



The Electrifier

www.frenchbroademc.com

SEPTEMBER 2020

"Owned by those we serve"

Marshall, NC

WHEN YOU HAVE AN OUTAGE...

With the automated metering system, which we now have in place, we are alerted when there is a power outage. Once we get the outage alert, crews are dispatched to trouble-shoot the outage and to restore power.

Outages are reported and you can view the outage map on our website at www.frenchbroademc.com. If you see outages in your area on the map, then know that our crews are aware of the outage.

You are welcome to call our office regarding the outage, but due to limited phone lines, we can only accommodate a limited number of phone calls.

We appreciate your patience and we are working hard to keep your power on.

Update Contact Information

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

Customers are notified of 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.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 *(voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at <http://www.usda.gov/oascr> and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866)632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202)690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

August 2020
French Broad Electric Membership Corporation
Marshall, NC

Manager's Report

ReConnect Grant Awarded



Jeff Loven

July was a very exciting month for French Broad EMC. For the first time in the history of the Cooperative, FBEMC hosted the Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue. RUS Administrator Chad Rupe and the State Secretary of Agriculture Steve Troxler also were in attendance when Mr. Perdue announced that French Broad Electric was a recipient of a \$3.2 million dollar ReConnect Grant to provide high-speed internet to Southwestern Madison County.

It was just over four years ago that our Board of Directors recognized a significant need in our community for high-speed internet and wanted to know what the Cooperative could do to provide such a service. They challenged our staff to bring high-speed internet into our rural areas in the same way we brought electricity to our members 78 years ago.

So, we started with a small test area of around 400 possible accounts. 85% of the accounts in that test area are now fiber internet customers. With that success, we decided to expand into other unserved areas with higher customer

density to keep costs manageable. In order to serve the more rural areas, we needed significant financial assistance.

RUS and USDA came to the rescue and made it possible to apply for grants to assist in funding projects to serve high speed internet in our rural service territory. In 2018, we were awarded a Community Connect grant that now provides fiber internet and telephone service to over 3,000 residents in the Laurel Community. In 2019, we received a grant award from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) that provided these same high-speed internet and telephone services to our customers in the Hot Springs and Shut-In Communities.

Now with this latest grant, French Broad Electric will be able to provide gigabit internet service to 189 farms, 17 small businesses, 2 volunteer fire departments, and over 4,000 Madison County residents who live in Spring Creek, Big Pine, Little Pine, and Rector Corner and other surrounding areas. In addition to all of the areas we already serve or will serve soon, we are also expanding

service in other parts of the county. We also submitted grant applications to serve our members in the Big Laurel and Unicoi County areas and those awards will be announced later this fall.

I would again like to thank our Board of Directors for having confidence in our team. Four years ago, we didn't have a lot of real-world experience in providing high-speed internet. However, they knew what I knew. Our employees would ambitiously accept the challenge and we had the talent to make it a success.

No doubt 2020 has been a difficult year and has changed the way we now live. Bringing internet to our rural areas is an essential tool in successfully adjusting to this new way of life.

Whether it be for work, education, or even entertainment, high speed internet is becoming as important to our membership as electricity was in the 1940's. French Broad Electric is accepting the challenge to provide this service to our members and working hard to obtain these grant awards is making it 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 published.

Ads may be submitted online or mailed to:

French Broad EMC, Attn: Paula Seay, PO Box 9, Marshall, NC 28753.

FOR SALE

Front-tine tiller, \$200. 645-9075.
 5,000-watt generator, PowerMate, \$200. 206-4053.
 Shark vacuum cleaner, \$125 OBO. 765-6281.
 Bissell rug shampooer, \$75 OBO. 765-6281.
 Old farm equipment. 682-7659.
 Ceramic shop items, molds, kilns, etc. 682-7659.
 Christmas decorations. 675-4271.
 Pottery & wall art. 675-4271.
 Laura Ashley desk. 675-4003.
 Beach cruiser 1-gear bike, \$70. 258-8281.
 1-room log building, you tear down & haul off, \$1,500. 704/562-7989.
 Honey bee frames(50), \$50/all. 704/562-7989.
 1994 Toyota 4-Runner, 5spd, 4x4, 203k mi. 765-6341.
 2011 Ford Explorer XLT, 2WD, \$9,700. 682-3102.
 Handmade bench porch rocker, seats 2-3 people, \$400. 682-3102.

