

# Wake ElectriConnection

For members of Wake Electric Membership Corporation



"The power to make a difference"

FEBRUARY 2012



## Mark Your Calendar!

### Join Us for 2012 Wake Electric's Annual Meeting on March 23

**W**ake Electric invites all of its members to please join us on Friday, March 23, at Louisburg College Auditorium for our Annual Meeting.

During this business meeting, members will have the opportunity to hear reports on the current plans of Wake Electric, as well as have the chance to ask senior management questions about your co-op.

This year, our meeting will focus on new, state-of-the-art technology being implemented at Wake Electric and how members can utilize it to help manage their energy usage. It is an exciting time at Wake Electric and we look forward to sharing information about the co-op's future and how it will affect you, the members.

Members in attendance will be entered into a drawing for \$5,000 in cash prizes. The grand prize will be \$1,000. There are also two second-place prizes of \$500 each, four third-place prizes of \$250 each and 20 fourth-place prizes of \$100 each. There will also be special activities for school-aged children during the meeting.

Members in attendance will also receive a free gift bag from Wake Electric (one gift bag per household) and other freebies from our participating vendors.

#### Wake Electric's New Pay-by-Phone Number

This is just a friendly reminder that Wake Electric now has a dedicated pay-by-phone number option for bill payment. The number for this new service is (866) 999-4593. This convenient new option allows members to check the status of their account, make a payment, create or update PIN numbers and also update phone numbers through an automated phone system.



*Jim Mangum, General Manager & CEO of Wake Electric, addresses members at Wake Electric's 2011 Annual Meeting about co-op business and electric utility industry trends.*

Be on the lookout for the special cover wrap in your March edition of *Carolina Country*. On that cover, you will find an official registration card with your member number on it. Bring this card to the meeting to enter the prize drawings.

Registration for the Annual Meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. The business meeting begins at 7 p.m. and the cash prize drawing will be at the close of the business meeting, which typically ends around 8 p.m.

The Louisburg College Auditorium is located at 501 Main Street, Louisburg, NC.

For more information on Wake Electric's Annual Meeting, please visit [www.wemc.com/annualmeeting.aspx](http://www.wemc.com/annualmeeting.aspx) or contact us at (919) 863-6300 or (toll free) 1-900-474-6300. You can also e-mail us with questions at [information@wemc.com](mailto:information@wemc.com). We hope to see you there!

 Wake Electric  
Membership Corporation

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Call to report outages: 919.863.6499 or 800.743.3155

Regular office hours: M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Telephone hours: M-F, 7 a.m.-6 p.m., 863.6300 or 800.474.6300

Underground locating service: Call 811

Dedicated pay-by-phone number: 866.999.4593

# ATTENTION, STUDENTS!

## Scholarship Opportunities Available at Wake Electric

Here are some upcoming opportunities, sponsored by Wake Electric, for youth.

### TOUCHSTONE ENERGY SPORTS CAMPS 2012

Wake Electric is providing all-expenses-paid scholarships for a female to attend the Kellie Harper Basketball Camp at NC State in Raleigh and a male to attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at UNC in Chapel Hill this summer.

Rising sixth through rising eighth graders are eligible to apply and the application deadline is March 30, 2012. For more information or to download an application, please visit [www.wemc.com/basketball.aspx](http://www.wemc.com/basketball.aspx).

### 2012 RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH TOUR

Wake Electric seeks applicants for the 2012 Rural Electric Youth Tour, which includes a \$1,000 scholarship for college, plus a free, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. The trip will be held June 15–22, 2012.

Applicants must be current high school juniors living in Wake, Durham, Johnston, Vance, Granville, Nash, or Franklin counties. Students do not have to live in households served by Wake Electric to win.

For more information on eligibility or to download an application, please visit [www.wemc.com/youthtours.aspx](http://www.wemc.com/youthtours.aspx). The deadline to submit applications to the Youth Tour program is Thursday, March 15.

### WAKE ELECTRIC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Wake Electric is currently seeking students to apply for its prestigious scholarship program. Students can apply for the coveted Fred M. Alford Scholarship (\$2,000), as well as 16 Touchstone Energy Scholarships (\$1,250 each).

All applications will be under consideration for one of the two scholarship categories. Students only need to submit one application to be considered for both scholarship categories.

To find out the requirements for both scholarships and to download an application, please visit [www.wemc.com/scholarships.aspx](http://www.wemc.com/scholarships.aspx). The deadline to submit applications to the Wake Electric Scholarship Program is Friday, March 30, 2012.

Questions on any of these wonderful scholarship opportunities? Just contact Wake Electric at [communications@wemc.com](mailto:communications@wemc.com) or (919) 863-6312.



