

The NEWS LINE

RUTHERFORD ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

www.remc.com

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative



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Now Serving 67, 036 Members

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Fire Extinguishers: A Little Preparation Can Go a Long Way

House fires can happen in seconds: in one instant, you could go from whipping up dinner to watching flames spring up from the stovetop.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 410,500 fires—or 78 percent of all reported structure fires—occur in homes. In the right hands, a household fire extinguisher can save lives and protect property should a small fire start.

“Every home should have at least one fire extinguisher, and you need the right type and you must know how and when to use it,” says John Drengenberg, consumer affairs manager at Underwriters Laboratories (UL), the Chicago, Ill.-based not-for-profit firm that tests and sets minimum standards for electric-consuming items.

Fire extinguishers should be placed in easily-accessible areas of the home, close to where they might be needed (such as in a kitchen, garage, or bedroom). Some basic rules to keep in mind when using household fire extinguishers:

1. If the fire is not spreading and remains confined to a small area, use the appropriate type of extinguisher. Select a multi-purpose extinguisher (rated A, B, or C) with the UL mark that can be used on all types fires such as wood, cloth, paper, flammable liquids (gasoline, oil, grease, oil-based paint), and energized electrical equipment including wiring, fuse boxes, circuit breakers and appliances.
2. Know both your limits and that of the fire extinguisher.
3. Periodically inspect your extinguishers to determine if they need to be

recharged or replaced. Extinguishers need to be recharged or replaced after each use—even if you haven’t used the entire extinguishing agent. Check the gauge on the fire extinguisher for this information.

4. When operating a fire extinguisher, stand at least 6 feet away from the fire and keep your back to a door so you can escape easily, if necessary. Remember the word PASS:

- Pull the pin, hold the extinguisher away from you and release the locking mechanism.
- Aim low, pointing the extinguisher at the base of the fire.
- Squeeze the lever slowly and evenly.
- Sweep the nozzle from side to side.

“Fire extinguishers for home use are not designed to fight large or spreading fires,” stresses Drengenberg. “Rather than fighting the fire, your number one priority should be getting out safely.”

Source: Underwriters Laboratories

Be sure to have a fire extinguisher rated for the type of fire at hand: Class A fires are ordinary materials like burning paper, lumber, cardboard, and plastics; Class B fires involve flammable or combustible liquids like gasoline and kerosene; Class C fires involve energized electrical equipment, such as appliances, switches, panel boxes, and power tools.

Source: Fire Safety Council



RUTHERFORD EMC Employee Retires



At a party honoring her retirement, Sharon Schrone (left), office services representative in Rutherford EMC's Lincoln-Gaston district, receives a gift certificate in recognition of her 24 years of service from Randy Ward, REMC's vice president of district operations.

Sharon Schrone, office services representative in the cooperative's Lincoln-Gaston district, retired December 31, 2009, following 24 years of service.

Sharon was hired as a part-time cashier-receptionist in 1986. She was made full-time in 1987, at which time her job title changed to office services representative, a job title she held up to her retirement. Sharon worked in Rutherford EMC's district office, then located in Cherryville, most of her career. In 2002, she went part-time and worked as needed at REMC's district office in Crouse or the branch offices in Bessemer City and Lincolnton.

Sharon's outgoing personality was very helpful in assisting members, whether she was taking a bill payment, a new service application, preparing a service order or answering members' questions. She also worked a lot of extended power outages, taking calls from members. During her many years of service, Sharon became a friend to many members.

“You could always count on Sharon to do what

was asked of her,” said Randy Ward, REMC's vice president of district operations at a party honoring her retirement, “and she would always look after the member's best interest.”

“I've enjoyed working for REMC, and in particular the great group of co-workers,” said Sharon. “I've been here 24 years and have always felt blessed to have this job.”

Sharon's future plans include traveling with her husband, Donny, who retired in November of 2008 from UPS. They plan to spend a lot more time with their five grandchildren, including two granddaughters who live in Cherryville and two granddaughters and a grandson in Pennsylvania. “Hopefully, we have a lot of healthy years to come,” said Sharon. “We'll just wait and see what plans God has for us.”

Rutherford EMC's board of directors, employees and members congratulate Sharon on her retirement and wish for her many healthy and happy years ahead.

SWAP SHOP

Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation provides Swap Shop ads as a free service to its members. Guidelines are as follows: Ads are published first-come, first-served. When the 1 1/2 pages allotted for ads are full, the remaining ads will be held over for the next issue. Ads will not be run more than once. Commercial ads will not be accepted. We reserve the right to edit, condense, or deny publication of any advertisement. Rutherford Electric Membership Corp. assumes no responsibility for the content of any advertisement and does not endorse or warrant any of the goods or services so advertised. Please include your account number with your ad.

