



The **E**lectrifier

JULY 2018

"Owned by those we serve"

MARSHALL, NC

Teachers Can Apply Now for 2018-2019 Bright Ideas Education Grants

For more than 20 years, the Bright Ideas education grant program, sponsored by North Carolina's cooperatives, including French Broad EMC, has expanded learning opportunities in North Carolina classrooms by awarding grants to teachers for innovative, classroom-based projects that would not otherwise be funded.

Each year, about 2,000 applications are accepted from K-12 teachers in a variety of disciplines including music, art, history, reading, science, career-planning and information technology.

French Broad EMC is proud to continue to promote creativity in North Carolina classrooms and to award these grants to deserving teachers. Teachers may apply for grants of up to \$1,500.00.

To learn more about the program and start an online application, visit www.NCBrightIdeas.com.

The **deadline** to submit applications for the 2018-2019 school year is **September 18, 2018**. Teachers who submit their application by the early-bird deadline, August 15, 2018, will be entered in a drawing to win one of five \$100 gift cards.

Summer Vacation Energy Saving Tips

If you're heading out of town for summer vacation or even a weekend getaway, save a few dollars by taking some basic steps to save money and energy at home.

1. Consider turning the air conditioner off, or at least adjust the thermostat to maximize savings. Set your programmable thermostat at a higher temperature to save money on what could be your largest single energy expense.

2. Electronics with digital displays and standby power settings, such as digital clocks, TVs, DVD players, stereos and coffeemakers, should be unplugged to prevent phantom energy use.

3. Make sure all the lights are switched off. If you are planning to use timers or motion-detecting lights to create the illusion of being at home, use energy-efficient CFL bulbs in the fixtures that are set to light up.



4. Water heaters can be turned off or turned down to "vacation mode" to save electricity.

5. Your refrigerator can be made more energy efficient by adjusting the temperature slightly warmer.

6. Windows let in light, which creates excess heat. Close blinds and curtains to moderate the temperature and prevent your air conditioner from running excessively.

Leave your home in an energy-efficient state and read the electric meter before and after vacation to see how much energy was saved. Then use the savings on your next vacation!

www.saveonenergy.com

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. Visit our website for more information:

www.frenchbroademc.com



Manager's Report



Jeff Loven

Outage Communications

As we move into the summer months, your cooperative has been extremely busy making sure we keep your electric system in optimal condition. We continue to maintain the power line right-of-ways. With all the rain in May and the warm weather that has followed, trees and other vegetation have really grown this summer. Our right-of-way crews are still trimming trees and our spray crews have applied herbicide treatment from early June through the middle of July. These programs have produced a clear and clean right-of-way that keeps our lines free from trees and vines. It also provides safer access to our facilities for our crews in the event that a line is down.

Unfortunately, no matter how much we cut or spray, there will always be trees outside the right-of-way that can fall and come in contact with our lines. When the ground is saturated, trees can become uprooted or there may be a dead tree we cannot see. Loggers and clear cutters sometimes miscalculate and their trees fall the wrong way! Regardless of the cause, our crews are quick to respond

to every outage and get service restored as quickly as possible.

Recently we had a Duke Energy transmission outage in our Cedar Hill/Sandy Mush service area. This outage was caused by a logging company who had cut a tree that fell the opposite way they planned. At that point we had over 3,500 customers without service. A few customers have expressed concern that they could not get in touch with us via telephone. This has been an issue since the co-op was formed over 77 years ago. Over the years we have increased our phone line capacity from 10 lines to 20 lines and now to 30 lines, but that simply is not enough to answer everyone's calls. There is also a limit on how many company representatives we have on staff to answer these calls.

Please be aware that we have used modern technology to assist in getting a handle on this problem. Our automated metering system reports each member's power outage as soon as it occurs. Our service personnel receive immediate notification when a meter is out

of power. This information is real time and is collected by our system and displayed on our maps in the trucks and at our offices. Our crews can quickly pinpoint where the general location of the outage is located. They can also see where other service crews are located.

