



The **Electrifier**

Visit us at: www.frenchbroademc.com

Outlet Ads and Manager's Report are Online

AUGUST 2020

"Owned by those we serve"

MARSHALL, NC

Scam Targets FBEMC Members

Scammers Seek Upfront Payment from Co-op Members

Some FBEMC customers have informed us that a scammer has been contacting them claiming to be a utility employee in order to get money illegally from them. The latest calls say they are from FBEMC and they pretend they are calling to let you know your account is delinquent and unless you pay right away the service will be disconnected.

Even though the caller might insist he/she is with French Broad EMC or another utility please know that we would not call you and demand you to pay us immediately over the phone or risk having your power disconnected and we would never do this on the weekend. French Broad EMC will also never call and demand payment via a prepaid debit card or wire transfer.

Delinquent notices are included on our customer billing statements when an account is delinquent except for FlexPay accounts. If you get a questionable call like this and are concerned about your account, please hang up and call FBEMC directly at the number below. Do not use the number that is on your caller ID to call the person back.

Additionally, due to Executive Order No. 142 due to the COVID-19 crisis, utility shut-offs are currently prohibited until August 1st. As always, please call our office at (828) 649-2051 if you have questions or concerns.

Keep cool and save on HVAC costs

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.

Manager's Report

Good News in a Hard Times



Jeff Loven

It's fair to assess that the first half of 2020 has been a time of trial and tribulation. When the year started, we were full of optimism that everything would continue just as it had ended in 2019. Businesses were profitable, unemployment was at an all time low, gas prices were down, and Americans were going and doing more than ever. Then the COVID-19 pandemic hit, and the world turned upside down. It has been almost 5 months now and we still have a long way to go to get back to "normal". Each day, it seems we hear of nothing but bad news and negative stories.

While it certainly doesn't change the current situation we are in, French Broad EMC is happy to report some good news! If you remember, back in 2018 your Board of Directors entered into a new wholesale power agreement with Duke Energy, bringing every member instant savings on their power bills. This contract was structured to more adequately match our load curve and essentially recognize our lack of demand on the system in the summer peaking hours. With that, we have been able to give a credit to our members every month so far in 2020. The total credit through the end of June totaled over

\$2.7 million dollars and shows up on the monthly Purchased Power and Fuel Adjustment (PPAF) line item. Even better news is that our fuel and demand costs were actually lower than estimated, which will result in additional credits throughout the remainder of 2020! In total, French Broad EMC will be refunding over \$4 million dollars to its membership in 2020.

This is one of the many benefits of being a member of an electric cooperative. We are here to serve our membership, not stock holders. Any extra revenue is returned to our membership in the form of PPAF credits and annual capital credit refunds. As a non-profit electric cooperative, we are required to collect enough revenue to pay all our debts plus have enough margin reserve to satisfy the Rural Utility Service (RUS) since we borrow money from their agency. Any margins above this level are given back to each member.

The credits given back through the PPAF this year are a result of lower than expected fuel and generation costs and also lower than expected coal ash expenses. This is not the case each year, however it could not have come at a

better time for many of our members.

Also, keep in mind that FBEMC will resume disconnections for non-payment as the governor's executive order is set to end July 31st. Please contact your local office in advance to set up payment arrangements to avoid any interruption in service. If you haven't done so already, you can sign up for our Flex-Pay account that will automatically set arrangements for you, making it simple to finance any amount you may currently owe.

Update Your Contact Information

Please be sure to notify your local FBEMC office when any of your contact information changes.

Customers are notified of their FlexPay balances, electronic bills, pending disconnects, scheduled outages, etc. via email, text message and/or voicemail.

It is important that we keep our records updated, should we need to contact you.

Right-of-Way (ROW) Schedule August/September

Burnsville District

Cutting: Hwy 197N, Upper/Lower Pig Pen, Dale Road, Crabtree, Mitchell Branch and Mica Spring Heights

Spraying: Bowditch Area, Peacock Mountain, McKinney Cove, White Oak, Double Island, and Unimin Transmission Line

Marshall District

Cutting: Upper end of Big Laurel and Grapevine/Petersburg

If you have questions or want more information, please visit our website at www.frenchbroademc.com or contact us at 828/649-2051.

**FBEMC offices
will be closed
Monday
September 7th
in honor of**



**The
Outlet**
All numbers are in
828 area code unless
otherwise listed.

*This is a FREE service to members for advertising non-commercial items. **Ads are limited to two items per member per month and will appear only one time unless resubmitted.** Ads are limited to two lines per ad. We reserve the right to edit, condense, or refuse ads due to content, unreasonable length, or available space.*

French Broad EMC does not endorse services advertised and is not responsible for reliability of services listed.

When submitting ads for The Outlet, please be sure to include your name, address, phone number and account number. Ads without this reference information are subject to not being published.

Ads may be submitted online or mailed to French Broad EMC, Attn: Paula Seay, PO Box 9, Marshall, NC 28753.

FOR SALE

Shark Professional vacuum cleaner w/ attachment, \$125. 765-6281.

Area rug, 5x7, \$40. 765-6281.

Time magazines, 1932-1948. 675-4271.

Asheville Citizen Times newspapers, 1929-1942. 675-4271.

Log dining table w/ 6 chairs & hutch, \$1,500. 380-2140.

