

# The NEWS LINE

RUTHERFORD ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

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Owned By Those We Serve

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## Teachers, It's Time to Apply for a Bright Ideas Grant!



### Teachers, Get Ready!

Applications launch April 1!

[NCBrightIdeas.com](https://www.ncbrightideas.com)

Rutherford EMC is partnering with outstanding educators to bring their creative lesson plans to life! Starting April 1, teachers can apply for a Bright Ideas education grant of up to \$1,000 to fund projects that enhance student success in the classroom. Applications and more information about the program can be found at [ncbrightideas.com](https://www.ncbrightideas.com).

The 2026-27 school year marks the 32nd year that North Carolina's electric cooperatives have funded educators' innovative projects. During that time, Rutherford EMC has awarded more than \$503,000 for 649 projects that have benefited well over 139,000 students in Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk and Rutherford counties. Grants are available in all curriculum areas including art, science, history, music, mathematics and more.

Bright Ideas grant applications will be accepted through September 15th, but teachers are encouraged to apply early.

Supported by all 26 electric cooperatives in North Carolina, Bright Ideas grants have contributed nearly \$17 million to N.C. classrooms, funding more than 16,000 projects and benefiting close to four million students statewide since 1994.

Support for youth and education is part of our continued commitment to building a brighter future for the communities we serve. To learn more, visit [remc.com](https://www.remccom).

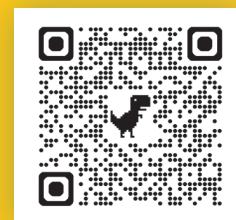
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## SWAP SHOP

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](mailto:cbailey@remc.com).  
No phone calls, please.

## FOR SALE

**2005** Harley Davidson 1200 Sportster and 2008 883 Sportster, \$6,000 for both or \$3,500 for the 1200 and \$2,500 for the 883. 704-689-3987.

**4.5 HP** Briggs & Stratton 4-cycle engine, mounted on a power washer frame with water pump removed, excellent engine and used very little, \$100. 828-442-3925.

**Harley** Davidson riding boots, size 10 1/2 wide \$50; (2) Harley helmets, \$65 each. Morganton, NC. 828-544-5303.

**Fender** acoustic 90-watt amplifier, like new, \$175 firm. 864-441-7921.

**2005** 883 Harley Davidson Sportster, all original with quick release windshield, sissy bar, extra full seat, 11,338 miles, no damage, all fluids changed, runs great, garage kept, \$4,500. 980-525-1812.

**2016** Forest River Surveyor 243 RBS 24 ft. travel trailer, lightweight with single slide out, outdoor kitchen, rear bath, sleeps four, great condition. 828-245-8159 or text 612-483-7238.

(5) aromatherapy books, \$35; German stein, \$18; (20) stuffed animals, \$25; small dog sweater and harness, \$12; (5) vintage adjustable elastic belts, \$40; Vista Aspen neck brace, \$28; (7) Debbie Macomber books, \$11; new cargo net for Hyundai Sante Fe, \$13; (4) heavy smoky glass doors, 12' x 13' w/ hardware, \$50; 1/2 gallon red paint, \$15; lot of grandparent things, \$25; vintage rattan bamboo magazine holder, \$50; large vintage ceramic turkey platter, \$35; vintage dusty rose shawl, \$15. 828-246-7563.

**John Deere** mower 17 1/2 HP, 42 in. cut, \$800; John Deere mower, 193 hours, 25 HP, 54 in. cut, \$2,000; Tricycle tractor, must move, \$1,500. 828-327-4782.

**Heavy duty** metal barrels, solid top, \$20 ea.; Metal burning barrels, \$10 ea.; Water totes, 275-gallon, \$100; Solid top plastic feed barrels, 15-30 and 55-gallon, \$10 ea.; Feed barrels w/ lids and rings, 35 and 55-gallon, \$20 ea. Hickory, NC. 828-327-4782.

**2003** Bass Tracker Grizzly 16 ft. aluminum boat, 50 HP, 2 stroke Tracker motor, Minnkota Terrova GPS trolling motor, echo map UHD 93sv+. 828-433-0790.

