

Watts Working

Home Heating with Electricity—The Best Choice!



At Randolph EMC, we believe electricity is the smart energy choice. It is safe, reliable, clean, predictably priced and adaptable to many uses, from the exotic to the mundane. Electricity powers everything from cars, cell phones and laptop computers to air conditioners, dishwashers, refrigerators, clothes washers and lighting. More than ever, America runs on electricity.

During these cold winter months, one of the largest portions of your home's budget goes to heating. Whether you're thinking of making upgrades to your home or building a new one, we encourage you to consider the value of using electricity for conditioning your living space versus propane or natural gas. Listed below are the numerous advantages of electricity-based home heating that may surprise even the most energy-savvy consumers.

- Electric heating systems are generally less expensive to purchase and install than other systems, and on the whole, offer fuel cost stability.
- Electric heat is quick to respond and can be very quiet.
- Electric heat can be added on a localized basis to heat specific areas of the home, and the temperature can be controlled easily by room or by zone.
- A portable, energy-efficient electric space heater or electric baseboard heat can warm select rooms, allowing you to keep your main thermostat down while ensuring continued comfort.
- Electric heat can take up less space in the home than other conventional systems (assuming space heaters are used).
- The electric heating system is safe because there is no combustion process. There is no chance of flames starting a fire or having combustion products contaminate the air.

Heating contractors, electricians, home improvement stores and Randolph EMC are good sources for information about heating with electricity. For additional information about how you can be more energy efficient, visit our website at RandolphEMC.com or call one of our Energy Use Advisors at 800.672.8212.

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The benefits of choosing an electric water heater

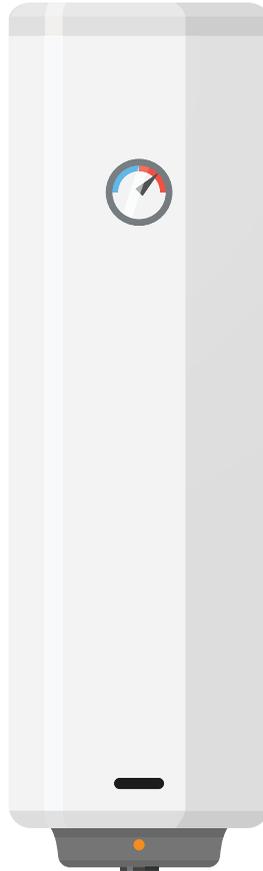
As expected, most people don't think much about water heaters. They take for granted that they make it possible to have hot showers, clean dinner dishes and enjoy load upon load of freshly laundered linens. The lonely water heater, tucked away in the basement or a utility closet, is out of sight and out of mind.

There are times, however, when your attention turns to that most essential of appliances: when an existing water heater breaks ("Brrr. That water is cold!") or when building or renovating a home.

At those times, a homeowner will make a decision that has consequences that persist for a decade or two, maybe longer. Your water-heating choice will have implications for energy efficiency, cost of use, the environment, safety and reliability.

As your trusted energy advisor, Randolph EMC encourages you to take these advantages and benefits of electric water heaters into consideration before your next purchase:

- High-efficiency electric water heaters, including heat pumps, are readily available.
- Electric water heaters are safe. They produce no carbon monoxide, and they pose no threat of combustion or explosion.
- Electric water heaters can run on power generated from a range of energy sources, including solar, wind, hydro and other renewables.
- Electric heaters don't lose energy from exhaust or the replacement air that circulates into and out of a house and do not require any sort of on-site storage tank.
- Electric water heaters are easy to install. They require no expensive gas lines or exhaust flues.
- The cost of electricity is less volatile than it is for other fuels, which can fluctuate from month to month.



Touchstone Energy® Sports Camp Scholarships

Randolph EMC will send one boy & one girl to the Roy Williams & Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camps this summer. More information and applications are available at RandolphEMC.com.

Hurry! Applications are due March 31st!

PHP Welcomes New Board Members

The People Helping People Board of Directors recently welcomed new board members. Doris Brady of Chatham County and Gary Loy of Alamance County are both active in their communities and are excited to help improve the lives of their fellow members through PHP. Randolph EMC is extremely appreciative of their service!

HORSES & HEALING

PHP Community Grant Helps Moore County's Prancing Horse, Inc. Provide Therapeutic Healing to Kids & Veterans with Disabilities

In July 2016, Randolph EMC's People Helping People (PHP) program awarded a total of \$10,000 to six local 501(c)(3) organizations, made possible through funds received from CoBank's Sharing Success matching grant program. Together with a matching donation from Randolph EMC and CoBank, PHP was able to support projects from these six local nonprofit agencies to benefit REMC members.

