



The Electrifier

www.frenchbroademc.com

MAY 2022

“Owned by those we serve”

Marshall, NC

MAY IS NATIONAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

His rubber gloves have been checked. His harness is secure. His mind and body are nourished, and his comrades stand below. A lineman begins his climb, inching farther from the ground and closer to the power line above while the wind whirrs. He's confident in his training and in his experience, but the dangers of the job are always in his mind.

The U.S. Department of Labor ranks electric line work as one of our country's most dangerous jobs, but that doesn't mean it can't be safe. Safety has been a fundamental part of French Broad EMC culture for the last 80 years. It's something we expect from our employees whether they're in the field working to maintain the lines and equipment that deliver electricity to your home, or they're in the warehouse or even in the office. It's a part of who we are.

As members of French Broad EMC, you are a part of our cooperative family, and we want safety to be a part of who you are, too. May is National Electrical Safety Month, and it's a good opportunity for all of us to reconnect with simple practices that will help keep our homes and families free from common and often-overlooked electrical hazards.

Inside the Home

- Inspect electrical cords often for broken connectors or fraying. Throw away any worn cords to eliminate the possibility of shock, short circuit or fire.
- Don't overload power outlets.
- The wattage of the bulbs you use in your home should match the wattage indicated on the light fixture. Overheated fixtures can lead to a fire.
- When trying to unplug something from an outlet, pull on the plug, not the cord.
- Keep in mind that turned off appliances are still connected to electricity until they are unplugged. To clean or repair these appliances always unplug them first.
- Use extension cords only for short-term purposes, and make sure the cord is adequately suited for the amount of electricity it will be transferring.
- Turn off and unplug all portable electrical appliances, like hairdryers, irons and shavers, when you're finished using them.
- Be familiar with the location of your breaker box and make sure the switches are clearly labeled so you can shut off electricity quickly in the event of an emergency.

Outside the Home

- If there is a downed power line nearby, leave the area immediately and notify our office or call 911. If others are around, let them know that they need to stay away.
- “Call Before You Dig.” Dial 811 before starting a digging project, and workers will be sent to your home to mark utility lines in your yard. This service is free, and it has the potential to save your life.
- Never use electrical equipment near any wet areas, such as pools or ponds.

These tips may seem basic, but they are important. Please participate in our culture of safety by recognizing May as National Electrical Safety Month. Take a few moments to identify, understand and correct the potential electrical hazards in your home, and, as always, please call our office 828-649-2051 or visit our website www.frenchbroademc.com for more information.

Manager's Report



The Importance of Vegetation Management

French Broad Electric takes great pride in providing members with the most reliable electricity possible. Tree contact with power lines is the single leading cause of outages on our system and that is why we have a carefully planned vegetation management program. At the same time, we are also committed to protecting the natural beauty of our landscapes and minimizing the impact we make on the environment.

With almost 5,000 miles of distribution power lines, 1,900 miles of fiber optic lines, and 100 miles of transmission lines, controlling the tree and brush growth is critical to ensuring reliability to all our members. Keeping trees away from power lines is also a safety measure. Trees and other objects that come into contact with power lines can become energized, leading to shock or electrocution. Even fallen power lines can still be energized, which is why no one but a French Broad EMC line technician should ever go near a downed power line. A clear path for power lines also provides a safer working environment for the line technicians performing routine maintenance or power restoration.

This vegetation must be continually managed in our right-of-way's in order to deliver safe, reliable electricity to our members. That is why your

cooperative uses a combination approach to right-of-way maintenance that includes selective herbicide application. Early in the process, trees and large growth are removed by our crews. The next summer, crews use a backpack applicator to apply environmentally safe herbicide targeted to vegetation that could grow into power lines. This herbicide allows lower growing vegetation to thrive as is evidenced in our lines that have been treated for several years. We are now in our 11th year of with this program and have recognized significant improvements in vegetation control, costs, and appearance without any negative impacts on the environment.

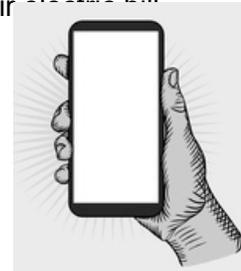
This low-volume manual method of vegetation management helps protect the natural habitat of the many plants and wildlife in our area. These practices are even endorsed by the NC department of Natural Resources, The National Wild Turkey Federation, and Buckmasters.

Members can also help insure safe, reliable electricity by avoiding tree planting near or under power lines.

Collectively, we can all work together to ensure that our right-of-way management program serves every member and ensures reliable electric service.

SCAM ALERT

It seems like every few days we get calls from members who have received scam calls regarding their electric bill.



Beware of scammers who call to tell you that your account is delinquent and who insist on your immediate payment. Please know that we do not call you and demand payment. You receive billing notices with your due date information.

Beware of scammers who call to reward you for paying your bills on-time and offer you gifts, such as iPads, gift cards, credit on your bill or even a reduction in your power bill.

Please do not give them your information. If you are concerned about your account, please hang up and call FBEMC directly at 828-649-2051 to inquire about your account.



