



Vol. 28, No. 8

Owned By Those We Serve

August 2025

Listen Up K-12 Educators:

Apply Early for A Bright Ideas Grant and Be Entered to Win \$100

As the old saying goes, “the early bird gets the worm.” Be one of the “early bird” K-12 teachers who submit their Bright Ideas Education Grant application by Aug. 15 to get “the worm,” or a chance to win one of five \$100 gift cards in a statewide drawing.

The final deadline to apply for a Bright Ideas grant of up to \$1,000 from Rutherford EMC is Sept. 15. Rutherford EMC expects to award over \$15,000 in Bright Ideas grants to fund innovative and deserving educators again this year.

To apply teachers must fill out the on-line only application and include a budget; explain the project’s implementation, goals, creative elements and evaluation of the project; and of course first and foremost have approval from their schools administration.

The Bright Ideas Education Grant program, offered by Rutherford EMC and North Carolina’s 26 electric cooperatives, advances excellence in education and accelerates student learning by providing funds for innovative projects. Since the program began in 1994, educators statewide have received more than \$16.5 million in Bright Ideas grant funding for nearly 15,000 projects benefiting almost 4 million North Carolina students.



To learn more about the program and apply, visit ncbrightideas.com.

Join Rutherford EMC in Recognizing 8/11 as a Reminder to Call 811 Before You Dig



On Aug. 11 (8/11), Rutherford EMC is reminding members to dial 8-1-1 at least three working days before beginning a digging project. This free and simple step can save lives and reduce risk of injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages.

The national 811 “Call Before You Dig” phone number links residents to a local call center, which then dispatches local utility companies to mark line locations with paint or flags. These marked lines show you where it is – and isn’t – safe to break ground. Once your lines have been marked, make sure to dig carefully around the marks, not on top of them. Because utility line locations can shift, it’s important to call each time you are planning to dig.

For more information about safe digging and the “Call Before You Dig” process, visit nc811.org.

SWAP SHOP

Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation provides Swap Shop ads as a free service to its members. Guidelines are as follows: Ads are published first-come, first-served. When the space allotted for ads each month is full, remaining ads will be held over for the next issue. Ads will not be run more than once unless re-submitted. Commercial ads will not be accepted. We reserve the right to edit, condense or deny publication of any advertisement. Rutherford Electric Membership Corp. assumes no responsibility for the content of any advertisement and does not endorse or warrant any of the goods so advertised. Please include your account number with your ad.

Mail your ads to:

Newsletter Editor, Rutherford EMC, PO Box 1569,
Forest City, NC, 28043-1569 or e-mail at cbailey@remc.com.
No phone calls, please.

FOR SALE

Collection of 184 records, all are 45s from the 1970's -1980's, excellent condition and most are still in paper sleeves, \$300 for all. 704-538-1076.

Sand filter – used on a 12,000-gallon pool, but could serve a larger one, used approximately 5 years before pool was closed. 704-626-0166 or 704-736-5959.

309 Corn parts – water wheel pump, \$400; 50-gallon sprayer, \$200; table saw, \$45. Nebo, NC. 828-317-0244, no text please.

Springdale 7 ½' pool table, excellent condition, \$750; MD Sports 48" foosball table, good condition, \$100; MD Sports 48" air hockey table with minor damage, \$100; 3" x 10' black pipe, \$50; 4" x 10' black pipe, \$75; 1 ¼" x 50' roll of drainpipe, \$75. 828-721-0234.

(4) Grave plots located in the Forest Lawn Cemetery on the west side of the fountain facing Highway 150. 828-324-7609 or 828-320-7143.

(2) 1,200 watt LED grow lights for a greenhouse, used very little, has several settings, \$40 ea.; spring rack, \$75; spreader that pulls behind a lawn mower, \$125; (2) scaffolds, 4' tall x 4' long w/2 shelves each, \$150 for both; Wilson bag w/golf clubs: (6) irons, a putter, a driver w/cover, (2) woods & (2) Aspect woods and a cover, \$150; assortment of (47) golf balls, tees, and other misc. golf items, \$40; 7' tall nut cracker statue, \$200. Bessemer City, NC. 704-813-5656.

(2) Grave plots in the high demand Hillcrest II section of McDowell Memorial Park, lots are next to the road for very easy access, \$900 each obo. 828-442-7415.

48" outdoor Christmas wreath, \$100; Easy-Up Pro saddle and tack cart, Schneiders, like new, \$150; rolling garden work seat, \$50; padded bolt-in roll bar for a 68, 69 or 70 Corvette, \$100; set of American Racing 15" mag wheels, \$350; Clemson antique push mower, good working cond., \$50. 864-706-5229.

