Line Items
The Official Newsletter Of Excelsior EMC
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GIVE YOUR OUTDOOR LIGHTING AN LED MAKEOVER

Outdoor lighting enhances your home's architectural features and landscaping, increases security and safety, and creates a warm and welcoming atmosphere once the sun goes down. If you're still using outdated halogen lighting, it's time to consider a refresh to light-emitting diode, or LED, lights.

Thanks to technology advances and price drops in recent years, LED landscape lighting is now the preferred type. LEDs use 25 to 30 percent of the energy and last up to 25 times longer than halogen incandescent, according to Energy.gov.

Here are a few reasons for homeowners to make the switch from traditional halogen bulbs to LEDs for all outdoor lighting applications:

1. LONGEVITY

A typical LED light can last about 50,000 hours, or nearly 20 years in the average outdoor application. Halogen bulbs, which have a maximum life of about 3,600 hours, must be replaced every one to two years. Longer life means lower maintenance.

2. ENERGY EFFICIENCY

LED lighting consumes up to 80 percent less power than halogen bulbs. A 30 watt halogen bulb can be replaced with a 5 watt LED bulb to produce the equivalent light. The reason: Most of the energy powering an LED bulb converts into light while more than 90 percent of a halogen bulb's energy gets wasted as heat.

3. DURABILITY

Halogen lights are fragile and break easily. LEDs are much more durable.

4. VERSATILITY

LED landscape lighting rivals other options, offering a wide and varied range of beam angles, colors and wattages. LED fixtures now offer more inviting "warm light" hues and offer a level of consistency between fixtures that is superior to halogen bulbs.

5. TURNS ON INSTANTLY

Same as halogen bulbs, LED diodes turn on instantly in milliseconds. That's why LEDs are widely used in motion-activated floodlights.

6. EASY CONVERSION

Most landscape lighting systems currently using low-voltage halogen bulbs can be easily converted to LEDs. A change of bulbs is all that's required.

7. ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

LEDs can be recycled. Traditional halogen lights contain mercury and can't be recycled.

8. LONG-TERM SAVINGS

Although an LED outdoor lighting system may initially cost a little more, the long-term savings are significant. Depending on the size of the system, it could begin paying for itself in both energy savings and reduced maintenance expenses in three to four years.

Prices on LEDs continue to drop, making them an even better bargain for outdoor lighting. In addition to residential uses, LEDs are also replacing halogen sources for commercial applications such as parking lot lighting and streetlights.

Line Items

Bronson Bragdon
Editor

When Your Power Is Off --- Call
(912) 685-2115 or (912) 764-2123

When your power goes off, don't stay in the dark longer than you have to. To restore your power as quickly as possible, we need your correct phone number. Your phone number is the quickest way for us to locate your home or business when you call to report an outage.

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Between the Lines

by Greg Proctor
President/CEO

RIGHT-OF-WAY UPDATE

Keeping vegetation growth a reasonable distance from power lines keeps your electric service reliable. Limbs brushing against power lines can cause blinks and temporary outages. If limbs that overhang power lines are properly managed, you're also less likely to have a prolonged outage when storms come to call. The major cause of storm related outages is when ice or wind breaks limbs that bring our lines crashing down.

We presently have a three-man and a five-man crew trimming in the Stillmore Substation area. These crews should complete their work in this area in September. After completing the Stillmore Substation, they will move to the Northeast Emanuel Substation area and work there until year-end.

We also have a seven-man crew trimming right-of-way in the Metter Primary Substation area. This crew should complete their work on this substation by the end of the year.

QUICKREAD
The only way to combat vegetation related outages is to keep the undergrowth and trees away from the power lines.

Beginning in early May and continuing throughout the summer, our spraying contract crews will be spraying right-of-way in the Lake Church, Lillian Street and North Circuits on the Metter Primary Substation. They will also spray the Register and Stillmore Substation areas as well. We have 691 total miles of power lines to be sprayed in these three substation areas in 2019.

If you are making plans to plant trees, shrubbery or other plants, please take note of where the power lines are located. Also, don't forget that the power line may be underground. Call 811 to request a dig ticket before you begin planting. Remember we maintain 15 feet on each side of single-phase lines and 20 feet on each side of a multi-phase line. Newly planted trees within this 15 to 20-foot area on each side of the power line will be sprayed when our crews come through the area. These lost trees can be avoided by not planting near power lines.

We have approximately 2,800 miles of primary line throughout our eight-county service area. It takes four years to complete a side-trimming or spraying cycle. With this large amount of right-of-way to maintain, your cooperation is needed and is greatly appreciated as we go about our job of keeping the power on. Please contact our office if you have any questions about planting trees or right-of-way in general.

