

Changes to the... **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING FORMAT**

After careful consideration, Rutherford EMC's Board of Directors has decided to change the format of our Annual Membership Meeting. This October, we will transition to a business-only format. This shift marks a significant departure from the traditional membership meeting.

Over the past several years, REMC has observed a significant decline in participation at our traditional Annual Membership meetings. Despite our efforts to improve engagement, overall attendance has not met our expectations. Unfortunately, as participation dwindled, the costs associated with organizing this event have continued to increase.

REMC's Board and management team reviewed the statistics from our last several Annual Meetings and ultimately decided that it is in the best

interest of our membership to transition to a business meeting only. We understand that this new format is different, but we feel this decision better aligns with our goal of providing the most affordable service possible.

Members who wish to attend the business meeting are welcome and encouraged to join us. In lieu of our traditional annual meeting, we will have a drop-in member appreciation day at each of our offices to show our thanks to all of you. Details on the time, date and location of the member appreciation day and the business meeting will be published at a later date. We appreciate your understanding and support as we implement this new approach.

Save Energy by Resisting the Urge

When it's hot, it's tempting to crank the thermostat way down. But wait! Air conditioning is a leading culprit of higher energy bills in the summer. Prevent your AC from using more energy than necessary, keep your home more comfortable, and save money all at the same time, with these simple ideas:

- Change air filters regularly, at least every 3 months. Dirty filters make your system work harder.
- Tune up your HVAC equipment yearly to improve efficiency and comfort.
- Make sure air ducts are sealed and insulated.

- Install a smart thermostat. These devices keep energy use at a minimum, and comfort at a maximum, by automatically customizing cooling schedules to fit your life. They can also be adjusted from a mobile app.
- Keep in mind that if your unit is older, or improperly sized, it may not be running as efficiently as a newer, properly-sized model could. When buying a new air conditioner, consider an energy-efficient model for savings that will last as long as you own the system.

And all summer long, resist the urge to lower that temperature setting! It won't cool the house

any faster, but it will use extra energy. Keep the thermostat set to the temperature you want inside, or even a few degrees higher for additional savings.

At Rutherford EMC, we're committed to helping you find ways to save energy and money, this summer and always. Find more ways to save at: remccom.



All REMC offices will be closed on
Friday, July 3, for Independence Day

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 jeanley@remc.com.
No phone calls, please.

FOR SALE

Stoeger air gun, ranger model, w/other extras, new \$350, asking \$200. Text 704-964-5250 for pictures.

Water totes, \$100 ea.; tote cages, \$40 ea.; burning barrels, \$10 ea.; feed barrels, 35 and 55-gallon, \$25 ea.; solid top metal or plastic, \$10 ea.; battery tools, Dewalt and Milwaukee. Hickory, NC. 828-327-4782.

AKC Beagle puppies ready to go, all females w/lemon and tri colors, all shots, deworming, and papers, \$800 each. Call or text 704-813-2763.

Food trailer, 18 ft., only 3 years old w/equipment included such as freezer, makeline, grill, warmer, fryers, TV, refrigerator, AC/heater, shelves, mats, new tires, shaved ice machine, and a lot of small equipment included, asking \$30,000. Call or text 704-813-2763 for more details.

Heart of Avery County, NC, Newland, by owner, 2 BR, 1 1/2 bath, in town townhouse, new steel roof 2023, no homeowner or POA fees, \$189,000. 828-260-6646.

Camper/Cabin in 50+ Lake James Forest Park near Moose Lodge in Marion, NC, 3 separate sleep-

ing areas, 2 full bathrooms, washer and dryer, covered porch, utility room, \$53,500. Text 704-674-1249 for pictures.

Superior fireplace, model WRT3042 WS, never been used, everything needed to be installed, \$400. Leave message, 828-447-0028.

Mantis tiller - has extra tines and CD operation instructions, used on owners' property only, \$150. Call 828-894-2562.

CVS Deluxe Stabilizing Support Back Belt, firm support, cushioned pads help target sore, strained or aching back, fits up to 39 in. and is adjustable, lost receipt and could not return, selling at a loss for \$30, still in box, pictures available on request. Bessemer City, NC. Call or text 704-689-8258.

2021 Rockwood Geo Pro Camper, model G19FDS, everything you need to hook up and have fun, all accessories included, winter cover, this unit is equipped for overlanding, very nice condition, second owner, used 5 times only, can text pictures if needed. 704-964-7490.

2016 16 ft. Tandem Axle trailer w/equipment ramps, working electric brakes, 4 new tires, \$1,200. Morganton, NC. 828-443-2277.

Used Harmar scooter carrier, model AL-100-12, and Jazzy Maxima scooter, sold together only, serious inquiries only please, \$4,000. Call 828-817-6923.

Chicago Electric variable-speed portable band saw, new, fully assembled, never used, includes 3 replacement blades, 44.875" x 0.50" x 0.25", 14TPI, ready to use, excellent for metal cutting, fabrication, shop work, \$150. Mill Spring, NC. 757-814-4368.

17 ft. Grumman Double-ended Aluminum Canoe, gently used, stored under cover, no cracks or leaks, normal wear including scuffs and scratches, structurally sound, includes paddles, \$1,000. Mill Spring, NC. 757-814-4368.

Vintage Barbie collector items, new in box, Pet Doctor Barbie w/Pets (1996), box has some wear, \$45; Rare Pet Doctor Barbie Checkup & Play Center, dolls not included, box has some wear, great collector or display item, \$115. Mill Spring, NC. 757-814-4368.

