

Hometown CONNECTION

March 2010

A Newsletter for and about the Members of *ElectriCities*

NC Public Power
City Owned Electric Service



Hometown Green Continues to Encourage Smart Energy Habits



A year ago, NC Public Power created *Hometown Green-generating smart energy choices*, a campaign designed to help customers save energy by educating them about renewable energy and energy-efficient habits. This overarching initiative includes programs led by NC Public Power communities that promote smart energy choices by consumers and businesses located in NC Public Power communities throughout the state.

As part of the *Hometown Green* campaign, NC Public Power communities distributed more than 2,700 Energy Efficiency Kits to customers in 2009. The kits provide helpful energy conservation information and tools to encourage consumers to make smart energy choices.

Energy Depot, a set of online tools and resources designed to help customers analyze their electricity consumption, is another way that *Hometown Green* is educating consumers on energy efficiency. A virtual audit of home electricity use and tips on appropriate ways to conserve energy and lower costs is just a click away at www.ncpublicpower.com.

Hometown Green also educates customers on new technology, such as

the NC Public Power Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle. Numerous communities have used the car to spread the word about new energy efficient technology. The car has traveled throughout the state to participate in parades, energy fairs and tour the town in efforts to promote the automotive technology that helps save gasoline.

NCMPA1 introduced a series of energy efficiency programs in 2009 to encourage smart energy use. The programs were tailored to all customers—residential, commercial and industrial. The programs include:

- **High Efficiency Heat Pump Rebates**—The rebate provides a \$400 rebate when a high-efficiency heat pump is installed in their home. To date, 307 rebates have been granted.
- **ENERGY STAR™ Home Rebates**—This program promotes energy smart building practices and provides \$500 for each single family home constructed to ENERGY STAR™ standards. Five ENERGY STAR™ Home Rebates have been granted to date.
- **Commercial Solar Thermal Rebates**—In an effort to encourage solar thermal technology, this rebate promotes the use of solar panels for water heating at commercial sites. A school for special needs children in Gastonia was awarded the first rebate for using solar water heating for therapeutic swimming pool.
- **Commercial/Industrial Requests for Proposals for Energy Efficiency** — This program solicits proposals for partial funding of energy efficiency projects by commercial and industrial customers

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Power Lines:

News from Fayetteville and Shelby

2010 Main Street Awards Presented in New Bern

Energy Star Rebate Program begins Earth Day Weekend





Fayetteville PWC Fayetteville PWC Receives American Heart Association's Fit-Friendly Award

The American Heart Association presented the Fayetteville Public Works Commission with the Gold Award for its Start! Fit-Friendly Company program. PWC is the first company in Cumberland County and the Sandhills Region to receive this award, which is granted two times a year. The award recognizes PWC's commitment to promoting a healthy workplace and the steps it has taken to create a wellness culture by providing support to employees and implementing physical, nutritional and cultural changes. Examples of PWC's efforts include an employee Wellness Committee, walking trails, fitness center and "Know Your Numbers" health screening program.



Kelly Rogers, American Heart Association Director of Corporate Relations, presents Ike Copeland, PWC Risk Manager, and Terri Union, PWC Chairwoman, with the AHA's Gold Start! Fit-Friendly Company Award.

Fayetteville PWC Supervisors Receive Management Certificates

The Fayetteville Public Works Commission partnered with Fayetteville Technical Community College to offer a year-long career development course to PWC supervisors. At the end of

2009, 42 PWC employees were awarded a Certificate in Management after successfully completing 126 hours of supervisory training courses that are nationally recognized by the American Management Association.

Shelby City of Shelby Opens Historical Theatre

The Don Gibson Theatre in Shelby held its Grand Opening on November 21, 2009 with a sold-out performance by Marty Stuart and his Fabulous Superlatives. The 1939 Art Deco movie theatre has been transformed into a 400-seat premier performance venue.

Renovations were initiated, guided and funded by Destination Cleveland County, Inc. (DCC), a non-profit group that seeks to achieve economic vitality through its catalyst projects. DCC solicited donations from individuals and businesses, a grant from the Rural Center, and a challenge grant of \$500,000 from the City of Shelby.

"The Don Gibson Theatre is a superlative example of a public-private partnership to promote economic development through heritage tourism. The Theatre emphasizes the city's rich musical heritage and is already acting as an economic engine for our Main Street uptown revitalization efforts," said Shelby's Mayor Ted Alexander.



The Theatre is named for native son, Don Gibson, a successful singer/songwriter whose fame has lived on through such hits as "I Can't Stop Lovin' You" and "Sweet Dreams." Don, along with Roy Acuff, has been credited with creating the "Nashville Sound" as we know it today.

The Smithsonian's Museum on Main Streets Exhibit, New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music, will visit the Don Gibson Theatre November 13-December 29, 2010. This exhibit and associated programming will celebrate Americana music with its exhibits, lectures and performances. Learn more at www.DGshelby.com.

Power Lines is compiled from NC Public Power communities' news releases. To include news in Power Lines, contact Rebecca Agner at ragner@electricities.org



2010 Main Street Awards Presented in New Bern

The annual North Carolina Main Street Awards Dinner and Program was held on January 28 at the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center. These awards recognize the hard work, dedication and success of North Carolina Main Street and Small Town Main Street communities.

