

Cooperative Review

NOVEMBER 2022

**UnionPower
Cooperative**
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Attention High School Juniors

It's time to apply for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

Youth Tour provides an opportunity for high school juniors to have an unforgettable experience in Washington, D.C., while learning about the history of the nation's capital and understanding how American history has shaped the U.S. today. It also provides an opportunity for students to take on leadership roles and learn what their value is as a citizen.

Students who are selected, will attend a scheduled five-day event from June 17-23, 2023, to visit the Smithsonian, Capitol Hill, Arlington National Cemetery, the Newseum (the world's most interactive museum), the Lincoln Memorial, and more! They will also get the opportunity to interact with their members of Congress, senators, and legislative staff by asking them questions and understanding their role in the Capital.

While taking advantage of this extraordinary experience, students will step out of their comfort zone and meet other students across the nation who are there for the same purpose. Not only is this tour amazing, but it looks great on a college resume.



Students graduating in 2024 are eligible and encouraged to apply by Dec. 30, 2022. Visit union-power.com/educational-programs to check out all of our educational programs. Or, scan the QR Code above to learn more about Youth Tour.



Union Power College Scholarships For High School Seniors



Do you, or someone you know, need money for college? Union Power Cooperative is now accepting applications and will award 10 local students with a \$1,000 college scholarship to a North Carolina accredited college or university.

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be the child of a Union Power Cooperative member or reside in a household served by Union Power.
- Be a high school senior in the current graduating class.
- Meet the criteria for awarding the scholarship: 40% need; 30% scholastic achievement; and 30% extracurricular activities in school, civic, and community functions.

Visit union-power.com/collegescholarships to apply for a \$1,000 college scholarship, by March 1, 2023.



All educational programs are judged, and winners are selected by an independent committee not affiliated with the Cooperative. Winners will be notified upon the conclusion of each event. Children of Union Power employees and its subsidiary, Union Services, are not eligible to apply.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month:

Is your home heating system ready for the winter chill? One of the easiest ways to keep your system running efficiently is to regularly replace filters. If your central air system has a furnace filter, it should be replaced about every 90 days. If your home is heated through warm-air registers, baseboard heaters or radiators, remember to clean regularly to boost efficiency.

Keeping Pets and Energy Bills Comfortable

During the winter months, don't forget about the pets who depend on you for their care. Start by taking the following steps to provide them comfort and save energy at the same time.

- The winter temperatures can be a little “ruff” at times, so set the thermostat at 68 degrees, making it a “purr-fect” temperature for people and pets—especially for smaller, short-hair, and senior dogs—not just for warmth but for their general health. In addition, puppies, kittens, and older pets with arthritis or other ailments may have more difficulty controlling their body heat and need the additional warmth when it's chilly out.
- Pets that sleep close to the floor can be subject to cold drafts that enter the home through windows and exterior doors. If the pet's bed is near a window or door that feels drafty, tightly roll up a towel and place it near the bottom of the door or window to eliminate the draft. This idea will cut down on cold drafts that will keep everyone feeling more comfortable during colder months. If possible, try to elevate the pet's bed so it is not placed directly on the cold floor. An old chair or sofa cushion works as well.
- If there is no dog bed, take some old blankets and create a donut shape on a pillow so the dog can snuggle and “nest” within the blanket. For cats, provide them with blankets but make the donut shape smaller for warmth. Blankets provide pets with a comfortable place for dogs and cats to curl up, even when they aren't tired.
- At the onset of the cold weather season, replace the HVAC filter for better air quality to help the unit operate more efficiently.
- Weather-stripping and caulking windows and doors will help keep the harsh cold temperatures away.
- For less efficient homes, keep the intense temperature out of the home by taping or affixing heavy, clear plastic inside the window frame to create an additional barrier against the cold. Ensure the plastic is tightly sealed to the frame to help reduce infiltration.
- During the day, open the blinds and curtains to allow sunlight into the home to keep the house warm. As the sun goes down, close the window coverings at night for an additional layer of insulation.



At Union Power Cooperative, we may be unable to control the weather. Still, we can provide advice to help our members save energy and money to keep their family and furry friends more comfortable during the winter.



Visit union-power.com/energysavingscalculators for other energy-saving tips.



Honoring All Who Served

Every year on Nov. 11, Americans honor the millions of active-duty and former service members across the nation during parades, speeches, and solemn ceremonies offering our nation's appreciation. While only one day of the year is dedicated solely to honoring veterans, we must never forget their dedication and the sacrifices they make to defend our country and protect our freedom every day.

Union Power honors those who have served or are currently serving as members of the United States Armed Forces. We salute you and would like to extend our sincere gratitude to veterans who have served so selflessly and courageously.

**Our offices will be closed
on Friday, Nov. 11.**



Thanksgiving is near, and Christmas is right around the corner—and there's no better way to give thanks or spread a little holiday cheer than giving the gift of power. So, if you're looking for the perfect gift this holiday season, look no further than Union Power's Power Bucks certificates.

Power Bucks certificates allow you to purchase kilowatt-hours of electricity for any Union Power member.

How does it work?

- Stop by, or call, one of our offices at 704-289-3145 to speak with a Customer Service Representative (CSR), who will apply the Power Bucks credit to the member's account of your choice.
- A minimum purchase of \$25 can be made over the phone by check, credit card, or by cash (in person).
- The member's next bill will show a credit for the amount of Power Bucks purchased. In addition, a gift certificate will be sent to the member if requested.



