

Enjoy Your Summer and Save Energy, Too

With summer just around the corner, many pool owners are looking forward to some much-needed relaxation, but dread the inevitable increase in their energy expenses. No worries, we're here to help you! You can still have outdoor fun while championing smart energy use. So take a minute to soak up these tips to improve your pool's energy efficiency:

- 1. Install an energy-saving pool pump and operate it efficiently.** An energy-efficient pool pump is an essential part of the equation when considering pool maintenance options. Using a smaller, higher energy-efficient pump and running it less frequently can help lower pool energy costs.
- 2. Set your pool pump on a timer.** We recommend putting pool pumps on timers with run times of 8-10 hours a day, depending on pool size. Also, set your pump and system to run during late evening/early morning hours.
- 3. Consider using a pool pump with variable speeds.** Since pool pumps are vital to performing so many pool functions, your pump's speed is the first place to look for energy savings. The speed at which a pump operates significantly impacts the amount of energy it consumes. There are three types of pumps:

single-speed, two-speed, and variable-speed. Each one has electric motors that power them, so it's important to understand how they function.

- 4. Keep filters clear of debris.** Clogged filters force pool pumps to work even harder to circulate water. At first glance, a filter may not seem like an obvious spot to seek energy savings – that's because the filter itself is not the energy guzzler; the culprit is the energy demands the filter makes on your pool pump. Nevertheless, your filter choice and pool maintenance make a difference in your quest for an efficient pool.



Consult with your pool company to determine the recommended hours of pump runtime to keep your pool clean. The key to success is routine, consistent hours.





When it comes to convenience in the home, your home's appliances may be costing you more than you think. So first, check out Union Power's Appliance Calculator to determine the cost of running your appliances. Then, installing a new ENERGY STAR-rated appliance may help. Below are a few suggestions from energy.gov.

Dishwasher vs. Hand Washing

A standard-sized ENERGY STAR certified dishwasher costs about \$35 per year to run and can save you an average of 3,870 gallons of water over its lifetime.

If you still wash your dishes by hand, you're wasting more than just time.

- **Save Money:** Washing dishes in a dishwasher rather than hand washing can cut your utility bills by about \$130 per year.
- **Save Time:** Instead of scrubbing, rinsing, and drying each dish, load them in the dishwasher and press start.
- **Get Better Cleaning:** ENERGY STAR-certified dishwashers have features that result in better cleaning by boosting water temperatures to 140 degrees, which allows for improved disinfection compared to hand washing.
- **Scrape, Don't Rinse:** Rinsing dishes before loading them into the dishwasher increases the total water and energy used. Save yourself the rinsing – today's detergents are designed to do the cleaning, so you don't have to. If your dirty dishes sit overnight, use your dishwasher's rinse feature. It uses a fraction of the water needed to hand rinse.
- **Load It Up:** Dishwashers use about the same amount of energy and water regardless of the number of dishes inside, so run full loads whenever possible.

Clothes Washer

- **Fill It Up:** Clothes washers use about the same amount of energy regardless of the size of the load, so run full loads whenever possible.
- **Wash With Cold Water:** Water heating consumes about 90% of the energy to operate a clothes washer. Switching your temperature setting from hot to warm can cut energy use in half. Using the cold cycle reduces energy use even more.
- **Avoid The Sanitary Cycle:** This super-hot cycle increases energy use significantly.
- **Choose The High Spin Speed:** If your clothes washer has spin options, choose the high spin speed or the extended spin option when appropriate to reduce the amount of remaining moisture in your clothes after washing.
- **Leave The Door Open:** With front-loading washers, leave the door open after each use. If the door is closed, the seal can trap moisture and lead to mold when the machine is not in use.



Check out our Appliance Calculator at union-power.com/energysavingscalculators to learn more about energy cost savings.



Touchstone Energy®
**Sports Camp
Scholarships**



On behalf of the Touchstone Energy Sport Camp Scholarship program, Union Power Cooperative is proud to announce that Neeya Patel and Emmanuel Ubaldo Aguilera will attend the Wolfpack Women's and the Carolina Men's basketball camps this month.

