

Power Lines

NOVEMBER 2009



Haywood EMC passes national safety accreditation

Haywood Electric Membership Corporation received its 13th accreditation by the Rural Electric Safety Accreditation Delegates. This accreditation marks 38 years of excellence in safety at Haywood EMC.

“The national accreditation process is a cornerstone of our safety program that recognizes electric cooperatives that continuously adhere to safe work practices,” said Steve Rogers, safety coordinator for Haywood EMC. The goal of the program is preserve life; prevent injuries and any resulting financial loss to the members who own the co-op.

Accreditation involves a preliminary inspection by job training and safety specialists from the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, N.C. electric cooperatives’ statewide office. A random

follow-up inspection is done sometime during that same year by trained national inspectors. This is then followed up with an online application to National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Haywood EMC’s national organization. Then it is followed up with documentation of safety compliance and regular maintenance of safe work practices.

In addition to completing our mission of providing affordable, reliable and safe electric service for members, being accredited also helps to obtain



Haywood EMC Safety Coordinator Steve Rogers teaches electrical safety at local elementary schools.

favorable insurance rates for the cooperative. Haywood EMC scored a 97 overall on the accreditation and congratulates all its employees on their continued efforts and competence required to achieve this nationally recognized safety accreditation.

Haywood EMC monetary contribution helps Connestee Fire & Rescue with safety training

Connestee Fire & Rescue recently received a contribution from Haywood Electric Membership Corporation to help towards the purchase of a CPR mannequin and supplies to teach firefighters CPR along with the use of an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). This CPR mannequin will be used for initial training as well as for recertification. Fire Department Captain Charles Carter will train the firefighters.

Pictured left to right: Connestee Fire & Rescue Board President David Carter; Captain and CPR Instructor Charles Carter, and Haywood EMC Board President Bob Tucker.



Cook safely in providing a delicious holiday meal for your family

Cooking is one of the most popular ways to celebrate the holidays, and as the holiday season begins, people all over will start dusting off their aprons and head back into the kitchen.

Cooking is a way to gather with family and friends, but make sure everyone is acquainted with some kitchen safety basics before getting started.

Before and after cooking

- Be sure that there is a fire extinguisher easily accessible in your kitchen. Make sure everyone in your home knows where the fire extinguisher is and how to use it.
- Don't let grease build on range tops, ovens or toaster ovens. Grease is a fire hazard, and remember, water should never be used to extinguish a grease fire.
- Keep flammable items, such as paper towels, plastic bags and holiday decorations, at least three feet away from range tops.
- Carefully read and follow the operating instructions of your kitchen appliances before using them.
- Never plug kitchen appliances into extension cords. This could overload the outlets and cause a fire.
- Plug all appliances directly into outlets when you are using them, and be sure to unplug them when you're finished. Not only is unplugging appliances safer, it also saves energy.



While cooking

- Never use cooking appliances near the sink or any other wet areas.
- When you are cooking on your range top, turn pot handles toward the back of the range to prevent children from reaching up and pulling down a hot pot or pan.
- Always stay in the kitchen when you are cooking anything on the stove. If you have to leave the kitchen, turn off the stove while you are gone.
- Take extra precautions if you're planning a more elaborate meal, like a fried turkey. Never try to use a turkey fryer indoors, even if you think it may be too cold to cook outside. These devices are serious fire hazards. Read the extensive safety instructions that come with turkey fryers very carefully.

Follow these simple cooking safety tips and enjoy the meals you share with your family and friends this holiday season.

Haywood EMC offices closed for Thanksgiving

Haywood EMC offices will be closed Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. The co-op wishes your family well during this holiday time.



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