




JOEMC

A Touchstone Energy® Partner 

JOEMC Member Newsletter

August 2020



Educators...Give Us Your "Bright Ideas"

This fall, Jones-Onslow is continuing its partnership with local educators and school systems by kicking off the Bright Ideas Grant Program.



JOEMC is searching for Bright Ideas grant applications from teachers and principals, grades K-12, in the 52 public schools in Jones and Onslow counties, as well as the Topsail area of Pender County. The grants, which are awarded in any discipline, enable educators to help students learn through innovative scholastic projects that are not covered by regular school funds. Educators may

apply for individual grants up to \$500 or in teams for grants up to \$2,000.

Since the start of the program, JOEMC has awarded close to 2,000 grants totaling just under \$1.3 million. These funds have had a direct impact on the education of 550,000 students in our community schools.

"There's no better investment than in our children because they are our future," said JOEMC's CEO Jeff Clark. "We are proud that we have been able to partner with our schools for Bright Ideas and look forward to working with them for many, many years."

All grant applications must be submitted online to JOEMC by Friday, September 25, 2020. Bright Ideas grant

recipients will be announced in the fall.

Educators can get Bright Ideas grant information from their school principal or by visiting joemc.com and looking under YOUR COOPERATIVE and COMMUNITY PROGRAMS. ♦



Early Bird Deadline

Submit your application on or before **September 11, 2020** to be entered into a drawing to win one of five \$100 VISA gift cards.

LOOK! New In Your Mailbox Next Month

Be on the lookout next month. There'll be a surprise in your mailbox, and we think you're going to love it!



We will be sending members a complimentary issue of Carolina Country magazine. Carolina Country is the monthly publication of the electric cooperatives of North Carolina and features stories on travel, gardening, energy efficiency around the home, energy industry news, and much more.

Also, the co-op's monthly newsletter, *Spotlight*—normally included with your electric bill—will be inserted into the September issue of Carolina Country so you'll be able to keep informed about local happenings.

CUSTOMERSERVICE

Manage Your Account From Anywhere with Our Mobile App

Download the JOEMC mobile app for fast, easy, secure access to your account anytime...no matter where you are. You can view your balance, pay your bill, report an outage, track your usage, schedule alerts and reminders, and stay connected with us via Facebook. Nearly everything you can do from our "Member Services Portal" can now be handled instantly from your smart device.

- **Report and View Active Outages**
Power out? Report your outage from your smart device. Simply log in and select "Report" icon. You can also check the repair progress and affected area with our interactive outage map.
- **View Account Information**
Select the "Account" icon to view a list of all of your accounts complete with due dates and balances. Select a specific account from the account list to make a single payment or to sign up for push notifications for that account.
- **View Your Bill History**
Get a concise summary of each of your bills and link to PDFs of your

available bills. If the PDF of your bill is not available, you'll see a message letting you know to check back later.

- **Make a Payment**
Select the "Pay" icon to initiate a payment for a single account or for multiple accounts, if applicable.
- **View Payment History**
The Payment History icon connects you to a list of your past payments by month, including the date and amount of each payment.
- **Manage Your Account**
Select the "Manage" icon to change information associated with your account like email ad-



dress, password, and other contact information.

- **Review Usage History**
Select the "Usage" icon and review usage for the past week, two weeks, or three months with high and low-temperature graphs for reference. Also, see average daily consumption and total monthly consumption. ♦

An advertisement for the 'Connect To Save' smart thermostat. The background is a photograph of a middle-aged couple sitting on a couch, looking at a tablet together. The woman has blonde hair and is wearing a light blue shirt. The man has grey hair and a beard, wearing a dark blue shirt. On the left side of the image, there is a white text box with the following content:

Make a smart choice for your home.

Get a smart thermostat for as little as \$25.

CONNECT TO SAVE 

844-577-SAVE (844-577-7283)
connecttosavenc.com

KEEPING YOU SAFE

#811 Day Serves as a Reminder to Dig Safely

Safety, when working outdoors around the home, should be of the upmost importance each and every day. Every year, on August 11, we take time to recognize this outdoor safety with 811 Day, an annual reminder to dial 8-1-1 at least three working days before beginning any digging project to have underground utility lines marked. This free and simple call helps prevent harm to you and those around you, as well as repair costs, fines and inconvenient service disruptions.



Know what's below.
811 before you dig.

According to North Carolina 811, an underground utility line is damaged every nine minutes because someone decided to dig without first calling 811. A call must be placed to 811 before every digging project, from simple landscaping projects like planting trees or shrubs, to building a deck or installing a mailbox.

One call to 811 links you to a local one-call center that notifies all appropriate utility companies of your intent to dig. Once all lines are marked with stakes, flags or paint, remember to respect the marks and dig with care. Each utility will mark lines in a designated color. Be aware of the tolerance zone, which is 24 inches on either side of the marked utility, and use extreme caution if you must dig within this zone.

