



Electrical Safety Made Simple: Navigating the Wired World

In today's fast-paced world, electricity powers much of what we do. From electric cars to smart plugs, new electrical gadgets keep popping up, making life more convenient. However, with these innovations come essential safety considerations that everyone should know.



ELECTRIC CARS: **Charging Safely**

If you're considering switching to an electric car, it's essential to ensure your home is ready. Electric

vehicle charging comes in different levels, but Level 1 charging is the norm for most homes. Before plugging in, take these steps to ensure safety:

1. Home Check: Have a qualified electrician assess your home's electrical system to ensure it can handle the extra load of charging an electric vehicle.
2. Cord Safety: Ensure that your charging cords are in good condition

and certified by a reputable testing lab for safety.

3. Professional Installation: It's crucial to have a licensed electrician install your charging station to ensure it's done correctly and safely.



SMART PLUGS: **Adding Convenience with Safety**

Are you concerned about leaving appliances or devices on when you're away from home?

Smart plugs offer a simple solution. These nifty devices allow you to control your electronics remotely using a smartphone app, giving you peace of mind wherever you are.



JOEMC: **Your Partner in Electrical Safety**

At JOEMC, we're dedicated to keeping you safe around electricity.

Whether providing reliable power or offering safety tips, we're here to help. Visit our website or connect with us on social media for more information on staying safe with electricity.

In a world filled with electrical innovations, it's essential to prioritize safety. By following these simple tips, you can enjoy the convenience of modern technology while keeping your home and loved ones safe from electrical hazards.



Brighten Your Teaching: Apply for a Bright Ideas Grant by September 15



JOEMC is again partnering with outstanding educators to bring their creative lesson plans to life! Starting April 1, teachers can apply for a Bright Ideas education grant of up to \$1,500 to fund projects that enhance student success in the classroom. Applications and more information about the program can be found at www.ncbrightideas.com.

The 2024-25 school year marks the 30th year that North Carolina's electric cooperatives have funded educators' innovative projects. During that time, JOEMC has issued more than \$1,675,000 for 2,448 projects that have benefited well over 621,000 students in Jones, Onslow and Pender counties. Grants are available in all curriculum areas,

including art, science, history, music, and mathematics.

Bright Ideas grant applications will be accepted through September 15, but teachers are encouraged to apply early.

Supported by all 26 electric cooperatives in North Carolina, Bright Ideas grants have contributed nearly \$16 million to N.C. classrooms, funding more than 14,700 projects benefiting close to four million students state-wide since 1994.

Support for youth and education is part of our continued commitment to building a brighter future for the communities we serve. To learn more, visit <https://joemc.com/community/bright-ideas/>.



ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

The 2024 Annual Meeting was a huge success! It was great to see everyone on March 22, 2024, at the River of Life Church.

The event featured electrifying entertainment, including the soulful tunes of Curtis Hyler and Jubilation, whose vibrant performance filled the venue with joy and energy. Members also enjoyed the mesmerizing tricks of magician Bryan Sanders, who kept everyone on the edge of their seats with his mind-bending illusions. In addition to the entertainment, there was a business meeting where JOEMC provided updates on the year's progress. Attendees were treated to complimentary food, exciting giveaways, and an unforgettable evening of celebration and fellowship. If you missed the 2024 Annual Meeting, you can watch the recording and the intro video featuring local co-op member Lula Hunter at <https://www.youtube.com/user/myJOEMCtv/featured>.

Special Prize Winners (had to be in attendance to win):

- Chevrolet Truck: Michael Amodei
- Electric Mower: Roger Lanier
- Couple Married Least Amount of Time: Mrs. Alice Jarman
- Couple Married Longest Amount of Time: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Morton
- Oldest Female Member: Louise Cannon
- Oldest Male Member: James Garland and Paul Metters



Pictured is Gary Ray, CEO with Michael Amodei, the truck winner.

Be Storm Ready

As we gear up for the 2024 hurricane season, which officially kicks off on June 1st, it's crucial to remember the lessons learned from previous years and be prepared. At JOEMC, we urge all our members to take proactive steps to safeguard themselves and their families against potential storms, especially given North Carolina's vulnerability to hurricane damage.



Essential Tasks for Hurricane Preparedness

1. **Develop a Comprehensive Plan:**

Outline a communication and evacuation strategy for your family, ensuring everyone knows what to do in case of an emergency. Remember to include plans for pets and livestock, ensuring their safety as well.