Mail your ads to: Newsletter Editor, Rutherford EMC, PO Box 1569, Forest City, NC, 28043-1569 or e-mail at gmcdaniel@remc.com. **No phone calls please.**

FOR SALE

Beekeeping supplies - complete hive packages or components, order bees in February for spring delivery. 828-305-9446 or 828-748-8511 aft. 3 pm.

Heil floor model oil furnace - style #OFF-73, Model #NFOD073EA03, 72,800 Btu/hour output, 91,000 Btu/hour input, used 1 winter, \$500 OBO; 300+ landscaping blocks, 8x12x4, cost \$1.97 ea., \$400 for all, you haul; Multiquip 6000-watt generator, 120V & 240V, \$400; Kohler Command Pro 13 pressure washer, Model #CH13T, used very little, \$300. 704-301-3498.

'98 Honda 300 FourTrax ATV - White Brothers aftermarket exhaust, alloy nerf bars, rebuilt carb., new battery, runs great, \$1,650 OBO. 704-852-4452.

3 jackets - Harley-Davidson women's lightweight nylon jacket, off-white w/black & orange trim accents, sz. L; women's motorcycle jacket w/zip-out lining, 2XL, blk. w/tan & pink accents; men's classic blk. motorcycle jacket w/zip-out lining & large U.S.A., U.S. flag & eagle on back, XL. All exc. cond., \$50 ea. or \$125 for all 3. 828-245-2123.

Wood furnace - located in basement; black iron kettle; large iron pan. 704-922-5954.

'85, 18' Prowler camper - sleeps 5 to 6, tandem axles, elec. brakes, roof A/C unit, toilet, full-sz. tub w/shower, water heater, range w/oven, refrig., furnace w/duct heat, new awning, upholstery & tires, clean as a new one, \$3,600 OBO. 704-629-4285.

5, 19.5x6, 10-lug rims - off of 450 Ford, \$25 ea.; 2 new 14.9x28 Firestone radial tires, \$500 for both; Ford 501 sickle mower, \$500. 704-867-1792 or 704-214-1569.

Large gas heater w/blower - very nice. 704-629-4429.

Couch, love seat, 3 small tables & a deep freezer - \$275 for all. 704-922-0561.

Total Gym XLS - wing attachment, Pilates accessory kit, leg pull accessory & videos, exc. cond., \$900, pd. \$1,700; Slimline bed cover for '02 F-250 short bed PU, black, like new, \$500, Easy Shaper Ultimate w/1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5 & 3.0-lb. resistance bands, exc. cond., \$30. 704-435-0202.

'87 Honda XR250R motorcycle - in very good condition for the year & is the red, white & blue version, \$1,000 OBO. 828-748-7492.

Must sell - 16.5 wooded acres 2 mi. from Morganton, N.C. (just outside city limits), sloping hill to middle of creek, mtn. view, \$95,000 OBO. 828-433-7091 or 828-432-1019.

'02 New Holland 4-WD tractor w/box blade - 350

hrs., \$9,500; wood grain chrome for '70-'72 Ford XLT, new & used; 2 bumper tips for '41 Pontiac, \$100; fishtail pipes for Harley-Davidson Springer, \$80; Ford truck seat, fits '65-'79. 828-397-3416.

Perfection oil heater - \$150. Betty at 704-735-3629 aft. 4 pm.

Used small desk w/2 drawers - 27-1/2x34, \$25; used 8', 10' & 12' tin, \$6, \$7.50 & \$9 ea.; 1x4x8s, \$1.25 ea. & a better grade for \$1.40 ea.; 10", 3-HP, Hitachi table saw, still has 6 mo. warranty, \$250, cost \$375 new; 4x4x4 & 4x6x4 treated posts, \$3 & \$5 ea.; new brown shutters for 3 windows, 12x39 & 12x63, \$50; yellow pine lumber, including tongue & groove, new cedar boards (call for sizes/prices). 828-413-5329.

Maytag 26.8 cu. ft., black, side-by-side refrig. - purchased new 4/2001, very clean & very nice, \$250, original cost \$1,808.15. 704-730-1588.

Italian bees this spring - \$60/swarm. Fred at 704-732-3852 for more info.

'03 Honda VT750CD motorcycle - Shadow Deluxe American Classic Edition, beautiful copper w/orange flames, 5,040 mi., like new, must see to apprec., \$3,975. 704-864-7040.