Congratulations to the Town of Benson, which received three 2010 Small Town Main Street Awards:

- Downtown Benches on Main *Award of Merit*
- Town of Benson Development Incentive Toolbox *Award of Merit, Best Public Project*
- Benson Saturday Stroll *Certificate of Special Recognition, Best Public Project*



Congratulations to the following NC Public Power communities that received Main Street Awards this year:

- Broad Street Improvements and Trent River Bridge, New Bern *Award of Merit, Best Public-Private Partnership*
- South White Street Streetscape Enhancement, Project Weekly Update, Wake Forest *Award of Merit, Best Innovation*
- Lillian Mill, Albemarle *Award of Merit, Best Adaptive Use Project*
- Waynesville Police Department/ Development Office and Town Hall, Waynesville *Award of Merit, Best Building Infill Project*
- Central Elementary School, Albemarle *Award of Merit, Best Endangered*

Property Rescue Effort

- HTR Commercial Realty, Clayton *Award of Merit, Best Historic Rehabilitation Project*
- 105 East Broad Street, Statesville *Award of Merit, Best Historic Rehabilitation Project*
- 104 West Main Street, Clayton *Award of Merit, Best Façade Rehabilitation*
- 110 West Broad Street, Statesville *Certificate of Special Recognition, Best Façade Rehabilitation*
- Ava Gardner Independent Film Festival, Smithfield *Certificate of Special Recognition, Best Downtown Special Event*
- Town Square Concert Series Logo Clayton *Award of Merit, Best Printed Promotional Item: Graphics*
- Dining and Shopping Rack Cards, Wake Forest, *Award of Merit, Best Printed Promotional Item: Graphics*

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with a peak demand of at least 250 kW. Nine customers in six NCMPA1 cities have been awarded rebates.

- **City Energy Efficiency Projects**— NCMPA1 Participants receive funding for projects that improve the energy efficiency of city-owned facilities, such as HVAC, energy management systems and energy efficient lighting. City applications from High Point, Lexington and Drexel have been approved for funding.

NCEMPA has spearheaded the Residential Energy Survey program within its local communities as part of *Hometown Green*. Residential surveys, performed free of charge, are granted to customers in response to questions about their home's energy use. After meeting with an energy efficiency expert and learning conservation tips and energy efficient habits specific to their home, customers are able to lower electricity costs. In 2009, 911 home energy audits were conducted and 17 energy education meetings were held in NCEMPA participant communities.

NC Public Power looks forward to *Hometown Green's* continued success in helping communities make smart energy choices in 2010.

NCMPA1

Catawba Unit 1 is operating at 100 percent power without any major problems.

Catawba Unit 2 is currently operating at 100 percent power in its 325th day of continuous operation.

McGuire Unit 1 is currently operating at 100 percent power in its 483rd day of continuous operation. The unit is scheduled to begin a 34-day refueling outage on March 13.

McGuire Unit 2 is currently operating at 100 percent power in its 151st day of continuous operation.

All items reported as of March 10, 2010

NCEMPA

Brunswick Unit 1 is currently in a scheduled refueling outage that started February on 27.

Brunswick Unit 2 is currently operating at 100 percent power and has provided 30 days of continuous service.

Harris Unit 1 is currently operating at 100 percent power and has provided 110 days of continuous service.

Mayo Unit 1 and Roxboro Unit 4 are operating normally according to system load requirements.

Plant Status

Billing Determinants

Load Management Info

NCMPA1 Billing Determinants for participant usage in February 2010			
Billing Demand (kW)	Billing Energy (kWh)	Billed Amount	
661,954	410,979,269	\$25,743,281.33	
NCEMPA Billing Determinants for participant usage in February 2010			
	Billing Demand (kW)	Billing Energy (kWh)	Billed Amount
Progress Energy Carolinas	908,712	553,152,160	\$52,152,211.63
Dominion	111,968	72,557,770	\$6,791,405.29
Total	1,020,680	625,709,930	\$58,943,616.92

Note: All values are less SEPA.

In February, NCMPA1 recommended load management for Agency cities for six hours over a three-day period. Electric-Save operations occurred for six hours over a three-day period. For Non-Agency cities, NCMPA1 recommended load management for seven hours over a four-day period including the Duke Control Area Peak which occurred on February 17 at hour ending 8 a.m.

In February, NCEMPA provided advance telephone or pager recommendations for residential load management for five hours over a four-day period, including the day and hour of Progress Energy Carolinas (PEC) monthly peak. Electric-Save (direct control) operations occurred for five and one-half hours over a four-day period, including the PEC monthly billing peak occurring on February 1 at hour ending 8 a.m.

For more information on how your city or town can benefit from load management, call Cecil Rhodes at ext. 6231 or Jim Deaton at ext. 6223.

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Congratulations to Kings Mountain

Congratulations to the City of Kings Mountain for being admitted to the Main Street program.



ENERGY STAR™ Rebate Program Begins Earth Day Weekend

The first phase of the Energy Star™ Appliance Replacement and Rebate Program will take place across North Carolina during the 2010 Earth Day weekend—Thursday, April 22, through Sunday, April 25.

North Carolina residents who are replacing older clothes washers, dishwashers, refrigerators, and freezers with Energy Star™-rated appliances will be eligible to receive a point of sale rebate valued at 15 percent. The rebates will be in addition to any store, manufacturer or other discounts being offered.

Consumers may receive more than one rebate, as long as it is for a different kind of appliance. For example, a customer may receive a rebate on a refrigerator and one on a washing machine, but not on two refrigerators. However, customers who are purchasing multiple appliances or appliances for commercial properties are not eligible for the rebate.

The rebates will be paid with \$8.8 million in federal funds that North Carolina is receiving to help homeowners purchase energy-efficient appliances. The funds are



part of nearly \$300 million from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act being distributed nationwide by the U.S. Department of Energy.

It is estimated that 49,960 Energy Star™ appliances will replace older, conventional appliances during this rebate program, which would save enough electricity to power 536 homes for a year.

For more information about the program, visit www.energync.net.

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