

Tideland Topics

Real People. Real Power.

Community Service

Tideland recently assisted the Olympia Volunteer Fire Department with the installation of a new siren. Located on Olympia Road in New Bern, the fire department serves Tideland members in both Craven and Pamlico counties. In addition to fire protection and prevention, they also provide medical services at the Emergency First Responder level.

The following Tideland employees participated in the installation: Timmy Ipock, Chris Rice, Caleb Banks and Johnathan Lee.
(Photos by Steven Harris)

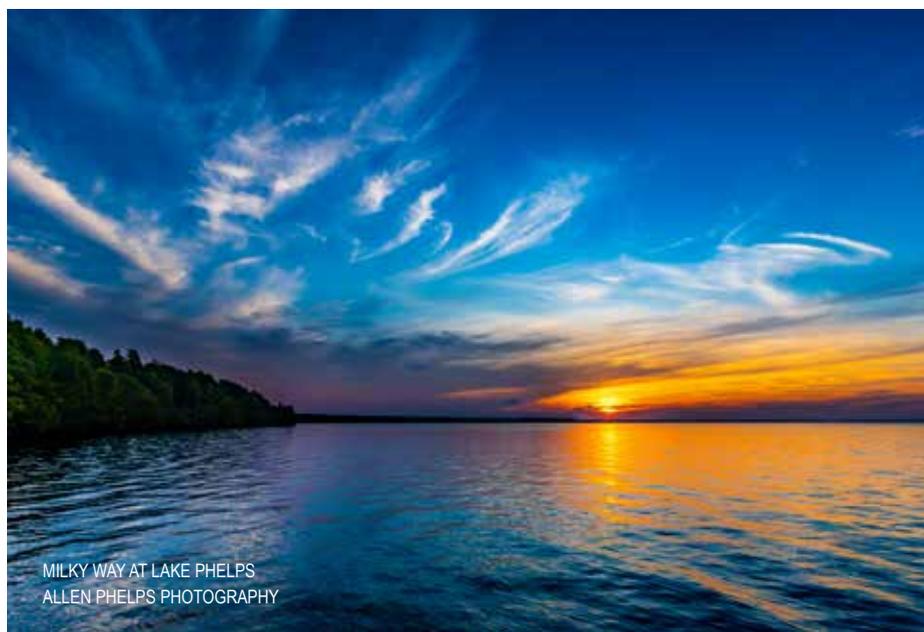


'Lakeland' EMC

While Tideland territory's coastal shorelines are world renowned, we are also home to several notable lakes, with two being the largest natural lakes in North Carolina.

Fall is one of our favorite times to explore the lakes as migratory waterfowl begins to appear in abundance.

Learn more on pages F and G.



MILKY WAY AT LAKE PHELPS
ALLEN PHELPS PHOTOGRAPHY

LUCILLE AND MILTON SMITH
CHARLIE HALL PHOTO
NEW BERN SUN JOURNAL



Remembering *Milton Smith*

Our entire Tideland family mourns the passing of former co-worker, retiree Reverend Milton Smith. Reverend Smith was 95 years old and resided in Oriental.

He is survived by his wife of 73 years, Lucille, five children, 13 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by three children.

Reverend Smith was hired as part of the right-of-way crew for Pamlico-Beaufort EMC in Grantsboro in 1968. He remained with the cooperative following the merger of Pamlico-Beaufort and Woodstock EMC in 1972 and retired as an underground lineman from Tideland EMC in 1987. Reverend Smith maintained strong ties with the cooperative throughout his remaining years. He frequently sported a Tideland EMC hat, and up until 2017, he and Miss Lucille attended the Grantsboro district's annual Christmas luncheon. Visit our Facebook page to see a video of Reverend Smith singing a hymn during the last Christmas lunch he attended.

Director Elections

Incumbents return for additional 3-year terms

During our Annual Meeting on October 8, three incumbent directors were elected to continue service to the cooperative.

Garry Jordan of Aurora serves members in portions of Beaufort, Pamlico and Craven counties.

David Ipock of New Bern, who also serves as the cooperative's treasurer, represents members in both Craven and Pamlico counties.

Mark Carawan of Scranton represents members in portions of Hyde, Washington and Beaufort counties. He has attained the following certifications from the National Rural Cooperative Association: Credentialed Cooperative Director, Board Leadership Certificate and the Director Gold Credentialed Program.