'07 Can-Am Outlander 800 HO ATV - aftermarket 2,500-lb. winch, HMF pipe (factory exhaust also avail.), Reese hitch, air filter upgrade, camouflage color scheme, aftermarket wheels & tires also avail., less than 1,000 mi., has been serviced & well-maintained, can e-mail photos, \$6,500 OBO. Serious inquiries only. Andy at 828-312-4580.

7 Hart & Cooley 2'x2' heating & air conditioning diffusers (for use in suspended ceilings) - \$15 ea.; Craftsman 4500-watt portable alternator (generator), gasoline-powered, electric start, unused for many years, also some extra carburetor parts included, \$50 OBO. 828-438-9137.

2 grave sites at Gaston Memorial Park, Gastonia, N.C. - Garden of Honor B, value \$1,900 ea., make offer. 704-922-3003.

17" Craftsman tiller - only used 3 times, 3 yrs. old. 828-315-1074.

Nice 15x8 Chevy truck rally wheels w/new 3" rings & nice centerpieces - \$275 firm. 704-736-0426.

Architect or sound/light keyboard table on rollers - \$150; 1940s-50s bar out of mobile home, \$200; solid wood baker's rack w/2 drawers, \$35; red exercise machine, \$60; Total Body work-out machine, \$150; new, marble, corner hot tub w/pump, \$300 firm. 828-437-1731.

Restaurant booth seats - double & single, back-to-back, dark green vinyl, will work for tractor or boat seat also, sell all or single; '64 Chev. Bel Air 4-dr., original 283 eng., straight drive, needs restoring, surface rust only, all orig., \$3,500 OBO; KarRyder car top luggage carrier, wartertight, black & white w/straps, \$35. 828-584-4901.

3-BR, 2-BA, double-wide mob. home w/add-on, carport, new porches & vinyl siding - French doors open onto large deck overlooking inground pool, on 1-1/2 ac. in quiet area & 15 minutes from town, Burke County, N.C., \$72,000. 828-443-7328.

3 dump trucks - '74 F-700 gas, 5-spd. w/2-spd. rear, 10' bed; '92 F-700 Ford diesel, 5-spd., 10' bed;

'92 GMC gas, 5-spd. w/2-spd. rear, 14' bed. 828-413-1450.

12x24, wired, insulated building w/pegboard - \$2,750; 2 deer heads, one 6-pt. & one 4-pt.; 30 decanters w/peppers, \$200 for all; Jenny Lind full bed w/bed set, \$300; mechanic's tools w/box, \$1,500; nice whatnots/curio cabinet full of assorted brass, \$200. 704-747-3105.

Early 1900s Singer sewing machine - \$75 OBO; early 1900s china cabinet, \$400 OBO; Whirlpool washer, 1 yr. old, \$75 OBO; Whirlpool gas dryer, 1 yr. old, \$75 OBO. 704-268-4948.

Bowflex Power Pro exercise equipment - exc. cond., \$500; Craftsman electric blower/vac., like new, \$40; two 8', 2-light shop or basement light fixtures, \$35; medium used ping-pong table, \$30. 704-922-0647.

'04 Coachmen Tagalong camper - 38' w/super slide-out, like new, \$13,000. 704-240-8726.

Men's & women's golf clubs w/bags, very good cond. - men's \$125 & women's \$100, prices neg.; golf club cleaning kit, \$5; boxes of golf balls (1 box of pink), \$5/box. 828-625-2164.

Grave plot w/vault in Old Rugged Cross section of Forest Lawn Cemetery in Lincolnton, N.C. - \$1,200. 704-735-4219, Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm.

'86 Honda GL1200 Gold Wing Aspencade motorcycle - tall windshield w/vent, hookup for driver/passenger headset, new front brake rotors & pads, lost of chrome. 828-390-1087.

'02 Dodge Intrepid SE - good car, most all service records, never wrecked, 1-owner, \$4,500 neg. 828-458-4309.

Cherry dining table (oval) - 4 chairs, exc. cond., small to medium size, 56"Lx40"W, can e-mail pictures. 704-326-6079 or 704-732-8836.

Roll of insulation - 10x24 w/white plastic vapor barrier, 4" thick, \$35; 100-6" blocks, \$0.70/block; 50 cap blocks, \$0.50/block; 50-8" blocks, \$0.80/block; standard 36" solid wood door, \$50. 828-584-2309 aft. 4 pm.

'06 Jayco 19-H Feather EXP camper - sleeps 8 w/Customer Value pkg. 704-735-0858 aft. 6 pm.