Old wood church pew, \$75; vintage metal porch glider, \$350; free standing quilting frame, large wood, \$75; small round iron patio table, w/matching iron chairs, black. 828-287-5069.

Misc. camping gear: Northwest Territory folding table, 6' x 30"; Wenzel #36190 Ontario Dome tent, 15' x 13'; Texport Deluxe camp shower/shelter, 5' x 5' x 7'3"H; Zodi portable instant hot shower and 5-gallon solar shower; two burner high output cast iron camp stove, 29" x 14"; self-inflating Aero bed, queen size; folding table, used a few times; everything else is new, never used, will sell all for \$225 or individually if requested. Text or call 704-466-6778.

Patriot 18K slider 5th wheel hitch, just needs rails to attach to truck, not for puck system, \$500. Iron Station, NC. 561-301-4282.

MISCELLANEOUS

Need to find a loving home for beautiful grey and white long-haired cat, has been spayed, unable to keep her due to physical liabilities, Lincolnton, NC. Call 704-240-8587.

Reminder:

Don't forget that you can monitor your home's energy use while you are away by visiting our website at remc.com and clicking on the **Member Portal** tab, the **My Account** drop down, and then **Usage History**, follow the prompts to add in your information.

Practice HEAT SAFETY Wherever You Are

Heat related deaths are preventable.
Protect yourself and others from the
impacts of heat waves.

weather.gov/heat



Job Sites

Stay hydrated and
take breaks in the shade
as often as possible



Indoors

Check up on the
elderly, sick and those
without AC



Vehicles

Never leave kids or
pets unattended -
LOOK before you LOCK



Outdoors

Limit strenuous outdoor
activities, find shade,
and stay hydrated

Move Over for Roadside Utility Crews

When the power goes out, so do Rutherford EMC's line crews. Line workers are the first to respond after an outage occurs, and they work tirelessly until the job is done to restore power to the communities we serve.

If you're traveling and see one of our crews on the side of the road, we ask that you move over if possible and give them a little extra space to work. We care about the safety of all, and this extra precaution ensures just that, plus it keeps drivers on the right side of the law.

North Carolina's Move Over law requires motorists, if they can safely do so, to move one lane away from any law enforcement or other emergency vehicle that's on the side of the highway. This law includes Rutherford EMC utility vehicles working on the side of the road. The utility vehicles are required to have a flashing amber-colored light to warn motorists. The law requires motorists to slow down and approach cautiously when an emergency vehicle is stopped on the shoulder of the road with its lights flashing. Motorists are required to move over to another lane away from the emergency vehicle on a multi-lane highway or slow down on a two-lane highway. Motorists must slow down while maintaining a safe speed. G.S. 20-157 (f). If convicted of violating this law it carries a hefty fine, court costs, insurance points and can ultimately result in charges for a Class 1 Felony. This is a simple task that can help keep our line workers safe while they work to keep your lights on and our communities connected.

Utility crews aren't the only ones who could use the extra space. Emergency responders, such as police officers, firefighters and emergency medical technicians, often find themselves responding to emergency situations near busy roadways. We ask that you follow the same procedures mentioned above to help keep these crews safe as well.

There's plenty of room for all! Let's make it our priority to work together

and keep these crews safe as they work on and around our local roadways to be sure everyone can go home to their family at the end of the day.



Left to right – Austin Tallman, Ethan Harris, Joe Sumpter, and Adam Hensley.

Tips to remember when following the Move Over Law:

- Slow down and move over, if possible.
- If you cannot move over, slow down, and proceed at a reduced speed that would allow you to stop, if necessary.
- Pay attention and eliminate any distractions as you maneuver around the stopped roadside vehicle.
- Be alert for crews who may be outside their vehicles.
- Once you have cleared the emergency or public service vehicle, you may safely merge back into your lane and resume to the posted speed limit.

PLEASE MOVE OVER FOR EMERGENCY AND UTILITY CREWS



If you see police, firefighters, utility crews or other emergency personnel on the side of the road, please slow down and move over when possible. Together, we can keep our crews safe.

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 an “early bird” and submit your 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 K-12 teachers must fill out the on-line 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 grant program exemplifies our continued commitment to building a brighter future for the communities we serve. In addition to ensuring the delivery of reliable, affordable and sustainable power, this vision emphasizes the importance of innovation and ongoing community support by benefitting our local educators and students. Learn more at remc.com or apply online at ncbrightideas.com.



Have Fun in the Sun and Save Money Too

Hot days and long afternoons are best spent poolside with family and friends, but are you paying the price for that backyard summer fun? If your pool’s pump is not Energy Star Certified there is a way to save yourself some money.

Energy Star certified pool pumps are proven to save you money in the long run. They use up to 70% less energy than the standard single speed pool pump. This could be a potential savings of about \$350 per year in energy costs.

Energy Star certified pumps take advantage of the reliable two-speed or even variable speed pump technology. These specialized pumps run quieter and tend to prolong the life of your pools filter and plumbing system as well.

Single speed pumps run only in HIGH speed, regardless of what you are trying to accomplish. Simple water filtration is the main task for a pool pump and

can be accomplished by utilizing half the power needed for vacuuming in the same pool. Two speed models are great for allowing these different tasks to be completed while using only the energy needed. Variable speed models can even be programmed to deliver just the right water flow to accomplish many different tasks.

Energy Star certified pumps can potentially save you thousands of dollars over their lifetime. Statistics show that investing in a certified pump will actually pay for the additional up-front costs in less than two years.

Visit [Energystar.gov/products/other/pool_pumps](http://energystar.gov/products/other/pool_pumps) for more details about how you can have fun in the sun and save money too.



MAKE A SAVINGS SPLASH