Prancing Horse Therapeutic Riding Center was one of the 2016 recipients of a PHP Community Grant. It is a Premier Accredited Therapeutic Riding center that offers equine-oriented activities to people with disabilities, including disabled veterans.

Due in part to the Sharing Success Grant awarded in 2016, Prancing Horse went from leasing at three different farms in Moore County, to being able to own their own farm in Hoffman. After months of acquiring equipment, volunteers and training horses, classes began after the grand opening in October.

Therapeutic riding is a recognized form of treatment for many types of physical and cognitive disabilities.

The "magic of horses" has proven to be beneficial to individuals with special needs. The bond that is created between rider and horse is one of mutual respect, appreciation for one another's capabilities and a trust that allows them to work together as a unifying team. Not only does this form of treatment build personal control and self-confidence, but it also creates a deep connection that only the rider and horse can understand.

Prancing Horse accepts riders with all special needs and they work with individuals, local school groups and children's centers. There is no doubt that extraordinary things occur when these riders mount the backs of these horses. One rider with multiple sclerosis was able to improve her balance through working with the horses and now volunteers at



Prancing Horse. Similarly, a young rider was able to move to a less involved wheelchair, while another was able to improve his extreme anxiety.

Randolph EMC's Communication and Outreach Specialist, Kathleen Duckworth, visited the new farm while riders from a local children's center were in session. During her visit, she was able to engage with all the volunteers and horses that make each individual feel special each time they visit the farm.

"This is a top-tier facility that supports an even balance of skill enhancing activities with playful and passionate interactions between rider and horse," said Kathleen. "With Randolph EMC's deep community roots, it's a

privilege for PHP to have the opportunity to support a variety of local nonprofits within our service area that serve a diverse population of our member-owners. Our ultimate goal with the Community Grants is for PHP to be able to extend its charitable reach into the community to support those agencies that are providing such needed services to our member-owners."

You're Invited to...

REconnect

A Series of Community Engagement Meetings
for **R**andolph **E**lectric Member-Owners

RETHINK Your Energy Strategies

- **Talk with our energy experts** to see how REMC's usage monitoring tools can help you be a master at managing how your energy's used.
- **Curious about electric vehicles?** Find out how these can be a savings tool for both EV owners and the cooperative, and how we plan to support this growing trend across the system.
- **What's new?** Learn about new services and programs your co-op has to offer.

Join Us!

When: March 13
6:30 p.m.
(Light Dinner Included)

Where: Montgomery
Community College
Multi-Purpose
Room— 1011 Page
Street, Troy

RSVP: To Ravonda Hanes
at 1-800-672-8212 or
Ravonda.Hanes@
RandolphEMC.com
by March 3



All the recipes,
photos, & stories
you love, available
right on your tablet!

The new **Carolina
Country App**
is **FREE** to all
members.

Download it today!



Usage Monitoring Now Available Exclusively on REMC's Online Member Service Portal

We are pleased to announce that usage monitoring is now available exclusively through our online Member Service Portal, which can be accessed at RandolphEMC.com or via the REMC Mobile App.

Some members may be accustomed to viewing their usage information at MyUsage.com. However, Randolph EMC accounts will no longer be accessible through this site. Not to worry, though, REMC's Member Service Portal offers more than just monitoring! When you log in to the portal, you'll be able to make payments, update your contact information, sign up for various services and set usage and billing alerts in addition to monitoring your daily usage.

Signing up is easy!

1. Visit RandolphEMC.com
2. Click "Login to My Account"
3. Follow the steps to create your account.

Make sure you have your Account Number and the last four digits of both the Social Security Number and Telephone Number on file with REMC. If you're not sure of any of this information, please give us a call and one of our Member Service Specialists will be happy to assist you.

All of the information found on Randolph EMC's Member Service Portal can also be accessed on REMC's Mobile App. It's important to note, however, that you must first create a login by accessing the portal through a web browser.



Swap Shop

For Sale

2016 hay, second cut of the year. Hay has been in barn, no rain, 4x4 round rolls. \$30 per roll. 336-629-6138.

1990 Ford F-700 Dump Truck with 14ft dump bed. \$3,000 firm. 910-464-3459.

1996 Dodge Dakota V-6, runs but needs transmission work \$1,000. 1975 F-600 Dump truck with 330 engine, runs but needs work \$1,500. 336-873-7805.

Currier Piano, purchased new for \$3,500. Great Condition. \$900 OBO. 336-241-2652 after 2pm.

