



Stay Safe and Amp up the Fun!

Summer is the perfect time for beach trips, backyard cookouts, and camping getaways—but wherever your plans take you, electrical safety should always be part of the fun. At Jones-Onslow EMC, we want to help you make the most of the season while staying safe.

Outdoor Electrical Safety Tips for Summer Adventures



At the beach or pool, keep all electrical devices away from water and sand, and opt for battery-powered or waterproof equipment whenever possible. Be mindful of your surroundings—umbrellas,

canopies, and beach tents should always stay clear of overhead power lines.



If you're hosting outdoor gatherings, use only extension cords rated for outdoor use and position them safely to avoid tripping. Always inspect cords for dam-

age and avoid overloading outlets or power strips with too many devices.



For those camping or RVing, make sure to use only electrical hookups designed for those environments. Regularly check cords and connections for wear, avoid overloading your RV's system, and use ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs)

near any water source.

By taking a few simple precautions, you can reduce the risk of accidents and focus on making memories. Share these tips with friends and family to help keep everyone safe and energized for a fantastic summer!



WHAT'S YOURS & WHAT'S OURS

Understanding Electric Equipment Responsibilities

As July rolls in with longer days and rising temperatures, it also brings the increased potential for severe weather. Summer storms can arrive quickly and hit hard, sometimes causing significant damage to essential electric equipment throughout our community.

At JOEMC, we're always ready to respond swiftly to outages and restore power safely. However, it's also important for homeowners to understand which parts of the electric system are their responsibility and which are maintained by us at the co-op. Knowing these key differences can help speed up repairs and ensure everyone's safety during storm recovery.

What JOEMC is responsible for:

We maintain and repair the equipment and lines that deliver power to your home, including:

- Utility poles
- Distribution power lines
- Electric meters
- Pole and Padmounted transformers
- Any overhead/underground service lines running to the meter

What homeowners are responsible for:

As a JOEMC member, you're responsible for the equipment between the electric meter and your home or business. This includes:

- The meter base & service panel
- Any lines running from the service panel into the structure
- The weatherhead and service mast located outside the home

If any of this homeowner-owned equipment is damaged, it's essential to contact a licensed electrician for repairs. Only a qualified professional has the expertise to safely assess and fix this type of damage.

Please note: If your equipment is damaged, necessary repairs must be completed **before** JOEMC crews can safely restore power to your home or business. Understanding your responsibilities can help make the repair and restoration process faster and more efficient.

Tree Maintenance and Storm Preparation

We all take pride in the natural beauty of our community. But maintaining trees and vegetation is also vital for reliable electric service, especially during storm season. JOEMC

regularly trims trees around power lines throughout our service area to reduce the risk of outages. If you notice a tree limb touching or obstructing a distribution line, please contact us so we can address the issue.

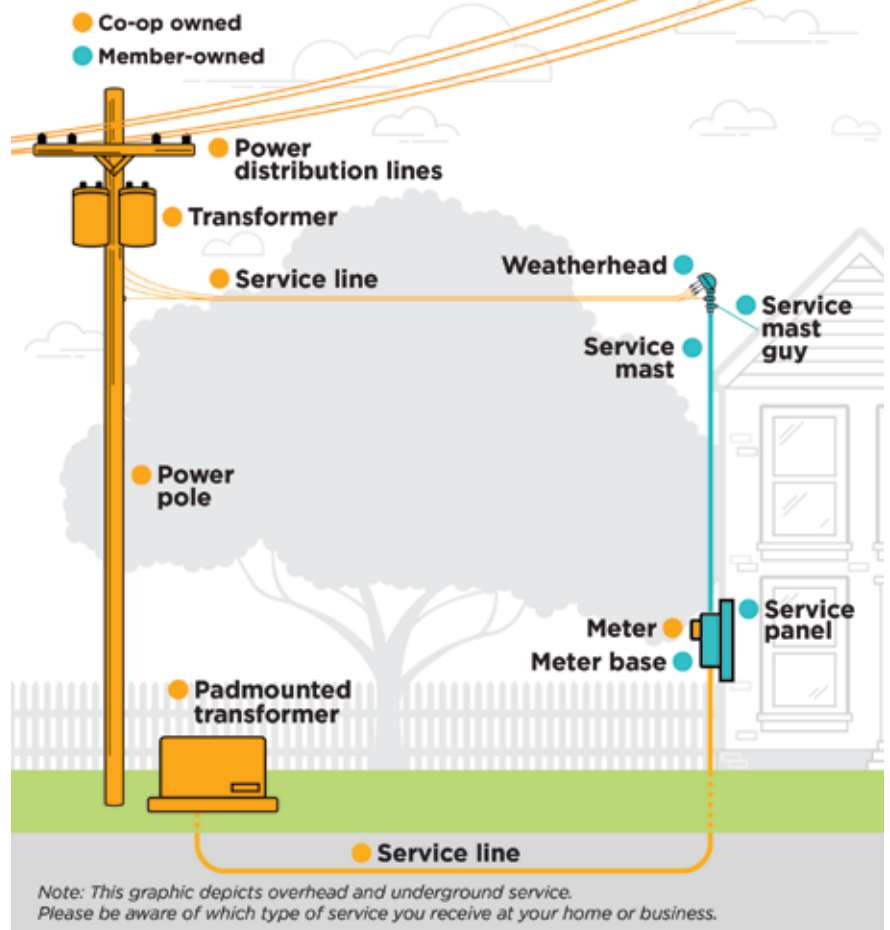
By working together to understand and maintain the equipment that powers our lives, we can all help ensure a faster and safer response when severe weather hits.