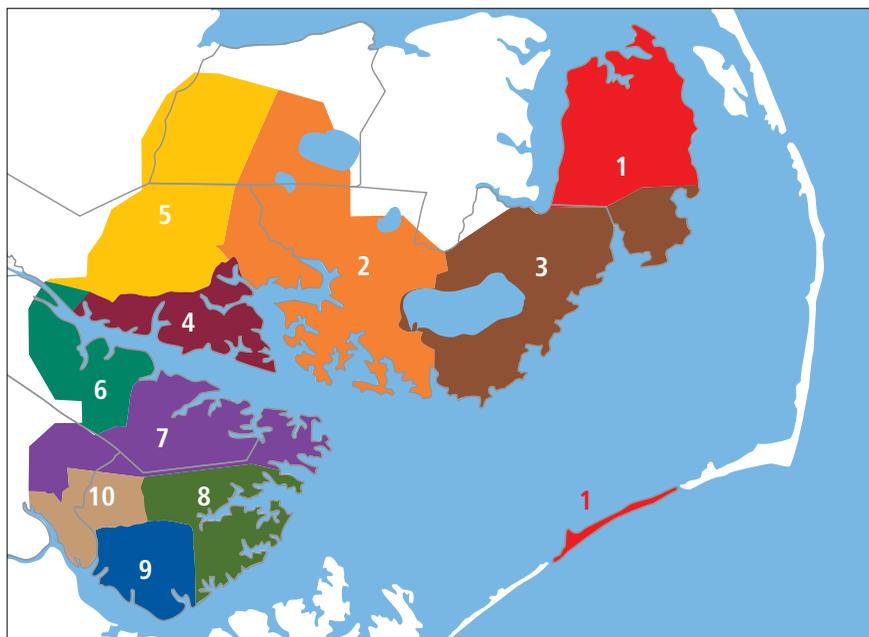
MARK CARAWAN
DISTRICT 2



GARRY JORDAN
DISTRICT 7



DAVID IPOCK
DISTRICT 10



DIRECTORIAL DISTRICT MAP

Message to members

2020 Annual Meeting of Members successfully achieved via teleconference

by **PAUL SPRUILL**
GENERAL MANAGER &
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

In keeping with our cooperative bylaws while adapting to the unusual circumstances presented by COVID-19, Tideland EMC successfully conducted our Annual Meeting of Members via teleconference on Thursday, October 8. We appreciate all who dialed in to participate in the meeting.

Board Vice President Doug Brinson opened the meeting with an invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance before recognizing the cooperative's legal counsel, attorney Robert Page, for approval of the 2019 Annual Meeting minutes and the election of directors. (See story on page B). Election of cooperative officers will take place at the board's next regularly scheduled meeting.

The annual report to members primarily focused on the extensive capital improvement projects we have undertaken since 2019, along with storm restoration work.

Members had an opportunity to submit questions during the meeting. That interaction gave us an opportunity to talk in greater detail about our statewide association's goal to achieve a 50 percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 and net zero by 2050.

North Carolina's electric cooperatives have spent the past decade reducing our dependence on carbon-intensive power generation, and as a result, our

current fuel mix is more than 50 percent carbon free. Coal-fired generation makes up only 5 percent of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation's (NCEMC) portfolio, compared with the national average of 13 percent.

More than half of our power comes from emissions-free nuclear generation, an extremely reliable, safe and affordable source of electricity. NCEMC's early investment in nuclear energy has allowed electric cooperative members and communities to benefit from the lowest carbon electricity in the Southeast. In addition, we are increasingly integrating renewables into our already diverse array of power sources as new technology, such as battery storage, making renewable energy a more accessible option.

Looking to the decade ahead and beyond, North Carolina's electric cooperatives remain focused on providing electricity that is reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible.

The board of directors and I look forward to 2021, when we fully expect to return to an in-person Annual Meeting. Like you, we miss the personal interaction and the prize drawings too.

Take care and I wish you and your family a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday. We remain grateful for the opportunity to serve your household.

Right-of-way maintenance schedule

Tideland has hired Lucas Tree Experts to trim trees in our right-of-way. In November, they will be working in the Fairfield Harbour and Broad Creek areas of New Bern.

We have also additionally contracted with Gunnison Tree. They will be working in the Pantego service area.

We have hired Rainbow Tree to conduct a tree management pilot project at select homes on our system. We appreciate those members who have agreed to participate in the project.