Neeya Patel says, "Basketball is the only place I can really be myself and show off what I have worked for. My favorite feeling is working hard for something and seeing it paid off." She added, "I want to attend this camp because I love playing basketball so much and whatever I can do to be better at something that has made me a better person." Neeya is a rising 6th grader at Piedmont Middle School.

Emmanuel Ubaldo Aguilera said he likes basketball because his dad taught him the basics and tricks he learned from other kids when he was younger. He added, "I always consider basketball as my passion and a sport that I love and that is something that I will do as a grown up." Emmanuel is a rising 6th grader at Mount Pleasant Middle School.



Congratulations to our winners and thank you to all that applied.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

If you're looking to add smart technology to your home, consider smart plugs. Smart plugs are inexpensive and can be used to control lighting and other electronic devices through a smart phone app.

With smart plugs, you can conveniently manage lighting, home office equipment, video game consoles and more. By powering off unused devices when you're away, you can save energy (and money!).

Source: energystar.gov

We're Storm Ready! Are You?

Storm season is in full swing. Many summer storms have the potential to produce high winds and even tornadoes that can bring winds over 200 miles per hour. As adults, we understand the importance of storm safety, but younger children and teens may not realize storms' dangers. That's why it's so important to talk to your family and have a storm plan in place. Here are several tips you can share with your loved ones. The time to plan is now. Be Prepared.

Before the Storm

- **Talk to your family about what to do in a severe storm or tornado.** Point out the safest location to shelter, like a small, interior, windowless room on the lowest level of your home. Discuss the dangers of severe thunderstorms; lightning can strike 10 miles outside of a storm. Remember: when you hear the thunder roar, head indoors.
- **Make a storm kit.** Having a few items on hand is better than nothing. Try to include water, non-perishable foods, a manual can opener, a First-Aid kit, flashlights and extra batteries, prescriptions, baby supplies, and pet supplies. Keep all the items in one place for easy access if the power goes out.

During the Storm

- **Pay attention to local weather alerts** on TV, smartphone, or the radio – and understand the types of alerts. A thunderstorm or tornado watch means these events are possible. A warning means a thunderstorm or tornado has been spotted in your area, and it's time to take action.
- **If you find yourself in the path of a tornado,** head to your safe place to shelter and protect yourself by

covering your head with your arms or materials like blankets and pillows.

- **If you're driving during a severe storm or tornado,** do not try to outrun it. Pullover and cover your body with a coat or blanket if possible.

After the Storm

- **If the power is out, conserve your phone battery as much as possible,** limiting calls and texts to let others know you are safe or for emergencies only.
- **Stay off the roads if trees, power lines, or utility poles are down.** Lines and equipment could still be energized, posing life-threatening risks to anyone who gets too close.
- **Wear appropriate gear if you're cleaning up storm debris on your property.** Thick-soled shoes, long pants, and work gloves will help protect you from sharp or dangerous debris left behind.

Summer is a time for many fun-filled activities, but the season can also bring severe, dangerous weather. Talk to your loved ones about storm safety so that everyone is prepared and knows what to do when a storm hits.





Report An Outage

What is the best way to report an outage?

To report an outage, call 1-800-794-4423 and follow the call prompts. Our system uses your phone number to determine your service location – that’s why it’s important to update the phone number associated with your account. If your number has changed, please let us know by completing the form that comes in your monthly bill or by calling customer service.

How can I stay up-to-date on the progress of an outage?

The outage map on our website, union-power.com, will show you the location and the status of every outage. If you don’t see your outage on our map, give us a call to report your outage.

We also post updates on widespread outages to Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.



To Report An Outage, call 1-800-794-4423.

