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Proudly serving the members of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation

Albemarle Sounds

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Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

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Albemarle EMC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Co-op Celebrates 80 Years in Business!

On Feb. 24, Albemarle EMC will celebrate 80 years of service to the Albemarle region!

To recognize this historic day, refreshments will be served in the co-op's lobby on Monday, Feb. 24. We will also raffle off an \$80 credit to a power bill. To enter, simply fill out the raffle ticket below and either bring it to our office (125 Cooperative Way, Winfall), or mail it to the address on the ticket before Feb. 24.

"Eight decades of service is a testament to the cooperative business model and the member-owners who make all we do possible," said Kevin Heath, general manager of Albemarle EMC.

Please mail raffle ticket to
Albemarle EMC
P.O. Box 69
Hertford, NC 27944

You could win an \$80 credit to your power bill on Feb. 24th!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Account Number _____

Email Address _____



Application Period Open for Basketball Camps

Albemarle EMC is now accepting applications for scholarships to attend basketball camps at two North Carolina universities this summer. Young men can apply for a scholarship to attend the Carolina Basketball School, which will be held June 25-28 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Young women can apply for a spot at the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp, which will be held June 15-18 at N.C. State University, in Raleigh.

To apply, students must be a sixth or seventh-grade student during the 2025-2026 school year at a qualifying school. The application opens this month, and it must be submitted by March 31. To learn more and apply, visit neclectriccooperatives.com/sports-camps.

The scholarships cover all expenses at the overnight camps, which provide a glimpse into life on a college campus. Campers stay overnight in dorms, learn fundamental skills that will help them excel on and off the court and receive individual and group instruction from Division 1 coaches to enhance their basketball and team-building abilities.



Grants Awarded



Open Door of Perquimans County volunteers Dina Hurdle, board chairperson, and Kim Stites, interim project developer, were recently presented an Albemarle Community Trust grant for \$2,500. The funds will be used to purchase food for those less fortunate.



Kortni Austin, executive director of Port Discover in Elizabeth City, was recently presented a \$2,500 Albemarle Community Trust grant. The grant will be used to purchase various educational items for children.



A \$5,000 Albemarle Community Trust grant was recently presented to the Weeksville Volunteer Fire Department. The grant will be used to purchase a surplus boat from the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission From left are: Admin Captain Joe Musico, AEMC General Manager Kevin Heath and Fire Chief Barry Overman.

Service Pins Awarded

Albemarle EMC employees, directors and Albemarle Community Trust board members recently were presented with years-of-service pins at the co-op's annual Christmas party:



Warehouse Supervisor John Coston receives a 40-year service pin from Albemarle EMC Board Director Thelma Finch-Copeland.

- Warehouse Supervisor John Coston, 40 years**
- Lineman First Class Chris White, 25 years**
- Tielue Knight (retired) 20 years**
- Work Order Accountant Tina Eley, 20 years**
- Director of Public Relations Chris Powell, 20 years**
- Manager of Information Technology James Whitfield, 10 years**
- Engineering Technician II Timothy Meads, 10 years**
- Accountant Ashley Nixon, five years**
- Lineman Drake Trueblood, five years**
- Board Director Linda Felton, 10 years**
- ACT Board Members: Jeff Proctor, 10 years; Jeff McCoy, five years; Billy Copeland, five years**

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation (AEMC) is a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or disability shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance effort is Kevin Heath, general manager of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D.C. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination action, or by such later date to which the Secretary of Agriculture or the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service extends the time for filing. Identity of complainants will be kept confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out the purpose of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.



Albemarle EMC is at Your Service

Tax Credits Available for Energy Efficiency Upgrades

by Chris Powell, director of public relations

If you made energy efficiency improvements in 2024, there are some important energy efficiency tax credits you should be aware when filing taxes. This article will focus on federal tax credits. Tax credits are important because qualifying amounts will be subtracted from your federal taxes, giving you a bigger tax return, or lowering the amount you owe. Additional information such as the proper forms to file can be found at energy.gov/save/home-upgrades.

Air Conditioner

This tax credit is valued at 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer, up to \$600. Switching to high-efficiency air conditioners and taking other actions to keep your home cool can reduce energy use by up to 50 percent.

Heat Pump for Heating and Cooling

This tax credit is valued at up to 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer, up to \$2,000 per year, including installation for air-source heat pumps. For geothermal heat pumps, the tax credit covers up to 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer.

Today's heat pumps can reduce electricity use for heating by approximately 65 percent.

Heat Pump Water Heater

This tax credit is valued at up to 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer, up to \$2,000 per year. Water heating accounts for nearly 20 percent of the average home's energy use.

Wood and Pellet Stove/Boiler

This tax credit is valued at 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer, up to \$2,000 per year. New-generation wood and pellet-burning appliances are cleaner

burning, more efficient and powerful enough to heat average-sized homes.

Electric Panel or Circuit Upgrade

This tax credit is valued at up to 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer, up to \$600. Subject to a cumulative annual cap of \$1,200. In some homes, a panel upgrade may be needed to add new electrical equipment, such as heat pump.

Exterior Doors

This tax credit is valued at up to 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer, up to \$500 per year (up to \$250 per door). It is not renter eligible. It is subject to a cumulative annual cap of \$1,200. Your home's exterior doors might be leaking air and wasting energy, especially if they are old.

Sky Lights

This tax credit is valued at up to 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer, up to \$600. Energy efficient skylights can help prevent unwanted heating in the summer and loss of heat in the winter.

Water Heater (Non-Heat Pump)

This tax credit is valued at 40 percent of the cost paid by the consumer for solar water heaters, and up to 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer, up to \$600 per year.

Battery Storage

This tax credit is valued at 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer. Batteries work by storing energy produced at one point for use a later time. This, of course, means you have your own source of backup power during outages.

Electric Vehicle Home Chargers

This tax credit is valued at 30 percent of the total cost, up to \$1,000. A home electric vehicle charger enables you to

reduce the time needed charging at public ports and, instead, charge at home. Also, by charging a vehicle during certain times of the day can be advantageous to both you and your co-op.

Duct Sealing

This tax credit is valued at up to 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer. It is not renter eligible and is subject to a cumulative annual cap of \$1,200. In a typical house, 20 to 30 percent of the air that moves through duct systems is lost due to leaks. Properly sealed ductwork can reduce leakage.

Insulation, Air Sealing Materials

This tax credit is valued at up to 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer. It is not renter eligible and is subject to a cumulative, annual cap of \$1,200. Insufficient insulation in the attic and crawlspace can add a burden to your heating and cooling system.



Windows

This tax credit is valued at up to 30 percent of the cost paid by the consumer, up to \$600 per year. It is subject to a cumulative, annual cap of \$1,200. Skylights are considered windows for the purposes of this tax credit, so the \$600 cap would be cumulative if installing both.