

# Power Lines

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



NOVEMBER 2008

## Purchase ENERGY STAR appliances tax free on first November weekend

As an ENERGY STAR partner, Haywood EMC wants to remind everyone that consumers can save on the purchase price of certain energy-efficient ENERGY STAR appliances during a North Carolina sales tax-free weekend in November. State government has declared the weekend of Friday, November 7, through Sunday, November 9, a tax holiday ENERGY STAR weekend. Qualified products are exempt from all North Carolina and local sales and use taxes if sold between 12:01 a.m., November 7 through 11:59 p.m., November 9.

ENERGY STAR-qualified products

are those that meet the energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy, and are authorized to carry the ENERGY STAR label.

Only the following ENERGY STAR products will be exempt from tax: clothes washers, freezers, refrigerators, central air conditioners, room air conditioners, air-source heat pumps, geothermal heat pumps, ceiling fans, dehumidifiers and programmable thermostats. The exemption does not apply to rentals of qualified products or to sales of qualified products for



use in a trade or business, including sales to contractors of products that will be installed in buildings or structures.

## Electrical safety: an important lesson

As a parent, instilling your children with knowledge and resources to better their lives is a common creed. Along with real-world guidance, it is vital to teach your children the importance of electrical safety. With the modern popularity boom of cell phones, gaming systems and even mini laptops, school-age children are experiencing and using more technology than ever before. Teach your children the following safety tips to make sure they know the dangers of electricity and how to protect themselves against it:

### Toddlers

- Discourage playing with outlets. Use plastic socket protectors over outlets to encourage safe handling. Make sure your child does not pull the protectors out, as this could become a choking

hazard as well as an electrical hazard

- Tell your toddler to never stick anything in an outlet
- Remind your toddler that power tools should not be treated as toys
- Teach your toddler to never play near or touch outdoor power lines or power poles
- If you still use incandescent light bulbs, demonstrate to your toddler the importance of waiting until the bulb is cool before touching it
- Make sure your toddler dries his/her hands before touching any appliance

### School-age Children

- Teach school-age children to always pull an appliance out by its plug, not its cord
- Teach children to never fly a kite near a power line

- Remind children to never climb trees near overhead wires
- Do not allow your child to overload an outlet or power strip. Encourage gaming systems and controllers to be plugged in separately, as multiple controllers and the system itself require a great amount of energy that many power strips cannot handle
- Make sure your children know what to do when a thunderstorm hits, including coming indoors, never holding anything metal, not showering or bathing, and not using appliances or phones with cords.

One of the best ways to ensure your children understand the importance of electrical safety is to set an example as parents. Practice safety, because little eyes are watching you!

# Bright Ideas grant applicant wins \$500 Early Bird VISA gift card

Teachers across the state submitting Bright Ideas grant applications before August 28 were entered into a drawing for a \$500 VISA gift card.

"Teachers give so much to our children and communities, and we're excited to have the chance to give one lucky teacher something in return just for submitting his or her Bright Ideas application by August 28," said Ken Thomas, Haywood EMC's manager of Marketing. "That's why our statewide organization, North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives (NCAEC), offers a \$500 VISA gift card as an early bird incentive this year for the applications."

On September 2, all the names of the early bird applicants were gathered and NCAEC drew Stephanie Stuart from Haywood EMC as this year's winner. Stuart teaches at Hominy Valley Elementary in Enka-Candler. Her project is titled "Mad About Math." NCAEC had 540 early

bird applicants from across the state.

Stephanie Stuart and three other teachers make up the team that applied for the Bright Ideas grant. Stuart said, "We will hang onto this gift card and apply the money towards our project if we don't win a grant, otherwise we will decide later, as a team, how we can best use the money for our students."

Said Thomas: "I have found this to be the character of most teachers—unselfish. While the gift card belongs to Ms. Stuart to do as she wishes, she and her team are thinking of their students first."



*The Bright Ideas early bird team (Left to right): Vicki Teague, Stephanie Stuart, Grace Quick and Susan Keith.*

Haywood EMC's grant winners will be announced in December's Carolina Country magazine. Haywood EMC will provide a combined award total of \$9,000 to the co-op's Bright Ideas grant winners.

Teachers can apply for grants of up to \$2,000 for inventive classroom-based projects in grades K-12.

## The Great American Way



### Our Energy, Our Future A Dialogue With America

If you have something on your mind, speak up. That's the great American way. But the way America is dealing with our nation's energy challenge is begging for change. So talk to your elected officials. Ask them how they plan on keeping the lights on in your home. Do they have answers? Do they care?

Go to [www.ourenergy.coop](http://www.ourenergy.coop) to get started. It's time to speak up. Join the conversation with Haywood EMC, your Touchstone Energy cooperative, about America's energy challenge today at [www.ourenergy.coop](http://www.ourenergy.coop).

## Haywood EMC office closed for Thanksgiving

Haywood EMC offices will be closed Thursday, November 27, and Friday, November 28, to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. The co-op wishes your family well during this holiday time.



## Power Lines

Published by Haywood Electric Membership Corp.  
1560 Asheville Road  
Waynesville, N.C. 28786-3441

### Board of Directors

Bob J. Tucker, President: 885-2432  
Larry Clark, Vice President: 627-8064  
David Noland, Sec.-Treas: 627-1561

### Directors

James P. Boyette: 884-6316; David Edwards: 648-2263;  
Ken Israel: 667-0065; Ted Mullett: (828) 884-9208; Roy Stamey: 648-1703;  
Emmit Wood: 526-0503

### General Manager

Norman Sloan: 648-8496

Call our toll-free customer service line

1-800-951-6088

Waynesville Office

452-2281

Lake Toxaway Office

966-4215

Visit our Web site:

[www.haywoodemc.com](http://www.haywoodemc.com)