Lee Construction crews will have crews working overhead line jobs in the Rose Acre service area on Highway 45 out of Ponzer. Once they conclude that work they will resume work on the Shore Road construction project at Lake Phelps.

Lee Construction crews continue their months long project on the Merritt circuit. They will be working in the Old Bay River Road/Hwy 55 area.

Lee Construction will also have one crew performing underground maintenance in our Grantsboro district.

River City Construction continues the ductile pole conversion project between our Five Points and Washington substations.

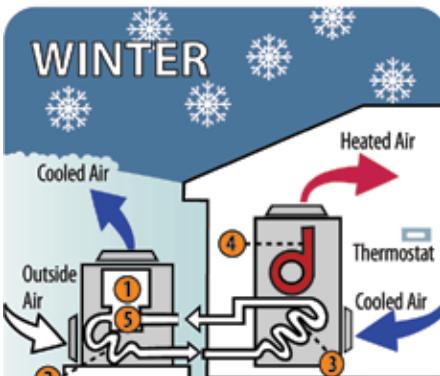
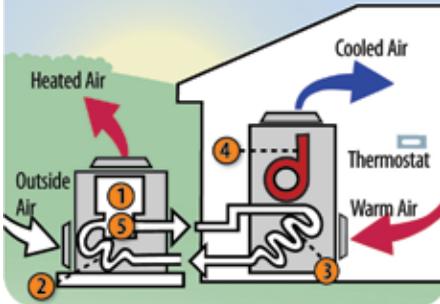
Holiday Closing

Tideland offices will be closed Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Our 24-hour call center will remain open and on-call crews remain on standby for outages and service emergencies.

How Do Air-Source Heat Pumps Work?

By transferring heat between a house and outside air, these devices trim electricity use by as much as 30 percent to 40 percent in moderate climates.

SUMMER



- 1 Compressor**
Increases refrigerant/freon pressure to accept the maximum heat from the air.
- 2 Condenser**
Coils move freon (and with it, hot or cold air) to or from outside air.
- 3 Evaporator**
Coils move freon (and with it, hot or cold air) to or from outside air.
- 4 Air Handler**
Fan blows air into a home's ducts.
- 5 Reversing Valve**
Switches the direction of the freon flow, changing the heat pump's output to hot or cold air (controlled by thermostat).

Source: NRECA

How healthy is your indoor air?

Cold, flu and coronavirus thrive in cool, low humidity environments

The airborne transmission of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 via aerosol particles in indoor environment seems to be strongly influenced by relative humidity, according to an August 2020 analysis of the 10 most relevant international studies on the subject. As a result it is recommend that indoor air quality be monitored in addition to the usual measures such as social distancing and masks.

Maintaining a relative indoor humidity of 40 to 60 percent could help reduce the spread of colds, flu, and coronavirus and their absorption through the nasal mucous membrane.

What can't be measured, can't be managed, so as an important first step, invest in an inexpensive indoor humidity gauge called a hygrometer. You should be able to locate one for less than \$10.



Homes that use electric heat often result in drier indoor climates. This means it is even more important to monitor indoor humidity if you have a heat pump, electric furnace, electric baseboards or use space heaters.

Conversely, high humidity can also be detrimental to indoor air quality by promoting mold and

mildew growth. That's why having an accurate measurement of indoor humidity is so important.

In addition to proper indoor humidity levels, good air filtration also improves air quality. That's why it is so important to routinely change or clean your HVAC system's air filtration media. Rule of thumb: check the filter every time you receive your electric bill.



Generally we recommend a less expensive filter that you change monthly. While pleated air filters tout the ability to filter out allergens in your home they can reduce HVAC system airflow which could damage the system. If you do want to use a pleated filter, please consult your HVAC service provider to determine which product meets your system specifications. You could also invest in an air filter gauge to measure the airflow between the filter and the HVAC system.

Finally, it is worth a discussion with your HVAC service provider to discuss fresh air ventilation. Newer homes are built so air tight today that whole-home ventilation solutions like an air exchanger can help rid your home of contaminants.

Take care of yourself this fall and winter and don't forget your flu shot.

SET THE TABLE FOR SAFETY

Whether testing out a new dish or whipping up a family classic, there's one recipe that should also be included on the menu this holiday season: **safety**. Follow this "Recipe for Kitchen Safety" and help this year's festivities create memories instead of danger.

