



For All Your Customer Service Needs,
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Automated Outage Reporting

1-888-BLURIDGE
www.blueridge.coop

Pickens

P.O. Box 277
734 West Main St.
Pickens, SC 29671

Oconee

P.O. Box 329
2328 Sandifer Blvd.
Highway 123
Westminster, SC 29693

Anderson

1212 North Fant St.
Anderson, SC 29622

Greenville

3751 Highway 11
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

Mission Statement

Blue Ridge will be a competitive, quality provider of energy and other services, maintaining its history of integrity and adapting to the challenges of a changing world. While exercising leadership in the community, the organization's focus will be on exceeding customer expectations.

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

A beneficial program

WITH CONSISTENT REGULARITY, Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative members are stepping forward to take advantage of our heat-pump loan program. This program has been in place for nearly two decades now, and its popularity is as strong as ever.



Those members needing to replace an existing heating-and-cooling system would find a heat-pump loan to be an attractive option. For one thing, the loan program is designed to help homeowners achieve greater energy efficiency. Financing is made available for only high-efficiency heat-pump units—those with a SEER rating of 14 or more.

Favorable financing

In addition, the cooperative's terms of financing are quite favorable. A loan can be secured at the standard low interest rate of 7.5 percent. Under the program, as many as two new heat pumps for an individual dwelling can be purchased and installed.

Once the loan is approved, the installment payments can be included on the member's monthly electric bill. The member can also select a period as long as 60 months to pay down the loan.

Blue Ridge member-service employees are here to guide inquirers

through what is a surprisingly easy loan-application process. The cooperative also has a list of certified area heat-pump dealers from which to choose. That helps to ensure the member will receive both a quality product and a professional installation. Furthermore, the cooperative's energy conservation advisor will come to the premises to inspect the installation to make certain the work has been performed in accordance with the program specifications.

Just the ticket

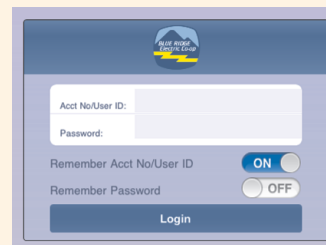
There's never a bad time to be in the market for a replacement heat pump. At this season of the year, however, with the start of cold weather just over the horizon, a new high-efficiency heat pump might be just the ticket.

At Blue Ridge, we're all about helping members conserve energy while, at the same time, living in comfort. I encourage you to visit one of our convenient offices or call or email our member service center for all the details on this beneficial program. It would be our pleasure to be of assistance.

Charles E. Dalton
President and CEO

BREC app is ready for your mobile lifestyle!

Designed to be installed on the iPhone, iPad, or the Android phone or tablet, the new BREC app allows you to see your account information, pay your bill or sign up for alerts and reminders on your mobile device. Download our app today and take Blue Ridge wherever you go.



Renters have the power to save electricity



BY MAGEN HOWARD

IF YOU RENT your home, it often seems that you can't do much to control your electric bills. But in reality, there are lots of low- or no-cost tricks that you can put into place to cut down on electricity use.

The notion that regularly powering down your computer will shorten its life is outdated. Nowadays, computers tend to become outdated themselves before frequent shutdowns cause any damage. The U.S. Department of Energy consumer website, EnergySavers.gov, offers this guideline: If you won't use your computer for more than 20 minutes, shut off the monitor; if you won't use it for more than two hours, shut the whole thing down.

However, there is a caveat: If your computer takes its time waking up, your own time might be worth more than the electricity you save.

Most electronics feature a glowing light when turned off—that means they're still drawing electricity. A quick fix for this “vampire,” or phantom, load involves plugging various devices into a power strip. Simply

flip the switch on the power strip when you won't be using the devices.

Weatherizing

A roll of weatherstripping and a tube of caulk can go a long way in saving energy and money. Check for gaps around doors and windows. Can you see daylight? If so, ask your landlord if you can seal cracks and reduce air flow.

Look to your windows for additional savings. Of course, you probably can't replace them, but if they're drafty in the winter, try sealing kits you can purchase at any home improvement store. These plastic sheets fit over your

window to block drafts. Curtains can also help—close them in the summer to block sunlight, and open them in the winter to let the warmth in.

Useful tips

A few more simple tips can help shave your electric bills:

- ▶ When lightbulbs burn out, replace them with compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs). If they have an ENERGY STAR label, these bulbs typically last up to 10 times longer than traditional incandescent bulbs and use 75 percent less electricity.
- ▶ Use your vacuum to clean coils in the bottom panel of your refrigerator. Similarly, keep your dryer vents clean.

Clogged refrigerator coils and dryer vents will cause your appliances to work harder and increase the risk of fire.

- ▶ Don't allow furniture to block air vents, and shut the vents in rooms you don't use.
- ▶ Check the temperature on your water heater. These devices don't need to be set at more than 120 degrees Fahrenheit for daily showers and chores.

When you're trying to save energy and money, it's good to know you're not alone. Visit blueridge.coop for more energy-saving tips.

Sources: U.S. Department of Energy (EnergySavers.gov), Cooperative Research Network



PUBLIC AUCTION

Saturday, Sept. 29—10 a.m.
Preview Friday, Sept. 28, 9 a.m.—2 p.m.

Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, Inc., EQUIPMENT FACILITY, 734 West Main St., Pickens

VEHICLES



A Limited Selection of Miscellaneous Supplies
Office furniture and equipment, combo winch mounts and winches, truck tool boxes, metal folding chairs, and computer products

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