1999 Suz Intruder LC, 1500cc, 11k mi. 682-2050.

1942 Cultiview B Farmall. 490-2151.

Model train track w/ engines & cars. 490-2151.

Honda 750 ACE, 9,300mi, \$2,000. 467-3625.

2002 Suzuki Intruder 805cc, 17,856mi, red, \$1,800. 385-3418.

Harley Davidson HS, 43k mi, \$5,800. 208-6328.

John Deere L100 riding mower. 766-5226.

2000 Chevy Tracker, 4WD, blue, \$500 OBO. 284-6428.

2004 Thunderbird, 44k mi. 284-7266.

2013 Forest River Sprinter 24' motor home w/ 2 slides, 28,173mi, \$58,500. 467-9324.

1967 International Harvester classic truck. 649-9390.

Huffman Koos wood cocktail table & hex end table, \$100. 689-9018.

Thomasville wood armoire TV stand dresser, \$100. 689-9018.

Potted daylilies, phlox, snowball bushes. 545-8802.

Old wood farmhouse windows. 776-9435.

Canning tomatoes, peppers & ½ runner beans. 656-2325.

Dwarf burning bushes. 545-8802.

2007 Yardman 42" mower, 18HP, \$250. 537-2198.

Buck wood stove insert w/ blower, \$800. 537-2198.

Heated king mattress pad w/ dual controllers, \$25. 682-6458.

20.5ac w/ creek access, Bend of Ivy area. 206-0107.

Permachink Armour-Guard Borate, 25lbs, \$100. 649-3276.

Dayton 1/4HP TEFC 1725 RPM motor 56 frame+fan blade, \$75. 675-4661.

1999 Agco 54" bush hog, 3pt hitch, \$500. 910/617-3922.

Shibaura 854A diesel eng, 2133cc, \$1,200. 649-3276.

Heirloom 1/2 runner green beans & vegetables. 656-2281.

1999 MF 232 loader attachment, \$2000. 910/617-3922.

4pc Pioneer stereo system, \$400. 683-3371.

Kennabec potatoes. 656-2281.

Craftsman 10" 2HP radial arm saw, stand + castors. 675-4194.

Canon Power Shot SX530HS camera, \$150. 683-3371.

Troybilt 27-ton log splitter w/ Honda eng, \$1,100. 683-7916 or 778-0389.

Seasoned hardwood, \$125/pickup; \$250/trailer. 683-7916 or 778-0389.

2013 Coachman Catalina Deluxe, 30', 1slide, \$15,000 OBO. 702-7055.

1989 Toyota MR2, auto, \$3,000. 689-8945 or 813/966-1957.

ComfortTrac cervical traction unit, \$165. 423/580-3231.

1998 Jayco Eagle 10' pop-up trailer, \$2,300 OBO. 335-8443.

2009 Honda MC DN-01 700cc auto, black, \$6,500. 335-8443.

Ford & Chevrolet parts, 1990-1996. 380-6004.

1988 GMC 2500 LWB, 4x4, 4spd, 72k mi, \$10,000 OBO. 380-6004.

WANTED

Junk Cars. 689-5125.

Someone to scrape driveway in Burnsville. 305/988-9188.

Someone to do farm maintenance, 20+ hrs/wk, Burnsville. 678-3800.

Someone to do leather tanning. 779-0900.

Someone to cut hay in field, you get half, Burnsville. 305/988-9188.

Old buildings to tear down, will clean up. 208-0295.

Women age 50+ to travel as a group & explore the world. 380-2594.

MISCELLANEOUS

Will Do: chair caning. 689-5125.

Will Do: cabinet services. 675-8001.

For Lease: 8ac horse pasture w/ 3 horse stable + tack room. 467-9324.

Will Do: pressure wash. 675-4003.

Farmers Market, Sat, 10-1, MHU. 689-3606.

Will Do: housecleaning. 450-8073.

Will Do: lawn care. 450-8073.

FREE: Antique pump organ. 284-4865.

FREE: Hamilton upright piano. 208-7893.

Mini-Split Heat Pump Program

Summer is here and your home's #1 source of energy use is related to heating and cooling.

French Broad EMC continues to offer mini-split heat pumps at an affordable rate, which can be financed on your electric bill upon credit approval.

For more information visit our website at www.frenchbroademc.com



The Electrifier

Published monthly by

French Broad EMC
PO Box 9
Marshall, NC 28753

Jeff Loven	General Manager
Greg Fowler	District Manager
Tracy Evans	District Manager
Paula Seay	Editor

Board of Directors

Joe Justice	President
Jimmy Ray	Vice-President
John Chandler	Secretary
Gary Wilde	Treasurer
Jill Austin, Paul Badgley, Jerry Griffith, Keith Kuhne, Carl Ramsey, Gordon Randolph, Charles Tolley	

FBEMC Offices

Marshall	(828) 649-2051
Toll-Free to Marshall	1-800-222-6190
Burnsville	(828) 682-6121
Bakersville	(828) 688-4815

To Report A Power Outage After Hours

Marshall District

(Madison, Buncombe & Unicoi Counties)
(828) 649-2051 • 1-800-222-6190

Burnsville-Bakersville District

Yancey County (828) 682-6121
Mitchell County (828) 688-4815

Online Credit Card Payment Available 24 Hours a Day for VISA, MasterCard, Discover

1-844-294-5697



NOTE

The deadline for submitting ads to **The Electrifier** is the **15th** of each month.