2. **Prepare an Emergency Kit:**

Assemble an emergency kit containing vital items that can sustain you and your family for at least three days. This kit should include:

- Important documents stored in a waterproof container
- Sufficient cash
- Non-perishable food, water, and medication
- First-aid supplies
- Battery-powered radio
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Personal hygiene items
- Extra clothing and blankets
- Food and supplies for pets

3. Stay Informed: Keep abreast of storm-related updates and outage information by connecting with us online at joemc.com or via our social media channels. If you're not already enrolled, sign up for our outage text alert program. Ensure you have our outage reporting number and email readily available: **(910) 353-1940** and joemc@joemc.com.

4. Receive Local Alerts: Register for local weather alerts and warnings to stay informed about potential threats in your area. Utilize resources such as ReadyNC.org or download the ReadyNC app for comprehensive preparedness tips, real-time weather updates, and traffic information.

By taking these proactive measures, we can better protect ourselves and our community from the potential impacts of hurricanes during the upcoming season. Let's stay vigilant and prepared together.



ARNOLD PALMER GRILLED WINGS

Arnold Palmers are a refreshing treat on a hot summer's day. The lemon and tea pairs so well, we created a version for our wings. It's tailgate friendly, too!

Source: www.carolinacountry.com
Servings: 2 dozen wings

INGREDIENTS

- 2 dozen chicken wings
- 2 tablespoons salt
- 1 quart sweet tea
- 2 (12-ounce) cans frozen lemonade concentrate
- ¼ cup coarse ground mustard
- 3-4 lemons
- 1 teaspoon crushed red pepper
- 2 teaspoons dried rosemary
- 1 tablespoon salt

DIRECTIONS

1. Put wings into a container with lid. Sprinkle salt over wings and add the tea. Cover and shake to mix in the salt. Refrigerate up to one hour, but best if brined overnight.
2. In a small saucepan, combine lemonade concentrate, mustard, zest and juice of one lemon, red pepper and rosemary. Bring to a low boil and simmer until sauce reduces and thickens, about 25 minutes.
3. Grill wings as usual. Thinly slice and seed remaining lemons, dip in sauce and grill alongside the wings.
4. Toss cooked wings with sauce, dust with salt and garnish with grilled lemons.

Prioritize Safety Year-Round



Gary W. Ray, CEO

At Jones-Onslow EMC, we recognize Electrical Safety Month every May but also know the importance of practicing safety year-round. From our co-op crews to you, our consumer-members we serve, we realize that everyone has a part to play in prioritizing safety.

According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International, thousands of people in the United States are critically injured or electrocuted because of electrical fires and accidents in their own homes. Many of these accidents are preventable. Electricity is a necessity, and it powers our daily lives. But we know first-hand how dangerous electricity can be because we work with it 365 days a year.

To me, safety is more than a catchphrase. As CEO, it's my responsibility to keep co-op employees safe. Additionally, we want to help keep you and all members of our community safe. That's why you'll

see JOEMC providing safety demonstrations at community events and schools throughout the year to demonstrate the dangers of electricity. We discuss emergency scenarios, such as what to do in a car accident involving a utility pole and downed power lines. And we caution students about the dangers of pad-mounted transformers and overloading circuits with too many electronic devices.

Electricity is an integral part of modern life. Given the prevalence of electrical devices, tools, and appliances, I'd like to pass along a few practical electrical safety tips.

Frayed wires pose a serious safety hazard. Power cords can become damaged or frayed from age, heavy use, or excessive current flow through the wiring. If cords become frayed or cut, replace them, as they could cause a shock when handled.

Avoid overloading circuits. Circuits can only cope with a limited amount of electricity. Overload happens when you draw more electricity than a circuit can safely handle—by having too many devices running on one circuit.

Label circuit breakers to understand the circuits in your home. Contact a qualified electrician if your

home is over 40 years old and you need to install multiple large appliances that consume large amounts of electricity.

Use extension cords properly. Never plug an extension cord into another extension cord. If you "daisy chain" them together, it could lead to overheating, creating a potential fire hazard. Don't exceed the wattage of the cord. Doing so also creates a risk of overloading the cord and creating a fire hazard. Extension cords should not be used as permanent solutions. If you need additional outlets, contact a licensed electrician to help.

I encourage you to talk with your kids about playing it safe and smart around electricity. Help them be aware of overhead power lines near where they play outdoors.

Our top priority is providing an uninterrupted energy supply 24/7, 365 days per year. But equally important is keeping our community safe around electricity.

Contact the co-op for additional electrical safety tips or if you want us to provide a safety demonstration at your school or upcoming community event.



Looking for an easy way to manage home energy use? Smart plugs are inexpensive and offer convenient solutions for scheduling and controlling your favorite electronic devices.

With smart plugs, you can easily manage your coffee maker, lighting, home office equipment, video game consoles and more. Smart plugs can help you manage devices through a smartphone app, your home assistant or voice control. By conveniently powering off or scheduling devices, you can save energy (and money!).

Source: energystar.gov



Our offices will be
closed May 27
for Memorial Day