**Pfaltzgraff** Amalfi Classic Collection, sold 1996-2005, (11) dinner plates, (11) salad plates, (9) cereal bowls, (12) flat cups w/ saucers, (4) 16 oz. iced tea goblets, (7) 16 oz. glasses, (1) round clear platter, (2) salt & pepper sets, classic 19 in. serving bowl, (1) salad serving bowl, (1) sugar and creamer, (1) cloth pot holder, (1) oven mitt, sells on Ebay, Replacements.com, Etsy, etc. for over \$700, pick up only, no shipping, \$100, OBO. 704-861-0766.

**1960** oil on-canvas framed picture, artist EJ Cygne, 34" x 45", \$950. 980-241-8181.

**Samsonite** rolling briefcase, \$35; very old baby sweater hat, hand crocheted, \$18; razor black widow keyboard, \$35; compression socks, \$12; (2) Onn mics, \$15; (2) glass pitchers, \$18; New York & Co. Blazer, size 14, \$10; Apple S7 charger, \$8; AWP tool pouch, \$12; very old ceramic couple, \$32; Elect padded neck massager, \$20; aluminum crutches, \$20; vintage roasting pans, \$15; resin oil burners w/ animals, \$21; Gloria Vanderbilt tall black boots, size 6 1/2, \$25; (2) racket ball rackets, \$30; 16 x 20 glass cutting board, \$12; archer router, \$28; Eufy 2k wired security camera, \$20; Sabian quiet tone, 14" hi-hats w/ Yamaha stand, \$135; upright stand for (2) guitars, \$20; MSI Nvidia GTX 1050 TI OC, \$80. 828-246-7563.

**Dairy** sheep - East Friesian and East Friesian/Lucaune sheep, ewes, rams, lambs, \$350 per sheep, or (3) ewes and (2) rams for \$1,500, great gene pool to start a flock, best breed of sheep for dairy, good for nutrition and cheese making. Morganton, NC. 828-551-6754.

(29) records - Jimmy Dean, Conway Twitty, Chet Atkins, all in excellent condition, in original sleeves. 828-287-3523.

**Craftsman** 12 in. band saw/sander, model no. 113.243310 saw w/ legs and motor, used by owner only, no outside jobs, tires have been replaced, price includes extra blades, have manual, \$200. Polk County. 828-894-2562.

**Zoeller** 4 in. submersible pump, 3 wire, 1 HP, brand new, never used, \$625 firm. 828-652-3999 or 828-442-4576.

**6 ft.** mechanical wood clamp, \$500; car dolly, \$500. 704-473-2774.

**Vintage** wood hutch, \$200; 4 pc vintage king bedroom set, \$200; Randy Jackson guitar, \$200; size 7 tap shoes, \$28; tow package for Hyundai Sante Fe 2000-2005, \$200; vintage tie pins, \$20; (3) pairs of satin pjs, \$18; old child's wood rocker, \$30; vintage ceramic cookie jar w/ cat, \$42; (2) vintage hand crocheted Afghans, \$20; (9) Mary Higgins Clark books, \$28; shoulder/arm brace, \$25. 828-246-7563

**Large** collection of Franklin Mint dolls, some Ashton Drake dolls, in mint condition, never taken out of boxes, with certificate. Vale, NC. 252-240-9570.

**Grass** fed and grain finished beef: spring bundle includes (2) roast, (2) beef stews, (2) cube steak, and (4) lbs. of 80/20 ground beef for \$100. Also selling whole, halves and quarters. 704-472-2761.

## WANTED

**Record** collections, 33s and 45s, in paper sleeves, please look at records under a light, interested in records that are mold free, mostly clean and scratch-free; Cassettes and CD collections, looking for rock, pop, and/or jazz. 828-302-5703.

**Used** vehicle in good condition, make not important. 704-769-8025

**Record** player with high spindle in center that plays 45 and 33 records, must have adaptor for spindle. 704-769-8025. Leave message if no answer.

**Pottery** kiln. 704-473-2774.



## Tackling Those Home Improvement Projects May Have Gotten Just a Little Easier

Apply for an Energy Efficiency Loan with Electel

Did you know that Rutherford EMC members are eligible for membership with Electel Cooperative Federal Credit Union? Electel is an ideal source for financing energy efficiency related projects as well as products for your home. Loans are available for many residential improvements that may save you energy and money.