INGREDIENTS FOR SAFETY

FUNCTIONING SMOKE ALARMS



FUNCTIONING GROUND FAULT CIRCUIT INTERRUPTERS (GFCIs)



VIGILANCE



DIRECTIONS

1 Smoke alarms should be installed in **every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home**. For the best protection, smoke alarms should be interconnected, so that they all sound if one sounds.



2 Test the batteries in each smoke alarm **every month**, replace them **once a year**, and replace the unit every **10 years**.



3 GFCIs are electrical safety devices that trip electrical circuits when they detect ground faults, or leakage currents, that could shock or electrocute someone. GFCIs should be installed where **electricity and water may come in contact**, such as the kitchen. GFCIs should also be tested **every month**. Additional instructions for testing can be found at www.esfi.org.



4 Prevent fires by making sure your oven and stovetop are **clean and free of grease and dust**. You should also clean the exhaust hood and duct over the stove regularly. Lastly, vacuum the refrigerator coils every **three months** to prevent potentially dangerous dirt build-up.



CLEAN APPLIANCES



KITCHEN TIMER



KITCHEN SAFETY



5 **Never leave cooking unattended.** You should not cook if you are sleepy or under the influence of alcohol. Children should also be closely supervised and kept at least **three feet away** from all cooking appliances.



6 It's easy to forget about something that's cooking, especially when you're entertaining guests. **Use a kitchen timer** to make sure your dish doesn't become a fire hazard.



7 **Enjoy!** Being proactive about safety will give you peace of mind and allow you to enjoy your time with loved ones.

ESFi

For more information about **cooking and holiday safety** visit www.esfi.org

www.facebook.com/ESFI.org

www.twitter.com/ESFI.org

www.youtube.com/ESFI.org



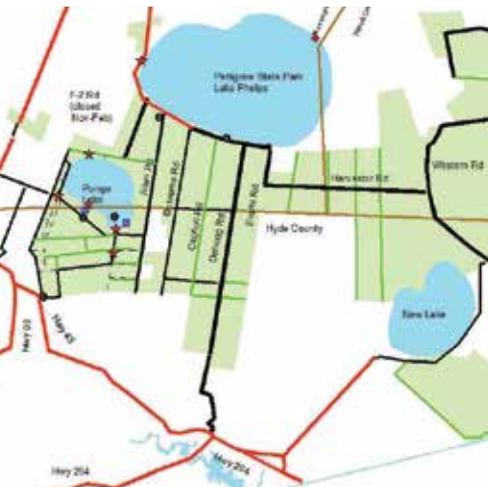
Land of lakes

New Lake

NEW LAKE
AUDREY GLASS PHOTO

New Lake in Hyde County is the least accessible of the four lakes in Tideland territory. Approximately 85 percent of the lake falls under the management of the Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, which also manages Pungo Lake. One primitive public access point is managed by the refuge. The rest of New Lake is privately owned. The lake covers nearly 5,000 acres large.

More information:
fws.gov/refuge/Pocosin_Lakes/



LAKE MATTAMUSKEET

Mattamuskeet: Mainland Hyde County's crown jewel

Lake Mattamuskeet is North Carolina's largest natural lake, measuring 18 miles long and 7 miles wide. Despite its size, Mattamuskeet's average depth is 18 inches, which has historically promoted active growth of aquatic vegetation. As a result it has annually been the winter home to hundreds of thousands of tundra swan and other migratory waterfowl.



NESTING OSPREY

Managed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the lake and its surroundings are teeming with wildlife including 240 bird species. You are just as likely to see a wildlife photographer as you are a fisherman while traversing the lake's causeway.

The refuge is also home to Mattamuskeet Lodge, which originally served as a pumping station when the lake was drained in the 1910s and '20s so its fertile bed could be farmed. Eventually the station was to be converted into a world-renowned hunting retreat until 1974 when migratory bird populations plummeted. The lodge has since been stabilized but funding for renovations has largely stalled.

More information:
fws.gov/refuge/mattamuskeet
mattamuskeetlodge.com



MILKY WAY AT LAKE PHELPS
ALLEN PHELPS PHOTOGRAPHY

Lake Phelps

North Carolina's second-largest natural lake

Lake Phelps, located in Pettigrew State Park, is the most recreationally friendly of the four lakes in Tideland territory. The lake's surface area is 16,699 acres, with an average depth of 4-1/2 feet. Maximum depth is 9 feet.