Two Velux fixed deck mount skylights with flash kits. Brand new, still in shipping boxes. \$550. 910-528-4283.

1974 F640 Dump truck ps, 2 speed, Miller Dump, Grain Sides & Low Sides. Very good tires. \$5,800. 336-581-3506.

Wolff Tanning Bed, 24 bulbs, face & leg tanners, less than 600 hours. Original cost \$3,800. Will sell for \$800. 910-439-4525.

Werner extension ladders, Werner step ladders, Dewalt Miter Saw, Nail Guns, Bostitch, Senco, Paslode, Remington guns, Bush

Hog, Kane Heating Pad. 336-629-5866.

Pictures, B&W & color, 8x10, \$10 or 10x13 \$25. All bridges & mills of the Uwharrie River including the Pisgah Covered Bridge. 336-629-2533.

Two pair of Aigner Brown shoes, size 8 1/2, worn 1 time. Aigner purse, never used, all for \$50 or will sell separately. 336-409-5450 or email highfalls_eagle@yahoo.com.

1955 Chevy Pick-up body parts. Four front fenders, two hoods, three grills, & one rear bumper. All for \$1,000 OBO. 910-464-3470.

More Heat Wood Heater \$400. Stihl 039 Chainsaw with 20" bar \$375. Wood splitter 3 HP \$350. All in great condition. 2001 Honda Civic 5 Speed, 2 door, sunroof. 215,000 miles. Runs great! Body in fair condition. 1,600 OBO. 336-879-5416.

Double-door fireplace insert (from adapted) requires opening at least 37 1/2" w x 24 1/4" h. \$150. 336-362-7907.

WORX QuikSaw. Cordless. 18 V Li-Ion battery. Like new in box. \$69 OBO. 336-622-3690.

Light oak entertainment armoire, 69" H x 44" W x 22" D. Armoire has two doors at the top to conceal a TV, also has three drawers at the bottom & a door concealing two shelves for storage. \$75. 336-521-1212.

Chore-Time Super Plus Selector PNT + AVS45 Part #33800F. Two available. \$1,000 each. 336-857-2368.

3,000 Red Sex Sal Link pullets, chickens at laying age 16 weeks plus, vaccinated & debeaked, \$6.90 & up. Liberty area. 336-708-2998 or 336-317-4105.

Heirloom Quilts made in the early 1940's. \$125 each OBO. 336-629-2560.

Cleaned deer corn, 50 lb. bags, \$6 each. Cleaned Feed Wheat, 50 lb. bags, \$8 each. 336-622-2480 or 336-736-0390.

New handmade quilts, F,Q&K. Power Booster for RV hookup. 336-625-4548.

FOR RENT: 2 BR 1 BA house in the country with central heat & air. Robbins/Carthage area, no pets. \$500 per month + \$100 deposit. 910-947-5910.

Members, email Swap Shop items to General@RandolphEMC.com

A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



TOOLS TO HELP YOU SAVE: Technology That Puts You in Control

Dear Members,

This quote rings so true: “If you’re standing still, you’re backing up.” Certainly with the pace of our society coupled with continuous technology leaps and advances, this quote is more applicable than ever before. I was amazed while Christmas shopping to see the abundance of virtual reality goggles at what seemed very reasonable prices. Just a few years ago this technology was akin to something used by The Jetsons.

I recently heard a news story predict that when kids today grow up, they will not be required to take driver’s education because their cars will drive themselves. I like new technology as much as anyone, but I’m not quite ready to turn loose of the steering wheel. Having grown up learning to drive on a 420 John Deere pulling a 2-16 bottom plow, it was a big deal and privilege to control the steering wheel.

My mind races back to when I was around 14 years old and my dad allowed me to “fix up” a white 1962 Ford Falcon with two-doors and four cylinders. I installed a used 8-track tape player with speakers in the back glass. The three speed on the column was smooth as silk while driving to the fields behind our house.

It would have been pretty boring to sit in the spectator position and watch the car drive itself. I have to admit, though, as I have aged, allowing “someone else” to drive does seem to have its advantages.

The benefits that technology provides can be endless, but in my opinion, it’s more valuable when it extends your capabilities rather than does something for you. Randolph EMC has been aggressive in providing tools and new technologies

that allow you to take control of your energy dollars. Almost 1,100 members are participating in our FlexPay program, which allows residential members to pay for electricity as it is used. The beauty of FlexPay is that you can “fill up” your electric account just like filling up the gas tank in a car—one gallon at a time or with a full tank.