Recyclables galore – anything you can imagine, all washed and clean up ready for display, selling everything together as one lot, have many items for farmers vegetable market such as baked good and vegetable displays, freezing, canning supplies and even items for bible school crafts, a lot of these items you will never find again. Enough items to start a recyclables museum, for a parcel list call 828-433-6635.

500-gallon underground liquid propane tank, never been underground, \$500; 24' Werner aluminum extension ladder, like new, \$75; Sony Handicam 8 video recorder, \$50; 14' Allyoop trampoline w/frame, springs, padding, spring cover and ladder, \$400. 704-747-8774.

1950 Plymouth Deluxe 2-door needs restoration. 828-334-3182.

Epson 710 series printer w/several extra ink cartridges, \$50; set of table lamps, \$25 for the pair; women's dress shoes, one pair size 9 ½, two other pairs are size 9, new never worn, \$10 per pair; 3-4 women's dresses size 12, \$10 each, some never worn. 828-334-3182.

Building full of tools – toolbox w/tools, bandsaw, table saw, ladders, weed eater, some things are still new in packages, selling everything in building as one lot. 704-215-6953.

Wood dining room set that includes table, (6) chairs, hutch and corner cabinet, all in excellent condition. \$300. 704-530-8077.

1985 Four Winns 19.5' Cuddy Cabin boat, 205 hp 6 cylinder engine, trailer included, good condition, \$3,800. Morganton, NC. 828-391-7416.

2000 Harley Davidson Electra-Glide Ultra Classic motorcycle, 1 owner, 33,500 miles, red & black in color, only modifications are Samson exhaust, Screaming Eagle air filter, Power Commander, and added chrome parts, \$6,000. Kings Mtn., NC. 704-974-6131.

4' x 8' utility trailer, no title, \$400; garden tiller and lawn mower that need work; tools of all kinds and yard sale items. 828-327-4782.

Water totes \$100 ea.; plastic feed barrels in w/lids and rings in 30 and 55 gallon sizes, \$20 ea.; plastic

and metal drums, \$10 ea.; solid top plastic barrels in 15, 30 and 50-gallon sizes, \$10 ea.; burning barrels, \$10 ea. Hickory, NC. 828-327-4782.

1992 rare Harley Davidson FXLRC custom, red in color, 13,200 miles, only modifications are Screaming Eagle breather, performance exhaust and added chrome, excellent condition, \$6,500, Kings Mtn., NC. 704-974-6131.

Older upright piano, measures approximately 57" high x 59" long x 28" wide, \$100. Iron Station, NC. Text or leave a message at 704-458-4005.

White fiberglass fencing slats in random lengths up to 10', includes screws, enough to triple fence about 2/10 of a mile, price negotiable, buyer must haul. Marion, NC. 828-442-7454.

2007 Ford F-150 STX 4x4 extended cab pickup truck, Triton engine, 237,603 miles, blue in color, new transmission, tires and water pump, runs great, \$9,500. Hickory, NC. 828-327-4782.

MISCELLANEOUS

For Rent: February 7-14, 2026, The Christie Lodge, an All-Suite Property at Beaver Creek, located in Avon, CO., dates can be changed, if space is available; this is a 1BR timeshare condo, \$995/week or \$150/daily, sleeps 4, on site & close by amenities, just minutes to Vail, CO., w/easy transportation to/from the Denver Airport. Condo is also For Sale as a deeded property with annual use during Red Winter weeks, (mid-December to mid-April). 704-732-8678. A commission will be paid.

WANTED

Red Tail African Gray parrot at a reasonable price, will also consider one that someone is looking to re-home. Bessemer City, NC. Call or text 704-689-8258.

Bricks – looking for 75 old, used, SOLID reddish-brown bricks, to finish a brick walkway, the older the better. 757-903-5767.

5-speed transmission out of a Chevy S-10 with the 4.3-liter engine. 828-334-3182.

Wheat pennies and Indian Head pennies, reasonably priced, also looking for empty coin holder books. 828-327-4782.

Make Plans to Attend REMC's 2025 Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars and be on the lookout for more details over the next few months! Rutherford EMC's 2025 Annual Membership Meeting will be held at East Rutherford High School on October 25, 2025.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**SAVE THE
DATE!**
October 25, 2025
@ 11 a.m.

