


Wake ElectriConnection

*“the power to make
a difference”*

a newsletter for members of Wake Electric Membership Corporation

Jan. 2008

 Wake Electric Membership Corporation

A Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 



ELECTRIC YOUTH TOUR 2008



***Win a one-week, all-expenses paid trip
to Washington D.C. AND
receive a \$1,000 scholarship!***

That's right—juniors—apply today to join 1,500 high school students from across the United States for an all-expenses paid one-week trip to the nation's capital. Winners will also receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

The students who attend the Youth Tour learn about electric cooperatives, American history and the U.S. government. Students also visit the historic sights of the nation's capital.

The Youth Tour exists to:

- Educate youth on rural electrification for a better understanding of rural electric cooperatives.
- Provide an opportunity for youth to visit monuments, government buildings and cooperative-related organizations and become familiar with the

historical and the political environment of the nation's capital.

- Allow youth to meet elected officials to better understand how federal government operates.

For more information on the youth tour, visit www.youthtour.coop.

To download an application starting January 1, visit Wake Electric's website at www.wemc.com. The deadline to submit applications is Friday, Feb. 8, 2008. For additional information, call Angela Perez, Public Relations Coordinator, at 919.863.6376 or send an email to angela.perez@wemc.com. The youth tour is another program funded through voluntary member and employee donations to Operation Round and the Wake Electric Foundation.

Attention Members: Wake Electric's Annual Meeting of Members has been scheduled for Friday, March 28, 2008 at the Louisburg College Auditorium. Registration begins at 6 p.m. and the business meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded. Be sure to check out the February newsletter for more information. Visit www.wemc.com for more information. See you there!

Bill Paying Freedom

Options.

We all want them. Especially when it comes to how we pay our bills.

You're busy. With career. Work. Children. Grandchildren. Home. Hobbies. And a million other things.

The last thing you want to think about—to worry about—is how you are going to pay your bills.

Wake Electric is here to make this inevitable task as simple and easy and suited to your lifestyle as possible.

That's why we're here—to provide you with the best customer service possible and we believe that the key components to that service are options.

So what are those simple ways to pay your electric bill?

1. Set up an on-line bill pay account through your bank. This is one of the most flexible ways for you to pay your bill. Simply go to your bank's website and set up your bill pay account to include Wake Electric. If you have any questions, be sure to contact your banking representative. This allows you to determine exactly when you want your

bill to be paid and if you want recurring payments. And the beauty of bank draft is that you can make your payments any time of day or night, any day of the week, including the weekends. It's the ultimate freedom in bill-paying.

2. You can set up bank draft payments with Wake Electric. We'll draft your account on a day that you determine.
3. Pay by telephone with a credit card. This allows you to call up Wake and through our automated system, quickly and securely pay your bill.
4. Visit one of our local offices in Zebulon, Louisburg, Oxford, and Wake Forest. We have offices spread throughout our

service territory to make it convenient for you to come in and pay in person or use the night deposit box.

5. If you are in the Wake Forest office, we also offer the option pay your bill using our automated kiosk, which takes credit card or check payments. The kiosk allows you to securely and safely make a payment all on your own.
6. You can also mail your payment in. Allow at least five business days for payment to be received in a timely manner.

For more info. on bill paying options, go www.wemc.com or call 1.800.474.6300 or 919.863.6300.





Middle-schoolers - apply today
for an all-expenses paid week at the



Coach Roy Williams Basketball Camp for boys or Coach Kay Yow Basketball Camp for girls

Wake Electric is proud to announce two basketball funding programs for 2008.

Your co-op is offering female students in rising grades 6-8 the opportunity to apply for a scholarship to the Kay Yow basketball camp and male students in rising grades 6-8 the opportunity to apply for a scholarship to attend the Roy Williams basketball camp.

The Kay Yow camp will be held June 22-26, 2008 at North Carolina State University in Raleigh and the Roy Williams camp will be held June 21-25, 2008 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in Chapel Hill. All expenses for the camps will be paid for by Wake Electric.

Applications will be available in early January, 2008. The deadline for students to apply to either camp is March 28, 2008. To download an application, go to www.wemc.com. For more information, call Angela Perez at 919.863.6376 or 1.800.474.6300.

The Touchstone Energy Sports Camps Scholarship winners will learn fundamental basketball skills, teamwork and develop new friendships. Camp graduates will learn new skills that will enable them to excel on and off the basketball court. The Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship Program is an expression of the electric cooperatives' historic commitment to the community on behalf of their 2.5 million North Carolina members.

Seniors and College-Students, apply for a scholarship!

Apply now for a 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 \$1,500 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 \$500 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 any of the scholarships, go to www.wemc.com or call 919.863.6376 or 1.800.474.6300 for more information.

Applications will be available on-line beginning early January, 2008. The deadline for submitting completed applications and supporting materials is March 28, 2008.

Applications are available from Wake Electric and on the cooperative's web site: www.wemc.com. Funded through voluntary contributions to Operation RoundUp.

Energy efficiency tips



Every month, members call in asking for energy efficiency tips. Based on some of the most common questions, Wake Electric has compiled a few tips to help our members save energy and money:

Energy tip #1:

Check the insulation in your attic, ceilings, exterior and basement walls, floors, and crawl spaces to see if it meets the levels recommended for North Carolina. Levels for N.C. are:

- Ceilings: R-30
- Walls: R-13
- Floors: R-19

Energy tip #2:

Cut your heating bills as much as 10 percent by following this quick tip.

By resetting your programmable thermostat from 70 F to 65 F to 60 F for eight hours a day (for instance, while no one is home or while everyone is tucked in bed) you can cut your heating bill by 10 to 20 percent.

Energy tip #3:

If you're trying to decide whether to invest in a more energy-efficient appliance or you'd like to determine your electricity loads, you may want to estimate appliance energy consumption.

You can use this formula to estimate an appliance's energy use:

Wattage × Hours used per day × Days used per year ÷ 1000 = Kilowatt-hour (kWh) consumption per year

For example:

Personal computer (120 Watts) and monitor (150 Watts):

$(120 \text{ Watts} + 150 \text{ Watts}) \times 4 \text{ hours per day} \times 365 \text{ days per year} \div 1000 = 394 \text{ kWh/year}$

Then, calculate the annual cost to run an appliance

by multiplying the kWh per year by your local utility's rate per kWh consumed.

$394 \text{ kWh} \times \$0.11 \text{ (Wake Electric's rate)} = \43.34 per year

You can usually find the wattage of most appliances stamped on the bottom or back of the appliance, or on its nameplate. The wattage listed is the maximum power drawn by the appliance. Since many appliances have a range of settings (hairdryers), the actual amount of power consumed depends on the setting used at any one time.

Here are some examples of the range of nameplate wattages for various household appliances:

- Clothes washer = 350–500 Watts
- Clothes dryer = 1800–5000 Watts
- Dishwasher = 1200–2400 Watts (heat drying feature increases energy use)
- Hair dryer = 1200–1875 Watts
- Microwave oven = 750–1100 Watts
- Personal computer
- CPU - awake / asleep = 120 / 30 or less
- Monitor - awake / asleep = 150 / 30 or less
- Laptop = 50 Watts
- Refrigerator (frost-free, 16 cubic feet) = 725 Watts
- Televisions
 - 27" = 113 Watts
 - 36" = 133 Watts
 - 53"-61" Projection = 170 Watts
 - Flat screen = 120 Watts
- Water heater (40 gallon) = 4500–5500 Watts

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PO Box 1229 ~ 414 East Wait Avenue
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