

# Lumbee River

*Electric Membership Corporation*

SEPTEMBER 2008 MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



## CFLs Save You Energy and Money

According to the National Energy Star Program, if every American homeowner replaced just one light bulb with an Energy Star qualified compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL), consumers would save enough electricity to light more than 2.5 million homes for a year and prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions of nearly 800,000 cars.

CFLs are available in many different wattages, sizes and shapes to fit in almost any indoor or outdoor fixture. A 23-watt CFL bulb will give the equivalent light of a 100-watt incandescent bulb—all while using less energy and lasting up to 10 times longer.

CFLs generate 70 percent less heat, so they're safer to operate and can cut energy costs associated with home cooling.

Although the initial cost of CFL bulbs are a little higher than conventional light bulbs, the savings over the years will more than make up for the purchase price. CFL bulbs can be purchased in many supermarkets, hardware stores and home improvement centers.

To see the maximum benefit of using CFL bulbs, replace your most frequently used lights first.

### Free CFL for You



Attend Lumbee River EMC's Annual Meeting of Members on Thursday, October 9, 2008 to receive a free CFL!

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## Christmas Care Drive Begins Soon



The Christmas Care Drive, sponsored by the Lumbee River EMC Employees Association, will begin soon. The program allows employees to donate their time and money to assist our members that are less fortunate at Christmastime by putting together baskets that include toys for the children and food for the family.

Applications can be obtained at any LREMC office beginning Wednesday, September 24. The deadline for submitting applications is Wednesday, November 12. In order to participate in the program, you must be a member of Lumbee River and show a need for assistance. A committee of employees reviews all applications and evaluates each based on need.



# Lumbee River EMC Urges Awareness of Lightning Safety

Lightning strikes the United States as many as 20 million times each year and causes more deaths, on average, than tornadoes or hurricanes. Because lightning traditionally occurs during summer months when thunderstorms and outdoor activity reaches a peak, Lumbee River EMC is reminding members and those who work outdoors of the dangers of lightning and providing these helpful safety guidelines.

Lack of awareness about what to do during thunderstorms seems to be a factor in many lightning injuries and deaths. Many people do not act quickly enough to protect themselves or their property because they simply do not understand the dangers associated with thunderstorms and lightning.

Lightning primarily enters a building one of three ways: by a direct strike or through wires or pipes that extend outside the structure or through the ground. Lightning can travel through electrical and phone lines, radio and TV receptions and through plumbing structures. Lightning can also travel through metal wires and bars in concrete walls and floors.

Lumbee River EMC offers the following guidelines to stay safe during electrical storms:

- If outdoors, go inside. Look for a shelter equipped with a lightning protection system or some other mechanism for grounding.
- If there is no shelter immediately available, go to a low point. Lightning hits the tallest object. Get down if you are in an exposed area and stay away from trees.



- Avoid metal. Don't hold metal items, including bats, golf clubs, fishing rods, tennis rackets or tools. Avoid clotheslines, poles and fences.
- Stay away from water. This includes pools, lakes, puddles and anything damp, such as wet poles or grass.
- Don't stand close to other people. Spread out.
- Once indoors, stay away from windows, doors and porches.
- Do not use corded telephones except for emergencies.
- Unplug electronic equipment before the storm arrives and avoid contact with electrical equipment or cords during storms.
- Avoid contact with plumbing, including sinks, baths and faucets. Do not take baths and showers during electrical storms.
- Don't forget pets during thunderstorms. Doghouses are not lightning-safe. Dogs that are chained can easily fall victim to a lightning strike.

Lightning can damage or destroy electronics so it's important to have a proper lightning protection system connected to your electronic equipment. Lumbee River EMC suggests using surge protection devices to protect your electronics and appliances. These devices can be purchased at your local home stores or through Lumbee River EMC. For more information on our surge protection devices call and speak with a Member Service Representative at (910) 843-4131.

Source: ESFI and NOAA

## Help Us Help You

### Current Information Improves Service

Your 911 address and current telephone number are critical for ensuring you receive the best possible customer service from Lumbee River EMC. Our outage-management system uses this information to track your location and dispatch crews during outages. Please check the address on your next bill. If it's not your "911" (physical) address, please add or make the change on your bill stub. If your phone number has changed, if you have a cell phone number to add or if you have an email address we can use to contact you with important information please give us a call us at (910) 843-4131 so that we can update our records.



### Holiday Closing

Lumbee River EMC offices will be closed Monday, September 1, in observance of Labor Day. Have a happy holiday!