HIGH VOLTAGE EQUIPMENT TESTING

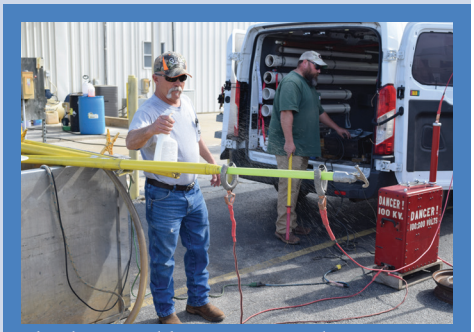
(Left to right) Technicians Chuck Reynolds and Billy Pump pose for a photo beside a water tank they use to test bucket liners. A liner is submersed in the tank and high voltage is applied to the water inside of the bucket liner for several minutes while water in the tank surrounding the liner is tested for voltage. If any voltage is recorded, the liner fails its test.

Technicians conduct a visual inspection of the truck's boom components before testing.

In February, Southeastern Testing Lab employees Billy Pump and Chuck Reynolds arrived at Excelsior EMC to conduct routine high voltage equipment tests to ensure that the equipment used by our linemen on a daily basis meets required dielectric safety standards. The equipment tested during these tests consists of the fiberglass work buckets, their liners, and electrically insulated boom components from each of our utility trucks, as well as the 35' extendable fiberglass poles that allow our lineman to work on overhead lines from ground level.

Because safety has been and always will be Excelsior EMC's top priority, we ensure these tests are done every six months to keep our linemen safe.

This testing transformer produces up to 100,000 volts of electricity!



Chuck Reynolds sprays a solution on an extendable fiberglass pole while the high voltage testing board applies voltage to test the pole's electrical insulation value.

NEW FACE AT EXCELSIOR EMC

Hunter Young

Hunter Young was recently hired as Line Construction Groundman. He will work with our line construction crews as an assistant to linemen in building and maintaining the distribution system that supplies power to our members.

Hunter is a recent graduate of Metter High School, he attends Grace Community Church, and he enjoys working, hunting, and fishing. He is excited to have the opportunity to uphold Excelsior EMC's excellent standards of service. Please help welcome Hunter to the Excelsior EMC team.

LEARNING TO SERVE

On behalf of Excelsior EMC, Howard Porter graciously accepts a tray of sweets from Alana Bruner.

Alana Bruner, daughter of Chris and Kevin Bruner of Excelsior, hand delivered some homemade sweets to the Excelsior EMC office as part of the Learning to Serve Project in her K-5 class at Pinewood Elementary School. This project teaches students the importance of serving someone else and how beneficial it can be for everyone involved.

All of us at Excelsior EMC would like to thank Alana for the delicious sweets and kind gesture!

Notice of Capital Credit Assignments for the Year 2018

Because of the cooperative structure of Excelsior EMC and the by-laws under which it operates, assignment of capital supplied by each member each year must be made and recorded on the Cooperative's books.

This assignment is made by applying the percentage of the Cooperative's margins (revenues in excess of expenses) to the member's total billing for the year. In addition to this, margins are assigned to Excelsior EMC by other organizations with which it is associated such as Oglethorpe Power Corporation (our wholesale power supplier). The percentage assigned from these associated organizations is assigned to each member each year in the same manner as explained above.

General retirement of capital credits has previously been made for the years 1938 through 1950. Currently, capital credits are used by your Cooperative for the expansion of general plant and facilities. It is in effect, invested in poles, wire, transformers, substations and other property owned by the Cooperative. This use of capital credits helps lower the Cooperative's needs for borrowed funds and reduces overall indebtedness.

The assignment factor resulting from Excelsior EMC's margins for the year 2018 for all rates is 0.07693055. The assignment factor resulting from associated organizations for the year 2018 for all rates is 0.02293133.

Shown in the table below are examples of the manner in which your capital credit assignment has been determined. To compute your individual assignment, you need only to apply the assignment factor to the total of your power bill (before taxes) for the appropriate year. If you have any questions about your capital credit assignments, or if you would like for the Cooperative to compute your assignments please call your Cooperative's office in Metter.

YOUR CAPITAL CREDITS MAY NOT BE CREDITED AGAINST YOUR BILLING FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE

CAPITAL CREDIT ILLUSTRATION TABLE

YEAR	ASSIGNMENT FACTOR	IF YOUR TOTAL BILLS WERE:	$300.00	$600.00	$1,000.00
2018	0.07693055	Patronage Capital Assigned From Excelsior EMC	$23.08	$46.16	$76.93
2018	0.02293133	Patronage Capital Assigned From Associated Organizations	$ 6.88	$13.76	$22.93

EDITOR'S NOTE – ASSIGNMENTS OF CAPITAL CREDITS IN THIS MANNER MEETS NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND SAVES YOUR COOPERATIVE MANY DOLLARS IN PRINTING AND MAILING COSTS.

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