The energy efficiency loans are primarily available to residential dwelling property owners only. This may include family residences, duplexes, and owner-occupied condominiums. Energy efficient improvements may include electric heat pumps, weather stripping, electric/solar water heaters, insulation, windows, doors, and other solar or energy star related items. Apply for membership today at [electel.org](http://electel.org) or call them at 1-800-849-5600 and see what they have to offer you!



## JOIN US IN SAYING THANK YOU ON LINEWORKER APPRECIATION DAY

On Monday, April 13th, Rutherford EMC will join electric cooperatives across the state in honoring the folks who show up every day to keep the lights on in our communities—our lineworkers.

“Our crews work year-round to build and maintain the power system that keeps the lights on for our members,” said Jimmy Buckner, Director of Polk/Rutherford District Operations. “This day is an opportunity for us to thank them for their hard work and dedication, ensuring

that our communities stay powered and connected.”

Rutherford EMC employs approximately 80 lineworkers across its service territory, maintaining over 7,700 miles of line to connect rural communities and provide reliable electricity to you, our members.

While we appreciate the work of our lineworkers every day, the second Monday in April is set aside each year in North Carolina to remind us all to say, “Thank you,” for a job well done!





Can we get your up-to-date contact info please?

At Rutherford EMC we are constantly striving to improve our operational efficiency so we can provide the most reliable electric service possible for our members (that's you!).

We rely on data for nearly every aspect of our operations, which is why we need your help. By making sure we have your up-to-date contact information, we can continue to provide the high level of service that you deserve. Accurate information enables us to improve communications for reporting and repairing outages. It also allows co-op members to receive information about other important programs, events and activities.

Up-to-date contact information can potentially speed up the power restoration process during an outage. For example, the phone number you provide is linked to your service address in our outage management system. This means when you call to report an outage, our system recognizes your phone number and matches it with your account location. Accurate information helps our outage management system predict the location of an outage, making it easier for our crews to correctly identify and plan for the potential problem before they even arrive on scene.

While we always do our best to maintain service, we occasionally plan outages to update, repair or replace equipment. In these instances, we can

provide advance notification to affected members through automated phone messages, text messages or email, if we have your updated contact information.

Keeping the co-op up-to-date with your information helps us when there's a question about energy use or billing. Emails and text messages can also be used to alert registered members of any unexpected changes in their daily usage. In addition, discrepancies on your account can be taken care of promptly if Rutherford EMC has accurate account information.

Many of you have been members of the co-op for years, and it's likely that your account information hasn't been updated for some time. We recognize that many members now use a cell phone as their primary phone service, and we might not have that number in our system.

**I want to emphasize that in providing your contact information to the co-op, we will never share this information with any third parties. It is only used by Rutherford EMC to communicate with you.** Please take a moment to confirm and update the contact information shown on your monthly electric bill. By doing so, you will be helping us improve service and efficiency so we can better serve you and all members of the co-op.

## Know What's Below: Steps for Safe Digging

Spring is just around the corner, and there's never been a better time to get outside and enjoy the fresh air. Perhaps you're making plans for a new garden or a lawn makeover. However you're planning to revamp your backyard oasis, remember to keep safety in mind for all projects—especially those that require digging near underground utility lines.

Most of us never think about the electric, gas, water and other utility lines buried below the ground, but hitting one of these lines while digging is not the reminder you'll want—trust us! Rutherford EMC reminds all members who are planning a digging project to call 811 at least three business days before you start. Or you can submit a request online by visiting [call811.com](http://call811.com). Here's how the process works:

After you call 811 or submit your request online, all affected utilities will be notified of your intent to dig. It may take the utilities a few days to get to your request, so please be patient. The affected utilities will send someone out to mark the buried lines with paint or flags. Before you break ground, confirm that all the utilities have responded to your request. If you placed your request by phone, use the process explained by your 811 call center representative. If you submitted your request online, refer to your 811 center ticket to confirm everything.

By taking this important step before you break ground on your project, you can help protect not only yourself but our community. Disrupting an underground utility line can interrupt service, cause injuries and cost money to repair, so remember to call 811 first and know what's below.



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

Digging into an Outdoor Project?

Before you dig, dial 811 or visit [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com) to protect underground utilities. Careless digging poses a threat to people, electric lines and other underground facilities. Contact 811 first and help keep our community safe.