

# Along the LINE

**AUGUST 2024**

For members of  
Edgecombe-Martin County EMC

## Clay Participates in Youth Tour

The Washington Youth Tour is an annual, weeklong, all-expenses-paid trip for rising high school seniors in our service area. Hannah Clay attended this year's trip representing Edgecombe-Martin County EMC.

The Youth Tour provides a nonpartisan experience designed to help students understand American history and the impact of elected officials' decisions on their state and personal lives. It is a prestigious event where thousands of high school juniors from across the nation gather to learn about our nation's history, the freedoms we enjoy, and the sacrifices made for those freedoms.

While in Washington, D.C., the tour participants visited iconic sites such as the U.S. Capitol, Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian Museums, Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument and the Vietnam Memorial. They also met with their congressmen, enjoyed an evening boat ride on the Potomac River and attended a youth night with participants from other states.



Engaging today's youth is of paramount importance to the cooperative community. The mission of the Youth Tour, sponsored by local electric cooperatives nationwide, is founded on the belief that textbooks and lectures alone are insufficient for understanding the democratic process and developing the skills needed to become future leaders. Today's teenagers benefit from experiencing government firsthand by visiting the nation's capital, meeting their representatives and senators, and participating in interactive workshops and discussions.

By educating our high school students and enhancing their self-worth, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC hopes to promote and inspire responsible and informed participation in the democratic process - in essence, ensuring a stronger future for everyone.



## Save the Date for Customer Appreciation Day

Customer Appreciation Day will be held at the Cooperative on Wednesday, Oct. 9, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Each registered member will be treated to a hot dog lunch with chips and a drink.

Members will also be entered into a drawing to win a credit on their electric bill.

We look forward to seeing you there!

# Online Portal for Managing Electric Service

SmartHub is a convenient online portal that allows you to manage your electric service from anywhere. With SmartHub, you can view your bills, pay online, monitor your energy usage and more.

One of the standout features of SmartHub is its customizable-notifications. You can choose which alerts to receive, who receives them, and how they are delivered. To set up notifications, log in to your SmartHub account and navigate to Notifications -> Manage Notifications. There, you will see a list of notification triggers that you can activate or deactivate. For each trigger, you can select whether you want to receive SMS texts, email notifications, or both.

You can also add multiple contacts to your account, such as a spouse, roommate, business partner or landlord. Assign different notifications to each contact and choose their preferred format to keep everyone informed about your electric service.

A particularly important notification for members is the high usage alert. This alert can notify you immediately if there's an issue causing your energy consumption to spike, rather than waiting for your bill to arrive.

To set up high usage alerts, analyze your usage to determine a minimum and maximum energy threshold using the Usage Explorer tool. Set your maximum daily



usage threshold based on high usage values and your minimum usage threshold based on low usage values. Click on the Usage tab, then click on Options at the right end of the window to personalize your energy thresholds. Enter your power usage threshold values and click Save Subscription. Once set, you will receive an alert when your energy usage meets your specified threshold values.

SmartHub makes managing your electric service easy and customizable, keeping you informed and in control.

## Empowering Future Engineers: Matthew Green's Internship Journey This Summer

We have had the pleasure to host Matthew Green as an intern over the past few months through the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation Internship Program.

This fall, Matthew will enter his third year as an electrical engineering student at NC State. In addition to his academic endeavors, he is an active member of North Carolina State University's marching band, where he plays the trumpet.

These internships play a dual role by giving the interns valuable on-the-job training with many opportunities while allowing the cooperative to prepare for future staffing needs. We greatly appreciate Matthew's contributions during his time with us and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.



Edgecombe-Martin County EMC takes immense pride in supporting the communities we serve. Our commitment to community development is exemplified through our participation in the “Sharing Success” grant program. This initiative, supported by CoBank, matches contributions from cooperative members to nonprofit organizations, doubling the impact of our charitable efforts. This year, CoBank set aside a \$5 million fund to match contributions made by its cooperative members, underscoring the significant role cooperatives play in supporting local communities.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC awarded \$2,000 to the **Edgecombe County Veterans Museum**, with CoBank matching this contribution for a total of \$4,000. This grant supports the restoration and preservation of a significant mural at the museum.

The museum’s mission is to inform and educate the public while honoring and commemorating military veterans from Edgecombe County. It houses over 1,250 framed portraits of veterans and more than 3,500 artifacts spanning from the Revolutionary War to the present. Notably, it includes a dedicated room to General Hugh Shelton, a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who hails from Edgecombe County.