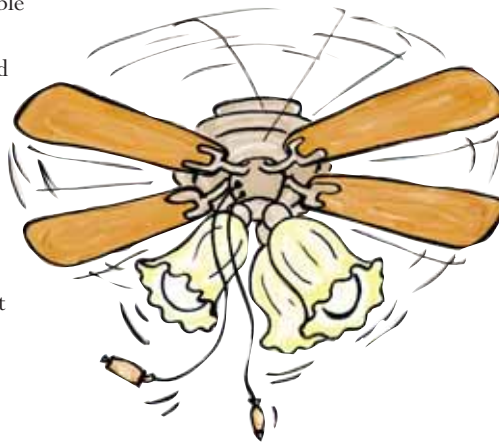
# Energy-Efficient Ventilation

## Circulating Fans Help You Efficiently Chill

Circulating fans include ceiling fans, table fans, floor fans, and fans mounted to poles or walls. These devices create a wind chill effect that will make you more comfortable in your home, even if it's cooled by natural ventilation or air conditioning. Ceiling fans are considered the most effective of these fans.

If you use air conditioning, a ceiling fan will allow you to raise the thermostat setting about 4°Fahrenheit with no reduction in comfort. In temperate climates, or during moderately hot weather, ceiling fans may allow you to avoid using your air conditioner altogether. Install a fan in each room that needs to be cooled during hot weather.

Ceiling fans are only appropriate in rooms with ceilings at least eight feet high. Fans work best when the blades are seven to nine feet above the floor and 10 to 12 inches below the ceiling. Fans should be installed so the blades are no closer than



eight inches from the ceiling and 18 inches from the walls.

Larger ceiling fans can move more air than smaller fans. A 36- or 44-inch diameter fan will cool rooms up to 225 square feet, while fans that are 52 inches or more should be used in larger rooms. Multiple fans work best in rooms longer

than 18 feet. Small- and medium-sized fans will provide efficient cooling in a four- to six-foot diameter area, while larger fans are effective up to 10 feet.

A larger blade will also provide comparable cooling at a lower velocity than a smaller blade. This may be important in areas where loose papers or other objects will be disturbed by a strong breeze. The fan should also be fitted to the aesthetics of the room—a large fan may appear overpowering in a small room.

A more expensive fan that operates quietly and smoothly will probably offer more trouble-free service than cheaper units. Check the noise ratings, and, if possible, listen to the fan in operation before you buy it.

When buying window fans, look for the ENERGY STAR® label. Fans that earn the label move air 20 percent more efficiently, on average, than standard models.

*Source: U.S. Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy*

## Pay Your Bill the Easy Way

By signing up for eBill, you can view and pay your bill online when it is convenient for you. Enrollment is FREE and easy. Log onto our Web site at [www.lumbeeriver.com](http://www.lumbeeriver.com) to sign up today!



### Energy Efficiency

### Tip of the Month

**Choosing an Energy Star-qualified clothes washer over a standard model can lower your utility bills and save energy and water without sacrificing performance.**

**Source: U.S. Dept of Energy**



## LUMBEE RIVER EMC

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# CUMBERLAND COUNTY FAIR

**SEPT. 18-28, 2008**

**THE CROWN CENTER**

## DAILY SHOWS

**GREAT AMERICAN FRONTIER SHOW**

**PUPPETONE ROCKERS**

**NO JOE CLOWN CIRCUS**

**BUFFALO BARFIELD - UNHERD OF ENTERTAINMENT**

**THE FARM - PETTING ZOO/PONY & CAMEL RIDES**

**CHAINSAW CARVING ARTIST**

**CARICATURES BY AL THE ARTIST**

**LEE HYUNDAI ENTERTAINMENT STAGE**

## SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT/CONTESTS

**STEP-OFF COMPETITION SAT SEPT 27**

**MOTOR CROSS & ATV RACING FRI & SAT SEPT 19 & 20**

**DEMOLITION DERBY SUN SEPT 21**

**FAIR QUEEN PAGEANTS SAT SEPT 20**

**PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING WED SEPT 24**

**PROFESSIONAL BULLRIDING FRI SEPT 26**

**PROFESSIONAL BULLFIGHTING SAT SEPT 27**

**FARMER FOR A DAY IN THE EXPO**

**MONSTER TRUCK RIDES**

**SCHOOL DAYS DISCOUNT ADM & RIDES**

**WED & THURS SEPT 24 & 25**

**CHECK OUT THE ENTIRE FAIR SCHEDULE AT**  
[www.cumberlandcountyfair.org](http://www.cumberlandcountyfair.org)

**PRIME***Life*  
MAGAZINE

 **Lumbee River**  
ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

**Fun Fun Fun**

 **SecureHorizons**<sup>®</sup>  
by UnitedHealthcare

  
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**LEE**  
HYUNDAI

*Cumberland County*  
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