99!



Buy this for only \$14.99 plus tax

Electric Water Heater Blanket & Pipe Insulation

- 3-inch thick insulation w/cap
- Includes tape & instructions
- One size fits all up to 60-gallon tank
- 6 feet of pipe insulation

... and get all this FREE!

Earth Massage showerhead

- Adjustable 9-jet turbo massage
- As featured in Good Housekeeping magazine

Kitchen Faucet Aerator

- Easy fingertip on/off feature

Two Bathroom Faucet Aerators

Total Kit Value: Over \$50!

Heat pump rebate

Up to a \$300 electric bill credit when you buy a qualifying unit

Air Source Heat Pump
(SEER 15) \$75

Air Source Heat Pump
(SEER 16 and up) \$150

Geothermal Heat Pump
(EER 19 or greater) \$300

1. Applicant must be the member of record for an active Tideland account
2. Must be member's primary residential dwelling; no seasonal or commercial facilities
3. Limit one rebate per dwelling
4. Residence must be evaluated by a Tideland Electric energy auditor prior to system installation unless the co-op audited the house in the past three years*
5. Must submit contractor's heat gain/heat loss calculation, final bill of sale and Certificate of Product Rating along with the co-op's rebate application once installation is complete
6. Must be replacing a less efficient heating and cooling system; not applicable for new construction

For more information or to download a copy of the rebate application visit: www.tidelandemc.com/rebatesIncentives.aspx or contact marketing manager Heidi Smith @ 252.944.2410



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*Energy audits are a free service available to all TEMC members



12
DAYS OF
SAVINGS

DAY 1

"Gift" wrap hot water lines with pipe insulation

DAY 2

Even Rudolph has switched to CFLs (but his are red)

DAY 3

Deck the halls water heater with an insulating jacket

DAY 4

Sorry Santa, but we really must close that damper when the fireplace is not in use

DAY 5

A wise man (or woman) will follow the Energy Star when buying appliances and electronics

DAY 6

Halloween, get your energy vampires out of our Christmas theme! Unplug cell phone chargers and anything with a remote control when not in use

DAY 7

O' Christmas tree, O' Christmas tree, how lovely are thy LEDs

DAY 8

It's ok to be a Grinch when it comes to the thermostat: 68° is ideal

DAY 9

Make an energy savings list...and check it twice!

DAY 10

Seriously, who wouldn't want a can of Great Stuff in their stocking?

DAY 11

Add cellulose insulation to your attic....well, it sort of looks like snow

DAY 12

While visions of clean air filters danced in their heads

Merry Savings, Ya'll!

Give a H.U.G. this Christmas

REAL PEOPLE.
REAL POWER.

Want to brighten the Holiday Season for someone special? Give a H.U.G. ... a Home Utility Gift!

We'll be glad to credit any Tideland EMC member's account in the gift amount of your choice. Gifts must be paid in full with cash, check or credit card.

We'll also provide you with a special holiday greeting card to notify the recipient of your gift. Call 1.800.637.1079 for details or visit any Tideland EMC office.



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www.tidelandemc.com

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800.882.1001



**HOLIDAY CLOSINGS: OUR OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 24-25
CREWS WILL REMAIN ON CALL TO HANDLE OUTAGES & SERVICE EMERGENCIES**

Statement of non-discrimination

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**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

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LLAMA
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EXCAVAR**