Emergency Preparedness

Make a Plan, Build An Emergency Kit, and Stay Informed



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

- FIRST AID KIT
- FLASHLIGHT, RADIO AND SPARE BATTERIES
- BLANKETS, CLOTHES AND SHOES
- TINNED AND DRIED FOOD
- EATING UTENSILS, CAN OPENER, MATCHES
- PLASTIC SHEETING FOR SHELTER AND TAPE
- TOOTHBRUSHES, SOAP TOWELS, AND TOILET PAPER
- LIST OF EMERGENCY CONTACTS
- COPIES OF...

The Steps to Restoring Power

When a major outage occurs, our crews restore service to the greatest number of people in the shortest time possible – until everyone has power.



- 1. High-Voltage Transmission Lines**
These lines carry large amounts of electricity. They rarely fail but must be repaired first.



- 2. Distribution Substations**
Crews inspect substations, which can serve hundreds or thousands of people.



- 3. Main Distribution Lines**
Main lines serve essential facilities like hospitals and larger communities.

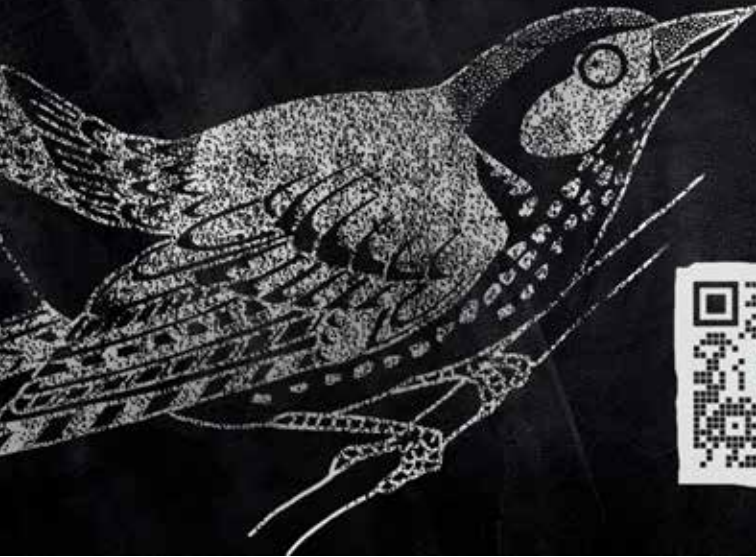


- 4. Individual Homes and Businesses**
After main line repairs are complete, we repair lines that serve individual homes and businesses.

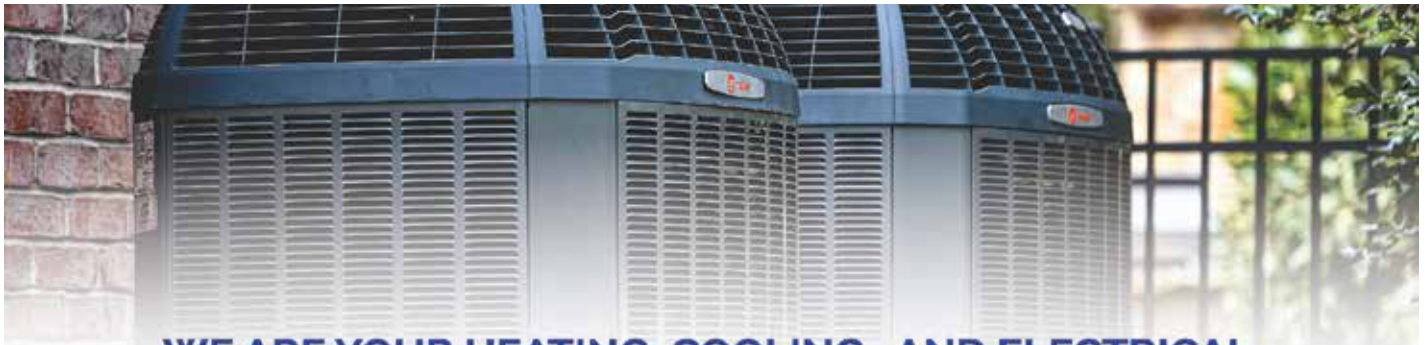


EARLY BIRD APPLY NOW

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE: AUG 15, 2022
FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A \$100 GIFT CARD



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Cooperative**
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



**WE ARE YOUR HEATING, COOLING, AND ELECTRICAL
EXPERTS SERVING UNION POWER MEMBERS.**

You Deserve Peace of Mind This Summer.