With FlexPay, instead of a traditional monthly billing statement, your energy use and account balance are calculated daily. No security deposit is required for new members, and if you’ve already paid a deposit, we’ll apply it as a credit when switching to a FlexPay account. Perhaps one of the best features of the program is that there is no due date, so you’ll never have a late payment charge.

As noted on page E of this issue of Watts Working, we are transitioning from offering our usage monitoring program on a third-party’s website at MyUsage.com to making it available exclusively on our Member Service Portal at RandolphEMC.com. Counting FlexPay members, more than 1,800 members are receiving daily reports on their energy usage. Please consider participating in this free online service that allows residential members to monitor their daily energy consumption. This is probably the simplest, yet best, tool we have to help you manage how much you spend on electricity.

Through the Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives network, you have access to a valuable resource that identifies simple energy-saving ideas you can implement in your home. TogetherWeSave.com uses real savings calculations—based on our co-op’s rates and climate zone—to motivate and inspire small changes in behavior. I encourage you to visit www.TogetherWeSave.com if you haven’t already.

In addition to participating in the programs we have available, there are additional steps you can take to stretch your energy dollars. Check out the section below for some things to keep an eye on to help you save on your electric bill.

Our goal is to provide tools and advice that allow you to stretch your energy dollars. If you are not participating already, please sign up for the easy-to-use tools we have available for you. If you want to learn more about making your home more energy efficient or to schedule a free home energy audit, visit RandolphEMC.com or call us at 1-800-672-8212.

Cooperatively Yours (while still behind the steering wheel),

Dale F. Lambert, Chief Executive Officer

START SAVING TODAY

- **Add up savings with small adjustments to your thermostat**
You can save 3% on your heating costs for every degree you reduce the temperature below 70 degrees. Our energy experts recommend 68°F.
- **Don't mistake the 'E' for efficiency**
The Emergency Heat or E Heat (strip heat) setting bypasses the heat pump completely and heating is provided solely by the strip heat. This is the most inefficient setting your system has!
- **Check the refrigerant in your heat pump**
Low refrigerant levels cause the system to revert to auxiliary heat (strip heat), which uses up to 3 times the energy of the heat pump. Have a qualified HVAC technician check your equipment for leaks and charge with the proper amount of refrigerant.
- **Repair leaky or loose ductwork**
This causes the heat pump to run longer because heated air enters unconditioned spaces like your crawlspace or attic instead of your home.
- **Check for a leaking water heater or water heater pipes**
Leaks will cause the water heater element(s) to energize for longer periods trying to heat the incoming water that is going to replace what is leaking out. Check regularly for leaks & repair them quickly.
- **Don't let your well pump run continuously**
This can happen because of a burst water pipe, which could be anywhere from inside the well, underground to your home or underneath the home. If the issue is on the hot water side, the water heater can energize in addition to the well pump running, increasing your costs even more.

Monitoring your electricity use regularly and setting usage alerts can help you identify problems with appliances like water heaters and well pumps well before you receive your next bill. Sign up for the free MyUsage service today at RandolphEMC.com!



Randolph Electric Membership Corporation provides safe and reliable power with exceptional value to more than 31,500 member accounts in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Alamance counties.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electric Service

Asheboro (336) 625-5177
..... (800) 672-8212
Robbins: (910) 948-3401
..... (800) 868-7014
Report Outage (877) REMC-OFF
..... (877) 736-2633
Account Info
& Bill Payments: (877) 534-2319
Business Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, M-F

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Visit Randolph EMC Online

RandolphEMC.com



Solar Power for You



No Rooftop Required.

With SunPath Community Solar, Randolph EMC member-owners have the exclusive opportunity to subscribe to the energy produced by the cooperative's solar panels instead of installing and retaining ownership of a solar energy system at home. Participants then receive a credit on their bills for the energy produced by the number of panels in their subscription.

Two Ways to Subscribe

Monthly: \$2.85 per panel

Members pay a monthly per-panel subscription fee and receive a credit for the amount of the energy produced on the same bill. A one-year commitment is required, which renews annually.

Subscriptions are available on a first-come, first-served basis—sign up now while panels are still available!

Full-Term: \$491 per panel

Members pay a one-time, upfront fee per panel for the rights to that panel's energy output. A credit for the energy produced will post to each bill for the next 20 years.

Learn more at RandolphEMC.com or call us at 800-672-8212 to subscribe today!

Some Advantages of Community Solar



More affordable than on-site installation



No changes to your property



Maintenance free



No red tape with zoning restrictions or homeowners' associations



Get the most out of the sun's potential with prime placement at our site



Perfect for renters who want to be involved with renewable energy