In the event of a major outage, we leave a recorded message on the phone system to let our customers know the location of the outages and estimated restoration time if we have it. We also post similar messages on our website and on Facebook to let our members know what is happening. Our website has a live outage map that also shows where we have outages. This is updated every five minutes and is a great way to quickly see if an outage in your area has been reported. We are presently working on a data phone app that will allow outage reporting and tracking that should be available soon.

Power outages are a major inconvenience in our lives and French Broad EMC staff and crews are extremely committed to making sure all our customers have the best service possible.



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 publish

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

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, Keith Kuhne, Dan Quinn, Carl Ramsey, Gordon Randolph, Bill Riddle, 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

Deadlines for submitting ads or notices to **The Electrifier.**

August issue July 10th
September issue Aug 15th
October issue Sept 15th

FOR SALE

Kawasaki KX250 dirt bike, \$5,000. 778-9885.

Jazzy electric wheelchair w/ 2 batteries, \$1,500. 206-3675.

18.92ac, gentle to steep slope, water, Burnsville, \$175,000. 284-3564.

Kioti LB1914 4WD tractor w/ front bucket & scrape blade, 200 hrs, \$7,500. 385-0053.

Amish Speedway Express 500 Wagon, red oak sides, \$125. 467-4356.

2005 Subaru Legacy Ltd, 46k mi, white, blk leather, \$8,500. 284-8837.

2007 Hyundai Santa Fe AWD, one owner, \$4,000. 320-9165.

2 spaces, Vets Garden of Honor, Forest Lawn, \$2,300. 658-9837.

Kuhn disc mower, 5', \$1,500. 777-7081.

Fertilize spreader. 777-7081.

Sweet potato slips. 656-2281.

Half runner & greasy green beans. 656-2281.

Tools, fishing, Harley helmets & more. 305/988-9188.

Delta 16' gooseneck stock trailer w/ cutting gate, \$3,500. 689-2348.

500gal oil barrel w/ small hole in bottom, \$100. 689-2348 or 778-4903.

2006 8'x30' trailer, back drop-down or side door for living, \$7,500. 645-8255.

Grizzly jointer, model G0452, \$375. 675-0760.

Bosch router table model RA 1181 w/ stand, \$120. 675-0760.

Hay, 2.2ac, \$2/sq or \$25/round. 305/988-9188.

3BR/2BA DW w/garage on 0.083 ac, pool, \$75,000. 208-2395 or 284-7309.

Kubota RTV-X1120 DW, 42hrs, extras, \$15,500. 768-0358.

Dwarf burning bushes, asst sizes. 545-8802.

Potted perennial plants, bushes, trees. 545-8802.

'68 SS 396 Chevelle, 41k mi, indigo blue, \$34,500. 683-3237 before 8pm.

Truck bed cover fits '10 Toyota Tacoma, luna mist, \$400. 776-0359 or 658-3142.

Antique wood wardrobe. 683-9169.

2005 Honda Shadow 600 VLX, 8,203mi, \$2,600. 385-3782.

2009 Nissan Maxima, white, 31k mi, one owner, loaded. 777-0030.

1999 Suzuki Tracker, 5spd, 4WD. 688-9427.

1998 Subaru Outback, \$2,900. 688-4347.

Old camper, redone inside. 645-7241.

3BR/1½BA on 7+ac, well, spring, \$300,000 OBO. 385-6559 or 385-0440 5-9pm.

Hay, \$5/bale. 682-7268 or 284-7313.

150+ VHS tapes & player. 7767-5268.

Quart canning jars, \$4/dozen. 776-5268.

Glass bottles, coffee jars, etc. 803-9090.

English Shepherd puppies, \$195/m; \$225/f. 683-3126.

Red bricks (400), 20¢ ea. 622-3465.

2006 Ford F-150, \$1,500 OBO or will sell for parts. 380-9886.

Music boxes. 675-4271.

Wicker vintage baskets. 675-4271.

Barn lumber. 208-0295.

2BR mobile home w/ metal roof, \$5,200. 423/743-5988.

2BR mobile home & garage on 1ac, Flag Pond, \$29,000. 423/743-5988.

TroyBilt garden tiller, electric start, \$800. 649-3925.