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### ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

Air is drawn into your home from low areas, so inspect your foundation for potential air-infiltration points. Fixing these leaks makes a bigger

impact on your electric bill than sealing doors and windows! Caulk all cracks and gaps around your home, including spaces around wires for telephone, electrical, cable, and gas lines, water spigots, and dryer vents. Find more ways to save at [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com)

Source: Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

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## Reminder: Member Advisory Committee (MAC) Meetings Set This Month

**M**ember Advisory Committee (MAC) Meetings at Wake Electric are another great way to learn more about your local electric cooperative. We invite all members to attend our upcoming MAC meetings on Monday, February 13; Wednesday, February 15; or Thursday, February 16. It's a great opportunity to talk with officials at Wake Electric about electric utility issues, as well as co-op business matters.

Dinner is included for all attendees and there will be several drawings for \$25 credits on your next electric bill.

All February MAC meetings

will be held at Wake Electric's Youngsville office at 228 Park Avenue, starting at 6:30 p.m.

If you have any questions or wish to RSVP, please contact Darnell Alford, Business Operations Specialist, at (919) 863-6312 or 1-800-474-6300 or via e-mail at [darnell.alford@wemc.com](mailto:darnell.alford@wemc.com). Space is limited and attendance is on a first come, first serve basis. If the date you have chosen is full, you will be notified. Be sure to leave a contact number in your RSVP message. For more information, please visit our website at [www.wemc.com/membermeetings.aspx](http://www.wemc.com/membermeetings.aspx). We hope to see you there!

## Got an Old, Working Fridge or Freezer You'd Like to Get Rid Of? We Have a Solution!



The Fridge and Freezer Farewell program gives \$50 to participants!

**W**ake Electric is proud to announce its partnership with Appliance Recycling Centers of America, Inc. to bring you an exciting new program called the Fridge and Freezer Farewell program. Wake Electric will give you \$50 to let us properly recycle your old, working secondary refrigerator or freezer. We'll even pick it up, free of charge. Each fridge or freezer appliance that is properly recycled through the program will prevent it from entering a landfill, helping us all clean up the environment.

You must be a residential electric customer with a valid account number to participate. Refrigerators and freezers turned

in for recycling must be secondary units in working condition (cooling), 10–30 cubic feet, owned by you and picked up from the residential address listed on the billing account. The \$50 rebate will be mailed to you in the form of a check within 4–6 weeks after collection.

Limit of two appliances per household per year. Some restrictions apply.

To schedule your fridge or freezer pick-up, please call (877) 341-2310.

For more program information, please visit [www.wemc.com/fridgeandfreezer.aspx](http://www.wemc.com/fridgeandfreezer.aspx) or call (877) 341-2310. You may also e-mail [communications@wemc.com](mailto:communications@wemc.com) with questions.

# Making Your Home Safe for Inside Play

It may be a little too cold for your children to play outside right now, but children who have been cooped up usually need to burn off energy. It's up to the adults in your household to create a safe place for kids to play inside, especially during winter.

- ★ Children are fascinated by electronics and the outlets used to power electronic devices, so it's important to include electric safety in your indoor play rules. Share these guidelines with your children so they can play safely indoors.
- ★ If you have young children in the home, make sure every outlet is covered with a safety cap. Safety caps are available at many discount stores, drug stores and even some grocery stores. These caps should be placed in unused outlets so young children can't stick their fingers or other objects into outlets.
- ★ Be sure that older children know to NEVER put anything other than an electric plug into an electric socket. Outlets should be covered until children are mature enough to understand that fingers, pencils, toys and other objects must be kept away.
- ★ Do not allow children to overload outlets or power strips. Plugging too many electrical devices, like several video gaming systems, into one outlet can cause it to overload and catch on fire. It's important to check outlets and power strips in your children's rooms to make sure they're not overloaded.
- ★ Always unplug electrical appliances and toys when not in use.
- ★ Teach your children to always remove electrical devices from outlets by grasping the plug and not the cord. Tugging or pulling can damage the cords and create a safety hazard.
- ★ Check electrical cords for any damage and wear.
- ★ Arrange cords so that children don't walk on them or pull them.
- ★ Electrical cords are not toys and children should not play with them or allow pets to play with them.
- ★ Never allow children to insert any metal objects into an appliance without first checking to make sure that the appliance is unplugged, for example using a knife to remove food from a toaster.
- ★ Do not use any electrical appliance or device when wet, with wet hands or while standing in water. Ensure that children dry their bodies and hands after taking a bath before touching any electrical items, including hair dryers and light switches. Never take plug-in electrical items, such as a radio, into the bathroom.
- ★ Make sure children keep drinks away from electrical items in case they spill.

By following these safety tips, you can be sure your kids have a fun and safe time playing inside for the rest of the winter.