The last thing you need this summer is a broken cooling system. That's why Union Services is here to help keep you comfortably cool and save you money with a new Trane high-efficiency system for your home.



Scan the QR code or visit
savewithunion.com/financing
to explore our financing options

704-283-9047 | savewithunion.com

Right-of-Way Clearing

During the next month, you may see our tree-trimming crews in your neighborhood: ABC Professional Tree Services, Asplundh Tree Expert Co., Lewis Tree Service, Lucas Tree Experts, and Xylem Inc.

Stanly County: Alonzo Rd, Baptist Ln, Barbees Grove Rd, Bethel Church Rd, Biles Rd, Cal Bost Rd, Canton Rd, Chatter Ln, Coley Store Rd, Crestview Ln, Dakeita Circle, Dana Rd, Elder-Eudy Rd, England Rd, Farmwood Ln, Flintridge Rd, Hartsell Rd, Hazard Rd, Hinson Farm Ln, Jase Dr, John White Rd, Linda Ln, Log Cabin Trail, Melissa Rd, Millard Ln, Millingport Rd, Nugget Pl, Old Concord Rd, Pineleaf Circle, Quail Run Rd, Reed Mine Rd, Rowland Rd, St Martin Rd, Sugar Hill Rd, US Hwy 601 S, Waters Edge Dr

Union County: Adams Rd, Antioch Church Rd, Antioch Ct, Arthur Dr, Baron Rd, Baucom Tarlton Rd, Bent Tree Tr, Bessant Dr, Bigham Rd, Billy Howey Rd, Bobbie Ln, Bonterra Village Way, Brigadoon Ln, Brittany Ct, Brookstone Trail, Brooktree Ln, Byrum Rd, Carol Ave, Carriage Ln, Chambwood Rd, Courtland St, Darrell Simpson Dr, Denise Dr, E Lawyers Rd, Eden Hollow Ln, Ennis Rd, Esther St, Etheridge St, Faith Church Rd, Farm Creek Rd, Four Wood Dr, Frank Carter Dr, George Guin Rd, Ginger Ln, Grace Ct, Greywood Ln, Hoover Ave, Huntington Dr, Iris St, John Craig Rd, John Hargette Rd, Jug Broome Rd, Lake Charles Way, Lake Park Rd, Lawrence Ct, Lincoln Ct, Logan Circle, Mangum Dairy Rd, Marvin Simpson Rd, McWhorter Rd, Medlin Rd, Morrison Ave, Mt Pleasant Church Rd, Mullis Newome Rd, Mullis Rd, Nesbit Rd, New Salem Rd, New Town Rd, Nuthatch Dr, Oak Forest Circle, Oakwood Dr, Old Highway Rd, Old Waxhaw Monroe Rd, Olson Ln, Paddington Dr, Plainview Dr, Ranch Dr, Red Tail Hawk Ln, Rock Hill Church Rd, Ruth St,



S Potter Rd, Scott Long Rd, Secret Shortcut Rd, Shimron Ln, Southwind Trail Dr, Sparrow Hawk Dr, St Joseph Dr, Stack Rd, Stonegate Rd, Three Wood Dr, Trevor Simpson Dr, Truman St, Union Rd, W Unionville Indian Trail Rd, Walden Ln, Watson Church Rd, West St, Whispering Pines Dr, Woodhaven Rd



For more information about Union Power's vegetation management program or tree trimming practices, please call 704-289-3145 and speak with Wil Ortiz (ext. 3323) or Carrie Lorenz-Efid (ext. 3291). Visit union-power.com for monthly right-of-way clearing updates.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

The Cooperative Review newsletter is published monthly for the members and friends of Union Power Cooperative.

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