1.26ac, 350' lakefront property, Spruce Pine, \$99,000. 675-9536.

2008 Ford Focus SES, silver, 4dr, 144k mi, \$4,450. 776-2681.

2012 Ford Fusion SE, burgundy, 4dr, 89k mi, 2.5 4cyl, \$8,900. 776-2681.

Country home/cabin decor & furniture. 467-3628.

3BR/2BA log home w/ basement on 10ac, \$325,000. 352/318-0755.

GE upright freezer, 14cu ft, \$225. 777-4012.

2002 Suzuki Intruder, 18,700mi, \$1,900. 688-4226 or 385-3418.

WANTED

Junk Cars. 689-5125.

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

Old wooden windows and horse-shoes. 682-1088.

Someone to do lawn care services, Marshall. 649-9676.

Cat truck engine, 3406 E model. 777-8505.

Jack Russell or Chihuahua puppy. 622-3465.

English Bulldog. 776-7425.

Parts for Case 446 lawn tractor. 776-3319.

MISCELLANEOUS

Will Do: chair caning. 689-5125.

Will Do: handyman services, junk removal, tree trimming. 284-2137.

Will Do: alterations. 689-3273.

Will Do: paint, repairs, misc jobs, ref. 423/580-3231.

Will Do: respite care, exp, ref, Marshall area. 649-9676.

Will Do: junk removal. 208-4599.

Will Do: cabinet services. 675-8001.

Farmer's Market, Sat 9am-12noon, MHU, www.marshallmarket.org.

Job Openings: NCDPS, correctional officers, nurses & more. 919-480-0064.

For Rent: 2BR/1BA garage apt, part furn, Yancey, ref, \$500/mo+dep. 778-1897.

FREE 1950's Bradbury spinet piano, Mars Hill. 689-8832.

Will Do: clean houses. 688-3693.

Will Do: housecleaning. 450-8073.

Will Do: lawncare. 450-8073.

FREE 1-yr old Rat Terrier, black/white, shots. 206-4616.

Will Do: pressure washing. 675-4003.

Safety Tips for 4th of July Holiday

FIREWORKS SAFETY

The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public fireworks show put on by professionals. Stay at least 500 feet away from the show. Many states outlaw most fireworks. If someone is setting fireworks off at home, they should follow these safety steps:

- * Never give fireworks to small children, and always follow the instructions on the packaging.
- * Keep a supply of water close by as a precaution.
- * Make sure the person lighting fireworks always wears eye protection.
- * Light only one firework at a time and never attempt to relight "a dud."
- * Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.
- * Never throw or point a firework toward people, animals, vehicles, structures or flammable materials.
- * Leave any area immediately where untrained amateurs are using fireworks.

**French Broad EMC
offices will be closed
Wednesday July 18th
for company picnic**



www.redcross.org

Right-of-Way (ROW) Schedule for July/August

Burnsville District

Cutting

Bakers Creek, Prices Creek, Possum Trot, service area from Bald Creek to Madison County Line.

Spraying

Little Creek, Bee Log, Bald Mountain, Double Island, Blue Rock Road, Rice Road, Halls Chapel Road, Crabtree Road, Bakers Creek, Riverside to Madison County Line, Pensacola, Transmission Line from Micaville to Burnsville; Raccoon Branch, Harrell Hill, Buladean, Cub Creek, Red Hill, Mine Creek, NC 80, and Transmission Line from Bakersville to Relief.

Marshall District

Cutting

Walnut, Sandy Bottom, Hopewell, Big Sandy Mush, Sandy Mush Creek, Laurel River, Weaverville area south of Jupiter Road, Paint Fork Area (from Hamburg Road to County Line), Upper end of Crooked Creek Road.

Spraying

Walnut, Anderson Branch, Big Pine, Rector Corner Area, Town of Marshall, Long Branch & Windswept area, Bull Creek, Gabriels Creek, Lower Gabriels Creek, Kelly Hunter, Hwy 213 and Lower end of Petersburg, Barnardsville, Upper Flat Creek, Ivy Hill and Beech Glen.