Woodstove, \$350. 206-9642.
 2009 Chevy Equinox V6, auto, tan, AWD, 245k mi, \$500 OBO. 284-1507.
 Mamiya 645 camera w/ wide angle+ tele-photo lens in case, \$1,900. 765-6341
 Baby stroller w/ big wheels & hood. 649-3839 or 206-1750.
 Jerry wheelchair, adjustable. 649-3839 or 206-1750.
 Wine-making equipment, \$35. 689-4024.
 Stamp collection from 50's, 2 books + extras, \$75. 689-4024.
 Sitrex 3ph hay rake, \$500. 230-8118.
 Sun Star infrared propane heater, 65k BTU, \$250. 230-8118.
 2014 Keystone 19' travel trailer w/ 1 slide. 545-3047.
 20.5 acres w/ creek access. 206-0107.
 Dining set w/6 chairs & hutch, \$1,500. 380-2140.
 2 spaces, Vets Garden of Honor, Forest Lawn, \$2,300. 658-9837.
 Half runner green beans & Kennebec potatoes. 656-2281.
 Seasoned firewood, \$125/pickup; \$250/trailer. 683-7916 or 778-0389.

Troybilt 27-ton wood splitter, Honda eng, \$1,100. 683-7916 or 778-0389.
 Tonka toys, metal dump trucks, \$45-\$95. 305/988-9188.
 1994 endless pool, \$500. 206-0257.
 2006 Mustang 6cyl, auto, leather, 126k mi, \$6,000. 230-2203.
 2000 Chevy ¾ ton 4x4 truck, 122k mi. 385-2050.
 Corn Flame duel fuel pellet stove, \$400. 206-3938.
 Log cabin, turn key ready, Burnsville, \$289,000. 305/988-9188.
 1995 Chevrolet SWB truck bed. 656-2316.
 Dwarf burning bushes. 545-8802.
 Potted Spirea, Almond, Hydrangea, & others. 545-8802.
 1999 Chev K1500 4WD 350 5.7 liter, 14,552mi. 675-5590.
 1980 Corvette, 10,900. 284-0590 10:30am-4:30pm only.
 1991 Nissan D21 pickup truck, \$1,000. 215-0099.
 Kennebec potatoes. 656-818 1.
 King wood stove, \$400 OBO. 704/591-4538.

Frasier fir Christmas trees, pick now, cut later. 208-2932.

(50) SS snow/ice stops for roof. 208-2932.

Floor model drill press w/ 1" chuck. 682-4355.

Hedge trimmer w/ extras. 682-4355.

Walnut logs, firewood, \$50. 649-2738.

Antique ships wheel w/glass top & iron base, \$400. 813/361-8322.

Hay, 1st & 2nd cutting, \$5/bale. 682-7268 or 284-7313.

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

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

88 Ford Bronco, Eddie Bauer, \$6,500 OBO. 333-8910 or 683-4727.

Gun cabinet, holds 8 guns. 284-3003.

Trailer, 4x8. 284-3003.

Handmade wormy chestnut dining table, 72"x36", \$1,200. 689-5385.

Justin pull-on, waterproof boots, 10D, \$80. 678-1371.

Craftsman 5,600-watt AC generator, \$350. 515-0317.

2001 Sunny Brook 31' camper, \$5,200 OBO. 649-0622 or 380-6075.

WANTED

Junk cars. 689-5125.

Recipes from Mad Co residents for Beacon of Hope cookbook. atasteofmadness2020@gmail.com.

Someone to clean gutters, Weaver-ville. 280-3916.

Someone to help do light carpentry work \$12/hr. 954/496-9000 or 682-1212.

Someone to help cut mixed hardwood trees for free wood. 258-8281.

MISCELLANEOUS

Call Mad Co DSS for COVID-19 financial assistance. 649-2711.

Will Do: pressure wash. 675-4003.

FOMCA low cost spay/neuter. 649-9798.

FREE (3) downed ashe trees, cut 8' length. 843/367-5045.

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

Will Do: odd jobs, ceramic & furniture repair. 423/580-3231.

Will Do: chair caning. 273-3161.

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

Burnsville District
Cutting

- *Hwy 197N
- *Upper/Lower Pig Pen
- *Dale Road
- *Crabtree
- *Little Switzerland
- *Mitchell Branch
- *Mica Spring Heights

Marshall District
Cutting

- *Upper end of Big Laurel
- *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.

*The
Electrifier*

Published monthly by
French Broad EMC
PO Box 9 • Marshall, NC 28753

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FBEMC Offices

Marshall	(828) 649-2051
Toll-Free 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.