Vented kerosene heater. 803-648-9138.

4x8 utility trailer - all metal, mob. home axle & wheels, good tires, new wiring & lights, also has a set of ramps, well built, good title, \$400 OBO; '92 Chevy Cavalier, AT, A/C, PS, PB, good body & interior, transmission almost new, has bad engine, \$350 OBO. 704-629-4285.

Benchcraft rattan furniture from Hickory Furniture Mart - vintage finish, chair, ottoman, sofa & 2 end tables w/glass tops, 4 throw pillows, upgrade fabric w/mauve, tan, burgundy, beige & green, exc. cond., \$1,000; Bill Elliott collectibles, too many to list, \$2,000, over \$4,000 invested. 704-435-0202.

Crooked 2x4s - all lengths, untreated \$0.10/ft., treated, \$0.15/ft.; scrape blade for Ariens yard tractor, used very little, \$100, cost \$279; new 750x16 tires on 2-pc. Ford wheels, 8-lug, \$550; new white medicine cabinets, 27x22, \$50 ea.; Craftsman arc welder, \$85; 2 new oak wall cabinets, \$50 ea.; new bathroom sink vanities, white & oak (call for sizes/prices). 828-413-5329.

Yard Machine by MTD, 10-HP, 3-way dedicated chipper - used once, first \$250 OBO, original cost over \$600. 704-730-1588.

O-scale train set - '95 Lionel, includes approx. 50 ceramic buildings, several handmade bldgs., trees,

moss & lights, complete w/remote switches, used very little, \$400; '86 Lincoln LSC, 5.0 HO eng., no leaks, new paint, 2nd owner, \$1,800 OBO; 36"x36" model sailboat, handmade, 13 sails, nice, \$200. 704-747-3105.

One acre of land - Hwy. 18 North (between Morganton & Lenoir, N.C.), off the highway on Narrow Way, Chesterfield area, cleared with city water available, fairly level lot, \$13,500. 828-391-1168.

MISCELLANEOUS

For Free: 2 horses to good home - 15 yr. old mare & 2 yr. old colt, in good health. 980-429-0903.

For Free: One white & one gray cat to good home - also have dogs so cats have been kept inside building, very tame, just need someone to give them attention & love. 828-315-1074.

For Rent: 2-BR single-wide mob. home at 128 McIntyre Rd., Cherryville, N.C. - no pets, references required, \$350/mo. plus deposit. 704-692-2384.

For Rent: Mobile home between Belwood & Casar - references & deposit required. 704-538-7615 or 704-538-8912.

WANTED

Children's books (new or in good cond.) to be shipped to Iraq for our troops to record themselves reading & then send home to their children. 704-400-4624.

World War II military artifacts - will pay cash. 704-616-6567.

Preventing Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

You can't see or smell carbon monoxide, but at high levels it can be very dangerous, even deadly.

Carbon monoxide (sometimes referred to as CO) is a colorless, odorless gas produced by any burning fuel such as, natural gas, oil, propane, kerosene, wood or charcoal.

Carbon monoxide is produced by common household appliances and equipment. When not properly ventilated, carbon monoxide emitted by these appliances can build up. Prevention is the key to avoiding carbon monoxide poisoning. Keep these tips in mind to avoid CO danger:

- Make certain that your flues and chimneys are connected to the outside, in good condition and not blocked. Leaking and unvented chimneys can release CO into your home.
- Appliances should be vented outside and functioning properly to prevent CO buildup inside the home.
- Never use a gas range, oven or dryer for heating, even for a short time. CO builds up quickly in enclosed spaces.
- Read and follow the instructions of your fuel-burning devices.
- Never sleep in a room with an unvented gasoline or kerosene space heater.
- Don't idle a car in the garage, even if the garage door is open, because fumes can quickly build up.
- Never use charcoal grills indoors, not even in the fireplace or garage. Carbon monoxide from

burning and smoldering charcoal can be deadly if used indoors for cooking or heating.

Carbon monoxide is harmful when breathed because it prevents oxygen from reaching your heart, brain and other vital organs. Symptoms vary widely from person to person. CO poisoning may occur sooner in: young children, the elderly, people with lung or heart disease, people at high altitudes or those who already have elevated CO blood levels, such as people who smoke. Also, CO poisoning poses a significant risk to unborn babies.

Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning may resemble those of the flu or food poisoning. At moderate levels symptoms include: headaches, dizziness, confusion, nausea or fainting. Low levels can cause shortness of breath, mild nausea or mild headaches. If you have any of these symptoms go outside and get fresh air immediately. You should then get to an emergency room and tell the physician you suspect CO poisoning.