For more information about the safe digging process, visit nc811.org. ♦



ENERGY EFFICIENCY Tip of the Month

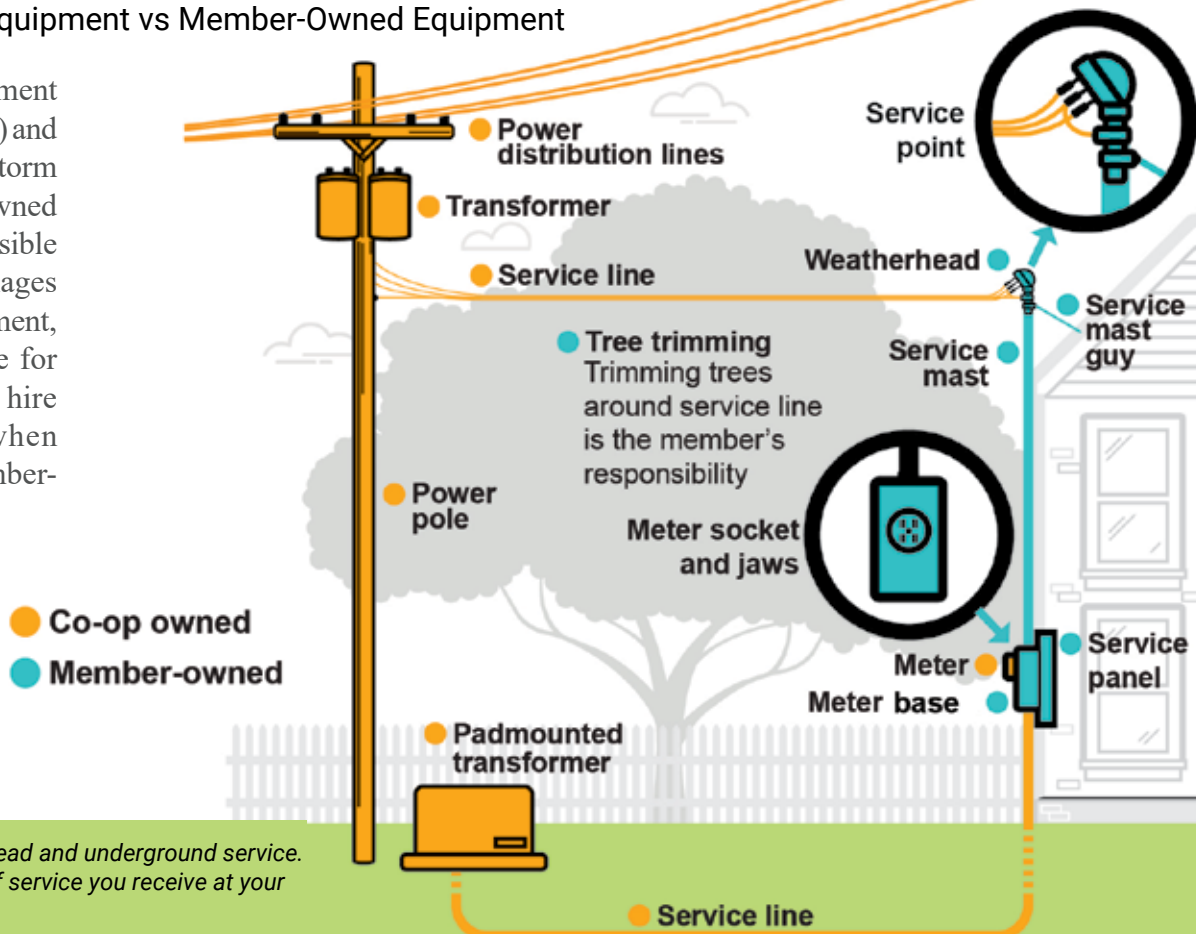
Installing a smart power strip is a quick and easy way to start saving money while making your home more energy efficient. Smart power strips can actually cut power off to save energy since they are able to detect when a device is in standby mode. Visit joemc.com for more energy efficiency tips.

DID YOU KNOW

Who Owns What?

Electric Co-op Owned Equipment vs Member-Owned Equipment

This graphic depicts equipment owned by the co-op (in gold) and the member (in blue). If a storm damages any equipment owned by the co-op, we are responsible for repairs. If a storm damages any member-owned equipment, the member is responsible for repairs. Members should hire a licensed electrician when making any repairs to member-owned equipment. ♦



Note: This graphic depicts overhead and underground service. Please be aware of which type of service you receive at your home or business.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Ensuring a More Resilient Future

As we approach the peak of hurricane season, we've already seen above-average storm activity during a year that is unusually challenging for our members.



While this hurricane season may seem especially daunting, JOEMC is ready for any

storms that come our way. Our ongoing efforts to make the electric grid more flexible, efficient and resilient will also help ensure your power is as reliable as possible, no matter the weather.

We can't completely prevent outages, but advances in technology are making our systems more resilient and enabling us to respond to storm impacts and restore power more quickly. A major technology/infrastructure upgrade project that JOEMC has recently completed, Advanced Metering Infrastructure (advanced meters), provides two-way communication between your home or business and our cooperative. In addition to letting the co-op know that your power is out, these new meters can help you and your family monitor and manage the energy use in your home. The meters also help JOEMC better control demand for electricity across the grid, resulting in more reliable and affordable power for everyone.

Electric cooperatives across the state are also implementing microgrid innovation that provides added power resiliency and reliability. These small localized systems bring together various components, including renewable energy like solar power or biogas, and battery storage to produce electricity. North Carolina's electric cooperatives currently have five microgrid projects either in operation or under development. One of these projects, Heron's Nest Microgrid in Brunswick County, reached a significant milestone recently when it completed its first successful "islanding" test—the neighborhood disconnected from the electric grid and established resilient local power that served the homes. As a statewide network, electric cooperatives are continuing to work together to learn more about these technologies so they can better serve members.

To learn more about how your cooperative is building a brighter, more resilient future, visit joemc.com.

Jeffery T. Clark | CEO

***Our offices will be closed
Monday, September 7, 2020
for Labor Day.***



Dijon Vinaigrette Dressing

Ingredients:

- 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 3 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup
- 1 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 2 garlic cloves, finely minced

Directions:

Place all ingredients into a glass jar with a sealable lid and shake well.

Makes: 4 servings, 2 tablespoons per serving

Find us on 

for up-to-date information about us!

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