Sunset til' Sun Rise

A night in the life of a Rutherford EMC lineman during storm season

When the weather turns, that's not the only thing that changes. Our world at the co-op turns upside down. When you see the clouds gathering and hear the wind picking up, you might feel a shiver of excitement or maybe even dread. For the linemen of Rutherford EMC, it's a call to action! It's a signal that our work is just beginning no matter the time. It doesn't matter if we have already worked all day or night, our work doesn't end until the power is back on for all of you.

Just imagine for a moment - a massive, late-evening thunderstorm rolls through about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, bringing down trees and snapping power poles like twigs. The lights go out. Your first thought is likely, when will the power come back on? As a co-op lineman, no matter the time of day, it's our priority to get out there quickly and safely to get that line reenergized.

At Rutherford EMC we work around the clock, in conditions that undoubtedly would send most people indoors. At the end of a normal workday, we're tired. Sometimes bone-weary tired. When a tough evening storm hits, we just keep going. We work until our muscles ache, our eyes feel heavy, and our stomachs are growling, often settling for a quick-snack or just pushing through until the job is done. This is the dedication and drive it takes to be a co-op lineman.

The weather isn't predictable, and during storm season our work schedules aren't either. It can be a scorching 100-degree day with oppressive humidity or a freezing night with biting winds and driving rain, and you will find us out there - climbing poles, splicing wires, and handling energized electric lines in the same extreme heat and biting cold that sends most folks running for their air conditioning or the warmth of a heater.

These are not planned outages. We can't schedule a windstorm, a hurricane, or an ice storm. These unplanned conditions throw our normal work schedule into chaos. Our everyday work orders, new service installations, scheduled routine maintenance projects, and meter changes must be put on hold. We know this can be frustrating for some of you at times, especially when you are next on the work schedule or have an appointment to meet with one of our employees about an upcoming project. But we appreciate your patience during these times as we shift our focus to restoring power to the community.

So, the next time a storm hits, and the power goes out, please remember the men and women of Rutherford EMC are working tirelessly for you, even after hours from sunset to sunrise, to keep your power on. Your patience and understanding mean more to us than you will ever know. We are your neighbors and friends and remain committed to serving you. Just remember, during these stormy times we will be there and not stop until the lights are back on for all our members!



If every pool pump sold in the U.S. were Energy Star certified, families could save nearly \$240 million in energy costs each year and prevent greenhouse gas emissions equal to more than 400,000 cars.

Source: [Energystar.gov](https://energystar.gov)



A Day of Discovering "The Magic of Electricity"



Have you ever seen “the light come on” in a child’s eyes when they learn something new? That’s exactly what happened during a recent summer program titled “The Magic of Electricity,” hosted by Cynthia Robbins, 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent with the NC Cooperative Extension Service. This hands-on program introduced young learners to the fundamentals of electricity, electrical safety, and the wide range of careers available in the electric industry.

The day began with excitement and curiosity as the students explored simple electrical concepts. They learned how to power a light bulb using just a battery and aluminum foil, experimented with air gaps to open and close circuits, and even assembled their very own lamp kits to take home—a fun and empowering project that truly sparked their interest.

To deepen their understanding, Robbins partnered with Rutherford EMC (REMC), bringing in professionals to offer real-world insights into electricity generation and delivery. After a morning of experimentation, students visited REMC’s material yard to see the components that make up the electrical grid. REMC employee Chad Bailey guided them through the experience, explaining, “This is how it all begins—in pieces.” Students got to examine utility poles, wires, transformers, breakers, and other specialized equipment used to build and maintain the powerlines that keep our lights on.

The educational adventure continued with a visit to a local substation, where they saw how all those individual components come together to form a working system. But perhaps the most memorable part of the day came next—meeting an REMC service crew out in the field. Linemen Ryan Price and Caleb Thomas gave students a hands-on tour of their utility truck and tools. The children were especially fascinated by the large conductor wires, splicing methods, and the linemen’s safety gear. They even tried on rub-

ber gloves and sleeves while learning how linemen protect themselves when working with high-voltage equipment. Concepts like conductors, insulators, and voltage transformation came to life before their eyes.

After putting the puzzle together—from parts, to power, to people—it was back to the 4-H Extension office for one final lesson: powerline safety. Students learned why their lights sometimes blink, how birds can safely perch on energized lines, and what to do if a vehicle ever comes into contact with a downed powerline.

It was a day full of discovery, learning, and hands-on fun. These 4-H students didn’t just hear about electricity—they experienced it. As the photos show, their smiles were as bright as the bulbs they lit, and the knowledge they gained will continue to shine long after the day was done.