The museum continuously updates its displays, ensuring a dynamic and engaging experience for visitors while preserving the rich history and sacrifices of our veterans.

The **West Martin Community Center** received \$1,000 from Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, matched by CoBank for a total of \$2,000. This grant aids in covering the center’s operating expenses, enabling it to continue its mission of connecting the community through education, fellowship, and health and well-being initiatives.

The center collaborates with local and state agencies to prevent and address chronic diseases, offering health and fitness programs alongside community engagement opportunities. The grant will also help in the restoration of the facility, ensuring it remains a vital resource for community health and engagement.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC also awarded \$2,000 to the **Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern North Carolina**, with CoBank matching this for

a total of \$4,000. This funding supports ongoing utility and maintenance expenses, ensuring that families with sick children have a “home away from home” during challenging times.

The Ronald McDonald House provides essential resources and a comforting environment for families, allowing them to focus on their child’s recovery. This support is crucial in alleviating the stress and emotional burden that comes with a child’s serious illness or injury, offering families the solace of being together when it matters most.

Through the “Sharing Success” grant program, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, in partnership with CoBank, is making a tangible difference in our community. These grants highlight our dedication to supporting vital local organizations that enrich and strengthen our community. By matching contributions dollar-for-dollar, CoBank amplifies the impact of our efforts, allowing us to support the restoration of historical artifacts, promote health and wellness, and provide comfort to families in need.

We are proud to celebrate the achievements of these deserving organizations and look forward to continuing our mission of service to rural America. The collective efforts of cooperatives like ours and partners like CoBank ensure that we can make a positive, lasting impact on the communities we serve.

*Eddie Stocks*  
Eddie Stocks

# Contact us Before Pulling Meters

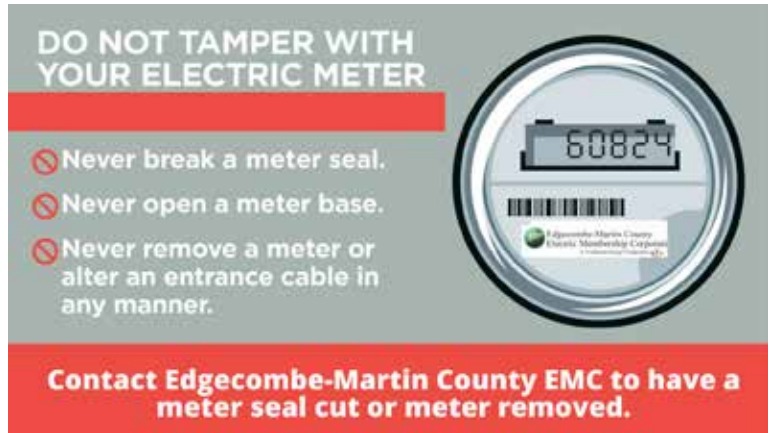
At Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, nothing's more important than the safety of our members, employees and the general public.

That's why we have policies in place to ensure that only Edgecombe-Martin County EMC personnel can access cooperative-owned equipment, including our electric meters.

That means if you're having work done at your home, farm, or business that would cause your electric meter and/or other cooperative-owned equipment to be disconnected or reconnected, your first call should be to Edgecombe-Martin County EMC. We are happy to schedule a time with you or your contractor to safely and promptly disconnect and reconnect your meter at no additional charge.

New technology and metering equipment help cooperative staff monitor system reliability. When a member or electrician removes a meter, notification is sent to cooperative personnel. It is known that sometimes members needing to perform electrical work on their side of the meter will temporarily pull the meter to complete that work.

Disconnecting a meter without permission from the co-op is illegal, unsafe, and can result in fines for the member.



## Along The LINE

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Hwy. 33 East, P.O. Box 188  
Tarboro, NC 27886  
252-823-2171 • 1-800-445-6486  
Office Hours: 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (M–F)

### After Hours Outage Reporting 1-800-690-0657

Payments after office hours and on holidays can be made at the kiosk under the drive thru canopy, by calling our automated telephone service at

1-855-356-6358, placed in the night deposit box or you may choose to utilize the convenience of online bill-pay by logging on to [ememc.com](http://ememc.com)

## August Rights-of-Way

In order to provide safe, reliable electrical service, we maintain the rights-of-way under and around our power lines. We do this through rights-of-way and vegetation management. This requires pruning, removing and cutting vegetation to prevent interruption of your electric service.

Throughout August, Burford's Tree will utilize the sky trim, buckets and bushhogging equipment in the Hamilton and Oak City service areas and various hotspots on the system.