Carbon monoxide detectors are widely available in stores. Buy a carbon monoxide detector as a back-up, not as a replacement for proper use and maintenance of your fuel-burning appliances.

Following these easy tips and knowing the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning will help you stay safe while heating your home this winter.

We're just a little better. That makes a BIG difference!

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www.carolinaenergies.com

Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships: Apply Now!

North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives, including Rutherford EMC, are providing all-expense paid scholarships for 27 deserving young women to attend the Kellie Harper Basketball Camp in Raleigh and 27 young men to attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp in Chapel Hill this summer. Both camps will work closely with each camper to develop fundamental skills that will help the young athletes excel both on and off the court.

Rising sixth through eighth graders are eligible to apply and the cooperatives will begin accepting applications from January 4 to March 31, 2010. Applicants will be judged on their academics, extra-curricular activities and accompanying essay. Eligible students who are interested in the scholarship can contact Denise Gavin at 1-800-521-0920 or 828-245-1621, ext. 417, or by e-mail at

dgavin@remc.com. Applications/guidelines can be found online by going to the home page of Rutherford EMC's Web site at www.remc.com, or picked up at any of the co-op's offices.

For more information on the Touchstone Energy Sports Camp program, please visit: www.ncelectriccooperatives.com.

The Kellie Harper Basketball Camp will be held June 20-23 on campus at NC State University and the Roy Williams Basketball Camp will be held June 19-23 at UNC.

The Touchstone Energy Sports Camps program provides a unique educational and athletic opportunity for outstanding students across our state and is yet another way the cooperatives are demonstrating their commitment to North Carolina communities.



Win a Trip to Washington, D.C.

Three Rutherford EMC Juniors To Win Youth Tour Trip

Rutherford EMC will send three lucky students on the trip of a lifetime this summer. The Rural Electric Youth Tour, held in Washington, D.C., typically hosts more than 1,500 high school students from across the country. A winner and an alternate will be chosen from each of Rutherford EMC's three operating districts in early March to represent the cooperative on the tour.

In just five days, the students will get to see the Smithsonian Institute, Arlington National Cemetery, The Newseum (the world's most interactive museum), Mount Vernon, the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial and more! The students will spend a day on Capitol Hill and meet their elected officials. This expense-paid week is coordinated by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives (NCAEC).

Following are the contest rules:

1. Eligible to apply are high school juniors who live in a year-round home served by Rutherford EMC or whose parents/guardians own a business served by Rutherford EMC. Children of Rutherford EMC's directors or employees are not eligible.
2. Contestants will be required to fill out an application, including an explanation of 50 words or less why they would like to go on the Youth Tour. They are also required to perform a simple energy inspection of their home. Deadline for completed entries is February 19, 2010.
3. Each finalist will be interviewed by a panel of judges during the second week of March. Winners will be selected and notified at this time. A first-place winner and alternate will be picked from each of the co-op's three operating districts. (Alternates go on the tour if first-place winners are unable to attend.) Selection of Youth Tour winners is based on the application, home energy inspection, extracurricular activities, scholastic standing, and a personal interview.
4. Tour activities begin on Saturday, June 12, with a banquet for participants and their parents at Raleigh. It ends the following Friday, June 18, with the return trip to Raleigh. Rutherford EMC bears all expenses for tour participants except spending money.
5. Youth tourists are also eligible to apply for the \$2,500 Gwyn B. Price Scholarship and the \$2,000 Katie Bunch Memorial Scholarship. In addition, they will be eligible to compete to serve on the Youth Leadership Council. The Youth Leadership Council representative will receive a \$2,000 college scholarship upon completion of his/her responsibilities.

For more information, complete the clip-out coupon below and return to: Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation, Attn: Youth Tour Coordinator, PO Box 1569, Forest City, NC, 28043-1569. You may submit your request for more information by going to Rutherford EMC's Web site at www.remc.com, or by calling Denise Gavin at 1-800-521-0920 or 828-245-1621, ext. 417, or by e-mail at dgavin@remc.com. Please submit your request for more information on entering the contest by Feb. 12. Remember—deadline for completed entries is February 19, 2010.

For additional information about the Rural Electric Youth Tour, visit www.ncelectriccooperatives.com and www.youthtour.coop to get highlights from the 2009 tour. You can also join our Facebook page by searching for North Carolina Youth Tour on www.facebook.com.



Youth Tour Trip Entry Form

Name _____

Male Female

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Address _____

Account No. _____

High School Attending _____

E-mail Address _____