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Office Hours

8 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday–Friday

General Information

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Nights, Weekends, Holidays

(803) 276-1121

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Holiday Closing

Newberry Electric Cooperative will be closed on Monday, September 6, in observance of Labor Day. For power outages or electrical emergencies, please call (803) 276-1121. Emergency crews will be on standby.



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

Efficiency helps us meet our power needs

REDUCING ENERGY CONSUMPTION AT HOME

has a direct, obvious and positive effect on your monthly electric bill, but it also plays an important role in reducing the need to construct costly new generation facilities. And that helps keep everyone's monthly bill affordable.



As a non-profit electric utility, we have heard from consumers who have worked hard to reduce their home

electric usage by cutting off lights, raising their thermostat, shutting off their water heaters, and other such "belt-tightening" measures aimed at lowering their electric bills. Some of these consumers have voiced frustration that despite their efforts to cut back and use less electricity, the co-op still raises rates and defeats their efforts to lower their cost.

Please understand that while we have to price our service based on our forecast of how much we are going to sell and what we expect our costs will be, everyone still wins if consumers take steps to use less electricity. Rate adjustments do not defeat consumers' efforts to use less. Cutting back makes your bill lower than it would have been had you not cut back. But the biggest benefit and cost savings from our families "tightening their belts" is a more indirect, lesser-known reason to try to conserve electricity.

America has experienced rapid development and growth, and much of that progress has been powered by electricity. In the past, there were relatively few barriers to keeping up with consumer demand. Fuel for electric generation was plentiful and cheap. Infrastructure, such as power generation plants and transmission

lines, was not terribly difficult to plan. Since building infrastructure and producing electricity were relatively cheap and easy, little thought was given to energy efficiency in the home or business as a serious part of any supply solution.

Keeping up with demand is getting very difficult on the power supply side for a number of reasons. Traditional fossil fuels are under attack for their carbon emissions. Nuclear power, while carbon free, has its own set of problems. Renewable generation options are still expensive and have limited availability during peak periods, and planning the location of future transmission facilities to get that power onto the grid can be difficult. Something has to give—and soon—on the supply side.

With such constraints on building additional infrastructure, it makes sense to slow the growth of electricity consumption. The best energy-efficiency programs are designed to shape usage patterns in a way that allows utilities to meet consumer demand while deferring the construction of new power plants.

By managing your energy use, you are also helping with the supply side of the equation. Look for energy-efficiency resources on our website at www.nec.coop. These energy-saving tips and other resources will help you save energy and reduce peak consumption.

Dan Murphy
President and Chief Executive Officer

Youth Tour-ists see D.C. Two students represent Newberry Electric



Sarah Wicker and Hannah Sheely on the Capitol steps in Washington.

TWO STUDENTS REPRESENTING Newberry Electric Cooperative on a trip to the nation's capital in June came back with lots of photos and special memories.

Sarah Wicker and Hannah Sheely were among 46 South Carolina rising high school seniors on Youth Tour 2010, a six-day trip to Washington, D.C., sponsored by their local electric cooperatives. Both Sarah Wicker and Hannah Sheely are students at Mid-Carolina High School in Prosperity.

According to Sarah,

“The trip was an awesome experience. In only five great days, we did more than some people get the chance to do in a lifetime. I have been to Washington, D.C., before, but this trip was truly different. Because I am older, everything was more exciting and more profound. It was emotional to walk beside the wall of granite with names etched of Vietnam veterans who gave their lives so another country could have a chance at freedom. It was heart wrenching to walk

into the Holocaust Museum and see thousands of pairs of shoes that had once adorned the feet of children my age and those much younger.” Sarah is the daughter of Richard and Karen Wicker of Prosperity.

Hannah writes, “The trip to Washington, D.C., is one that I will never forget. The whole experience is one that I could never have taken part in without the program through the cooperative. I have now decided that I definitely want to major in political science in college and, hopefully, work in government. I believe that I can make a difference in the way our country is run. I truly enjoyed every minute of the trip and cannot thank Newberry Electric Cooperative enough for giving me the opportunity.” Hannah is the daughter of Jay and Charlotte Sheely of Little Mountain.

Access youthtour.org to view photos from their trip. The students visited landmarks, historic sites and museums and met with their state's congressional delegation. The co-op delegates compete annually for the opportunity and joined high school students from around the country.

Peter Barfield, representing Horry Electric, was selected by his peers to be the South Carolina representative for Youth Leadership Council. He was scheduled to return to Washington in July to join representatives from other states for a week of leadership training.

Nishikwa Mellerson, representing Black River Electric, received the \$2,500 R.D. Bennett Scholarship, which is awarded to one student during Youth Tour. Nishikwa plans to attend the University of South Carolina.

Sarah poses by the South Carolina pillar of the World War II Memorial where both she and Hannah visited.