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

- Porter cable band saw, 14", \$1,200. 645-9860.
- Grizzly 10" table saw, G1022Z, \$1,500. 645-9860.
- Older wood house w/ views of Roan Mtn, \$19,700. 688-1363.
- Transmission for '93 Toyota pickup, 22RE eng, 5spd, auto. 231-7453.
- German Shepherd, 2 yr male, fixed. 649-9483.
- Grain fed pasture raised pork sausage, steaks, ribs, etc. 649-3678.
- (2) Corbeau racing seats, black, fit 2020 Toyota Tacoma, \$600. 206-3989.
- Sony 10-disc CD changer, CDX-51, \$300. 206-3989.
- 7 cu ft freezer, \$475. 765-0163.
- Victorian chest of 5-drawers, \$200. 765-0163.
- Delta bathroom sink faucets, tub spout & shower controllers. 777-4263.
- (2) 26" bikes & stand-alone wall rack for 3 bikes. 766-5211.
- Flea market items. 645-7241.
- Futon frame, 7'x5' solid oak, \$400. 582-8448.
- 1.5 acres, Grassy Crk. 467-0082.
- Disc (\$500) & Bush hog (\$700). 910/617-2905.
- Finish mower, \$500. 910/617-2905.
- 1994 Chevy S-10 ext cab, 4WD, auto. 467-7696 or 688-9509.
- 2005 Honda CRV for parts. 622-7172.

- (10) 3x4x8 landscaping timbers, \$25. 680-3064.
- Wood pellet stove, \$500. 680-3064.
- Miscellaneous items. 551-4396.
- 5.25 acres w/ paved road, Brummetts Ck. 682-6849.
- Hardwood firewood, will deliver. 206-9097.
- 2005 Chevy Silverado, 4dr, 4WD, \$13,500. 680-9193.
- Vintage pocket books & purses. 675-4271.
- Books: 1800s-1900s, on religion & on the Bible. 675-4271.
- 4'x6' utility trailer w/ 4' sides, \$225. 258-8281.

WANTED

- Someone to do yardwork, \$20/hour. 551-4396.
- Field to put up for hay, Grassy Crk. 385-6030.
- Someone to care for elderly couple 1-2 days/wk. 707-1383.

MISCELLANEOUS

- FREE: treadmill. 645-7241.
- Will Do: pressure wash. 675-4003.
- Will Do: pressure clean asphalt, concrete repairs, clearcoat. 777-4002.
- Will Do: pressure clean home, patios, gutters in/out. 777-4002.

- Will Do: tree trimming, junk removal, handyman svcs. 284-2137.
- FREE: full size sleep sofa. 412/537-6150.
- FOMCA low cost spay/neuter. 649-9798.
- Will Do: alterations. 689-3273.
- For Rent: 2BR/1BA house, Bakersville, \$750/mo. 385-9858.
- Will Do: bush hogging & scraping driveways. 713-5574.
- Farmer's Market, MHU, Sat 10-1. www.marshillmarket.org.
- Will Do: haul away junk riding mowers & metal for free. 689-3896.
- Will Do: haul away junk cars/trucks & metal for free. 689-3896.

IS IT TIME TO SCHEDULE YOUR HEAT PUMP CLEANING?



If you have signed up for the maintenance program, and would like to schedule your annual cleaning or repair appointment, please call 828-649-2051.

**French Broad EMC offices
will be closed
Monday, May 30th
in honor of Memorial Day
as we remember the men and
women in our Armed Forces
who have given their lives
in service to our country.**



Electric Vehicle(EV) Chargers

We now have installed three EV charging stations in our service territory. One charger is located in the town of Mars Hill, one charger is located in the town of Burnsville and one charger is located in the town of Bakersville.



For more information on how to find charger details and locations, visit the Charge Point website at www.chargepoint.com.

*The
Electrifier*

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FBEMC Offices

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

**To Report A Power Outage
After Hours
Marshall District**

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

Burnsville-Bakersville District

<i>Yancey County</i>	<i>(828) 682-6121</i>
<i>Mitchell County</i>	<i>(828) 688-4815</i>

**Online Credit Card Payment
Available 24 Hours a Day**

1-844-294-5697



*Deadline for submitting ads
to The Electrifier
is the 10th of each month*

**ROW Clearing Schedule
May/June**

**Marshall District
Cutting**

- * Lower Flat Creek Road to Ivy Hill Road
- * Meadow Fork area
- * Palmer Ford Road/Pickens Road area

Spraying

- * Walnut Creek
- * Little Pine
- * Leicester/Cedar Hill/Sandy Mush/Big Sandy Mush
- * Big Laurel
- * Bruce Rd./N. Main St./Parkway View Rd. - Mars Hill
- * Grapevine/Petersburg
- * Spring Creek/Meadow Fork
- * Grandview
- * Locust Grove
- * Bald Mountain Transmission line from Substation to Bald Mountain Road

**Burnsville District
Cutting**

- * Hwy 19 W
- * Hardscrabble Road
- * Lower Jacks Creek
- * Transmission Line from Burnsville to Relief

Spraying

- * Poplar,
- * Pigeon Roost
- * Brummetts Creek
- * Crabtree
- * McKinney Mine Road
- * White Oak
- * Spruce Pine service area
- * Fork Mountain
- * Glen Arye
- * East Yancey
- * Bowditch
- * Town of Burnsville
- * Transmission line from Burnsville to Relief