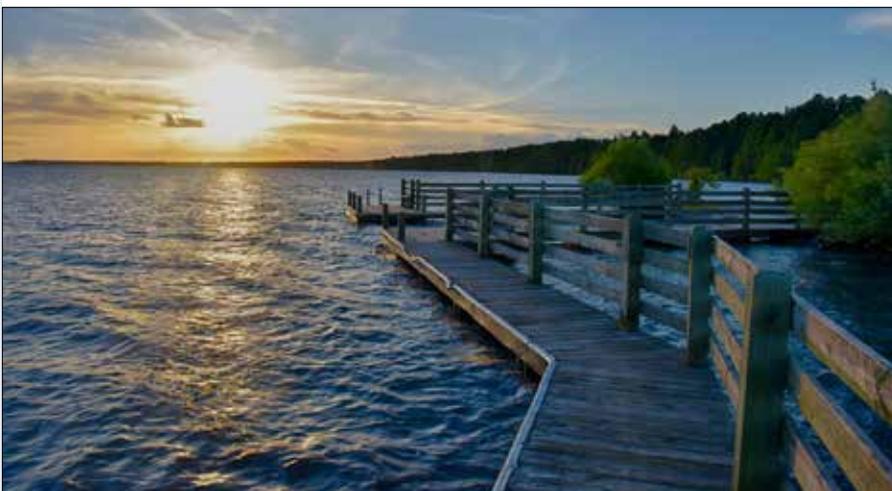
Scientists are still puzzled as to how the lake formed, but it continues to be an ecological wonder. Its remarkable water quality is credited with preserving ancient Native American canoes, one of which was radiocarbon dated to 2,400 B.C.

Families can enjoy swimming, boating and fishing in Lake Phelps' shallow, crystal clear waters. There are also 4.1 miles

of walking trails. The state historic site Somerset Place also overlooks the lake. Do not depend on GPS to locate the park's office. From U.S. 64, take exit 558 and follow the signs for approximately 8 miles to the park office.

Tideland provides electric service to the portion of Lake Phelps that lies within Washington County. There you will find Conman's Hunting Guide Service and Vacation Cottages. Check them out on Facebook. They post incredible wildlife trail cam photos.

More information:
conmans.homestead.com
ncparks.gov/pettigrew-state-park/home



PUNGO LAKE
ALLEN PHELPS PHOTOGRAPHY



Pungo Lake

In many ways, Pungo Lake has flown under the radar, dwarfed by the notoriety of its larger cousin, Lake Mattamuskeet. But Pungo Lake has bragging rights of its own, with an annual birding population that at times seems to entirely cover the 2,800 acre lake.

As part of the Pocosin Lakes Wildlife Refuge, it is also one of the best areas to observe black bear thanks to a Cooperative Farming Program that allows local farmers to produce crops on the refuge. Rather than pay rent, the farmers agree to leave a portion of corn standing in the fields for waterfowl and other wildlife to consume.

The Pungo Unit has five designated observation points including a lake platform that can be accessed after a half-mile stroll on the Duck Pen Wildlife Trail. Please note that pets are not allowed on the trail.

The best time to visit Pungo Lake and the surrounding refuge is November through February. Because the Pungo Unit is open to deer hunting, visitors are encouraged to exercise extra caution by staying on roads and in open areas.

More information:
fws.gov/refuge/Pocosin_Lakes/

Tideland Topics

www.tidelandemc.com

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Tideland EMC is an equal
opportunity provider & employer



ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS FOR HUNTERS

This hunting season, we encourage all members to be aware of electrical equipment and take necessary precautions while hunting. Keep these safety tips in mind as you enjoy the great outdoors.



Take notice of posted warning signs and keep clear of electrical equipment.



Do not shoot at or near power lines or insulators.



Know where power lines and equipment are located on the land where you hunt.



Be especially careful in wooded areas where power lines may not be as visible.



Do not place deer stands on utility poles or climb poles. Energized lines and equipment can conduct electricity to anyone who comes in contact with them, causing shock or electrocution.



Do not place decoys on power lines or other utility equipment. Any non-electrical equipment attached to a pole can pose an obstruction and serious hazards to our line crews.

PLUG IN, LEARN AND SAVE!



TrickleStar

Ever wondered how much energy that old refrigerator is using? Or want to send a message to the rest of the family about the importance of shutting off unattended computers, TVs or gaming systems?

Introducing TrickleStar.



\$29.98 + TAX

Now available at all Tideland EMC offices!