Have questions about your electric service or equipment? We're here to help—contact us at **910-353-1940**.

Who Owns What?

Electric Co-op Owned Equipment vs Member-Owned Equipment

This graphic depicts equipment owned by the co-op (in gold) and the member (in blue). If a storm damages any equipment owned by the co-op, we are responsible for repairs. If a storm damages any member-owned equipment, the member is responsible for repairs. Members should hire a licensed electrician when making any repairs to member-owned equipment.



Scholarships Awarded to Local Students

Annually, JOEMC funds scholarships for students in our communities. This year, we awarded thirty-three outstanding students: twenty-six were graduating high school seniors, and seven were community college students.

Some recipients were selected by the Sponsors for Academic Talent, and others were selected by local school staff. Students received scholarships at various events held at their local school in May. The seven community college students were chosen by the local College Foundation at the college and were given their scholarship award letter during the academic year.

The \$1,500 scholarships will assist the youth as they continue their academic endeavors.

The cooperative is proud of these students and all of their achievements. Congratulations to all of you!

Congratulations to the Recipients

Onslow County SAT Scholars: Christine Doucette, Lily Shirley, Alayna Trackwell, Aiden Davis, Shelbie Missel, Emma Batchelor, Jesse Osborne, Austin Smith, Justice Johnson, Aiden Nolam, Grace Nowalk, Joshua Ledbeter, Madison Smith, Alena Wade, Xiomara Orozco, Sean Chadwick.

East Duplin: Ellison Kennedy, Riley Brooks. **Lejeune:** Elijah Cooley, Annalise Linzey. **Topsail:** Olivia Anderson, Sophia Al-Hashimi. **South**

Lenoir: Tanner Dawson, Kaitlyn Hardy. **Jones Senior:** Kaitlyn Crompton, Mary Murphy. **CCCC:** Patricia Johnson, Brady Jarman. **LCC:** Ja'Niya Baker, Chelsi Guadarrama. **CFCC:** Marisa Cowperthwaite, Darian Church, Alexis Dickey.



Take advantage of the warmer weather to reduce home energy use. Avoid using your oven and use a grill instead. Not only will cooking outdoors eliminate the electricity used to power the stove, but it will also avoid raising the temperature inside your home, reducing the need for additional air conditioning. You can also avoid using the oven with tasty no-bake recipes. Get creative in the kitchen and explore new ways to save energy!

Source: energy.gov

Hot Weather, Cool Savings

Master the Art of Summer Energy Efficiency and Lower Your Electric Bill

As summer temperatures soar, your energy use can climb right along with the thermostat. But beating the heat doesn't have to mean busting your budget. With a few smart strategies, you can stay cool and save energy at the same time.

Set Your Thermostat Smartly

Keep your thermostat set at 78°F or higher when you're home. It might feel warm at first, but every degree higher can lead to significant savings. Cranking the A/C too low forces your system to work overtime, which leads to higher bills—and more wear and tear on your unit.

Rethink Heat-Generating Appliances

Your dryer, oven, and water heater all contribute to your home's heat load. Try these tips to cut down on energy waste:

- **Cook cool:** Use the grill instead of the stove or oven on hot days.
- **Shower efficiently:** Take shorter showers and use your bathroom exhaust fan just long enough to reduce humidity.