Energy-Saving Tips for the Holidays

It's the most wonderful time of the year to learn about energy savings! We are here to help at Union Power by providing you with tips and tricks on saving energy and money at home during the holidays. For our members, we have provided a holiday calculator that will help make smart energy decisions while shopping for Christmas lights and hoping to reduce the energy that will impact your electricity bills.

In addition to using the Holiday Lighting Calculator, consider these helpful tips to brighten your holiday celebration:

- **Get a Home Energy Assessment:** Call 704-289-3145 to speak with one of our energy specialists to help you determine if your home is losing energy and what to do to save money. Based on the results of your energy assessment, our energy specialist will provide you with energy-saving tips to save money.
- **Use LED Lights:** Light up your home with LED Lights. LED lights have been known for being sturdier and more resistant to breaking. LEDs also last longer and use less energy than traditional festive light strands.
- **Install A Light Timer:** When decorating your house with holiday lights, use a controlled timer to lower your energy consumption. This tip will help you save money, energy, and time while staying in the holiday spirit.
- **Plug Holiday Decorations into Power Strips:** Getting into the holiday spirit of hanging lights and watching Christmas movies on repeat can take a toll on your energy usage. Instead, try plugging all your electronics into one power strip to reduce energy consumption and turn the power strip off when necessary.
- **Save energy in the Kitchen:** During the holidays, there is tons of cooking and baking to prepare a perfect meal. To save money and energy, try using the

right size pots on stove burners and the oven light to check on the dish progress instead of opening the door to check on the progress.

- **Prepare Your Windows for Winter:** Staying warm and keeping the heat in your home is very important, especially during the winter. Make sure you take all the steps you need before the cooler temperatures come and you lose heat. Start by checking all of your windows and weatherizing them to prevent any drafts. This step will reduce heat lost through your windows by 25-50%. Another tip you can do to prevent heat loss is installing storm windows. This helpful tip will help block the cooler temperatures coming into the home. At Union Power, we love to inform our customers on ways to save money and energy, especially during the holidays. We hope you find these helpful tips informative and beneficial for you and your family, but also impact your financials and get you into the holiday spirit. We at Union Power hope you have a safe and happy holiday season by taking these few steps to manage your energy consumption during this busy time of the year.



Visit union-power.com/energysavingscalculators to check out our Holiday Lighting Calculator.



A man with a beard and a blue shirt is working on a sewing machine. He is looking down at the machine, which is illuminated by a small light. The background is dark and out of focus.

We Power Creativity.

Our community is teeming with energy and ideas. We're proud to power yours.

Union Power Cooperative
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SUNDAY, NOV. 6
REMEMBER
TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK!

OUR OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR

Thanksgiving

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24 &
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

 **Festive savings**
to be thankful for

Get a **\$600 REBATE** on Qualifying Systems.*

*Restrictions may apply. See your participating independent Trane Dealer for complete program eligibility, dates, details, and restrictions. Available through participating independent Trane Dealers. Special rebates from \$75 up to \$600. All sales must be to homeowners in the United States. Void where prohibited. Valid on Qualifying Equipment only. Offer expires 11/30/22.

HURRY!
Offer ends November 30.

*We are your heating, cooling, and electrical experts serving the **Union Power** community.*



704-283-9047

Scan the QR code or visit
savewithunion.com/request-estimate
to receive a FREE estimate today!



TRANE®

It's Hard To Stop A Trane.®



Robotic Grapple Saw safely removes trees in hard-to-reach places.

Right-of-Way Clearing

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

Stanly County: Bethel Church Rd, Coley Store Rd, Crestview Ln, Hinson Farm Ln, Meadowcreek Church Rd, Quail Run Rd

Union County: Alisa Dr, Alton Woods Rd, Antioch Church Rd, Arant Rd, Austin Rd, Baker Rd, Belk Mill Rd, Bud Plyler Rd, Burgess & Helms Rd, Canal Rd, Cane Creek Rd, Cheraw Rd, Circle S Ranch Rd, Clarksville Campground Rd, Clontz Taylor Rd, Daniel Dr, Dudley Rd, E Sandy Ridge Rd, Eden Hollow Ln, Effie Whitley Rd, Ervin Thomas Rd, Forest Ln, Gay Rd, Greywood Ln, Gullledge Parker Rd, Gum Ln, H B Starnes Rd, Hargette Rd, Helms Funderburke Rd, Huntington Dr, Jack Davis Rd, Janes Ln, Jordan Dr, Kelly Autry Rd, Landsford Rd, Laney Rogers Rd, Lonnie Aldridge Rd, Medlin Rd, Old Pageland Marshville Rd, Old Pageland Monroe Rd, Pageland Hwy, Philadelphia Church Rd, Pigg Mattox Rd, Pine Ln, Pine Oaks Dr, Quail Run Rd, Riggins Rd, Rollins Rd, S Potter Rd, Sara Hinson Rd, Smith Town Rd, Stack Rd, State Line Rd, Tom Greene Rd, Tom Starnes Rd, Trinity Church Rd, Vann Sneed Rd, W Sandy Ridge Rd, Walden Ln, Wallace Branch Rd, Walt Gay Rd, Walters Mill Rd, Whispering Hollow Rd, WM Griffin Rd, Wolf Pond 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-Efird (ext. 3291). Visit union-power.com for monthly right-of-way clearing updates and information on our programs.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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

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