- **Dry smart:** Avoid running the dryer during peak heat hours. Clean out the lint trap, use shorter cycles, or better yet—hang your clothes up to dry.

Keep Cool the Easy Way

Small changes can have a big impact when it comes to keeping your home comfortable:

- **Switch to LEDs:** They emit less heat and use less energy than traditional bulbs.
- **Use appliances wisely:** Run full loads in your dishwasher and washing machine.
- **Block the sun:** Close blinds and curtains during the hottest parts of the day.
- **Seal the cool in:** Make sure windows and doors are tightly closed.
- **Use fans wisely:** Fans cool people, not rooms. Turn them off when you leave the room.

With just a little effort, you can turn up the comfort and turn down your electric bill. Stay cool out there, and remember: energy efficiency doesn't take a vacation.

How Electricity Gets to Your Home

Understanding the Journey of Electricity with Jones-Onslow EMC



Gary Ray, CEO

At Jones-Onslow EMC, we know electricity powers your everyday life—from brewing your morning coffee to turning on the lights at night. But many people don't think about how that electricity gets to their homes. As your local electric cooperative, we believe it's important for our members to understand the journey electricity takes and the role we play in delivering safe, reliable power to you.

First, it's essential to know that Jones-Onslow EMC is a distribution cooperative. That means we don't generate electricity ourselves. Instead, we purchase it from large power producers and then deliver it directly to homes and businesses throughout our service area. Think of us as the local team that makes sure electricity gets where it needs to go—quickly, safely, and efficiently.

Here's a simple breakdown of how electricity reaches your home:

- 1. Power Generation:** It all starts at a power plant. These facilities generate electricity using a variety of fuel sources, including natural gas, coal, nuclear energy, and renewable sources such as solar, wind, and hydropower. The electricity generated here is what eventually powers your home.
- 2. Transmission:** After generation, electricity travels over long distances through high-voltage transmission lines. These large towers and lines carry power from the generation plants to substations located closer to your community.
- 3. Distribution:** This is where Jones-Onslow EMC steps in. From the substations, we take over. Our network of poles, wires, transformers, and underground lines distributes electricity throughout neighborhoods, towns, and rural areas—right to your front door.

This last step is at the heart of what we do. We maintain and operate more than 2,400 miles of power lines, serving over 71,000 members across many communities. Behind the scenes, our crews work day and night—in all weather conditions—to monitor the system, respond to outages, and ensure that power is delivered safely and reliably to each member we serve.

As a member-owned cooperative, we're not just your power provider—we're your neighbors, too. Our focus is on serving you, not shareholders. That's why we invest in our system, improve reliability, and look for ways to keep costs reasonable and service dependable.

Understanding how your power gets to your home helps you see the big picture—and the vital role each part of the process plays. We're proud to be the link that brings electricity from generation to your doorstep, and we're committed to keeping that connection strong every single day.

For more information about how we deliver power and how you can manage your energy use, visit joemc.com.



WALKING MEXICAN STREET CORN

Enjoy your shindig with this simple, make-ahead side made for snacking. Prepare ingredients a day ahead and stir together at serving time for guests to “walk and talk” while feasting.

Serves: 6–8

Source: www.carolinacountry.com

INGREDIENTS

10–12 ears of fresh corn (6–8 cups)
6 tablespoons Mexican table cream
6 tablespoons mayonnaise (we use Duke's)
1 bunch green onions, chopped (1 cup)
 $\frac{2}{3}$ cup cilantro, loosely packed
3–4 cloves fresh garlic, minced
2 tablespoons juice and zest of 1 lime
2 tablespoons juice and zest of 1 orange
1 tablespoon chili powder, divided
1 cup cotija cheese, crumbled and divided
Salt and pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

- Shuck and wash corn. Lightly roast on the grill or on gas stove burners. Cool and cut corn from cobs into mixing bowl.
- While the corn is cooking, mix the cream with mayonnaise. Set aside.
- At serving time, combine onions, cilantro, garlic, zest with juice and 2 teaspoons of chili powder with corn. Stir in crema mixture. Fold in $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of the cheese. Taste and add salt and pepper as desired.
- Spoon into cups. Garnish with chili powder, plus the remainder of cheese and cilantro.
- We used fun 4-ounce ice cream cups for serving.

