

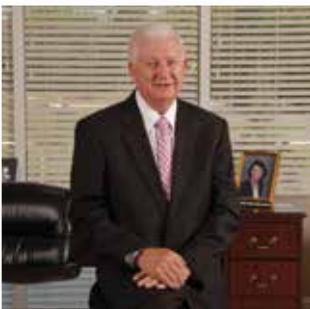
## Manager's Message

As your trusted energy provider, Brunswick Electric constantly looks to improve the ways in which we serve you.

Keeping costs down, and reliability up, are our goals. Concern for Community is also one of our guiding principles, so evaluating and determining the benefits of new technologies like renewable energy options for our members is something we take very seriously at the co-op.

Traditional energy sources such as coal, oil and natural gas are finite resources, and as we look to the future it's important to strike a balance between those sources and renewable sources of energy. Energy derived from solar, wind, geothermal and hydroelectric sources are naturally replenished, and each has its own benefits and barriers. Wind and solar, for example, are both variable and uncertain. However, a consistent level of energy production is necessary to maximize the efficiency of the grid system. This helps the cooperative avoid paying peak prices at the time of highest energy use, such as hot summer days. So, to solve this problem, many in the industry have been working on ways to store the energy produced by solar and wind technology so that it can be used when it is needed. This helps level out demand. Great strides are being made in this area, and this is just one example of the challenges and complexities of integrating renewables into our energy mix.

BEMC is an industry leader, and we never consider a new technology just because it is popular to do so. We carefully research and evaluate the costs and benefits and what effect they may have on our membership, now and as we continue to grow. The future is here, with new opportunities in renewables as well as other progressive programs like Brunswick Electric's programmable thermostats and electric vehicle charging stations. We want you to know that your cooperative is aware of and evaluating all the possibilities on the horizon. Because together, we are building a brighter tomorrow for all of us.



*Don Hughes*

Don Hughes,  
CEO/General Manager

## Generator Safety Tips

If your preparations for hurricane season include the purchase of a portable generator, make sure you know how to use it safely before installing it. **Here are a few tips to help you:**

- Always read and follow the manufacturer's instructions before using the generator
- Set up and run your generator in a well-ventilated area outside the home, away from your garage, doors, windows and vents to avoid the carbon monoxide it generates
- Use heavy-duty extension cords to connect appliances to the outlets on the generator
- Turn the generator on before connecting appliances
- Turn your appliances and lights on one at a time to avoid overloading the unit



# Understanding your solar energy options

Solar-powered energy is one of the most popular forms of renewable energy today and Brunswick Electric receives questions regularly about our solar programs and how our members can use it to their advantage. Here's what we offer:

**COMMUNITY SOLAR** – The Community Solar program is just what it sounds like; it's for the community as a whole. Rather than going to the expense and hassle of installing and maintaining your own solar panels, members can lease panels from one of two BEMC Community Solar farms. Members will receive a credit on their monthly bill for the output power generated by the panels they lease. This option won't pay your electric bill for you, but it will give you the satisfaction of knowing you're doing your part in caring for the environment. Community Solar is especially ideal for renters and condo owners who are not able to install their own solar arrays due to property restrictions.



Community Solar 



**ROOFTOP SOLAR** – Brunswick Electric works with homeowners and business owners who want to install small solar arrays on their property. Through our net metering program these members receive retail credit for a portion of the electricity their panels generate. BEMC does not offer any special incentives for rooftop solar programs at this time.

**CONTRACT SOLAR FARMS** – Occasionally a commercial entity will express interest in building larger solar farms in our service territory. While BEMC is not involved with the process of land purchases between these entities and land-owners, we are involved with determining the feasibility and connectivity to our lines. The cooperative will purchase electricity generated from these solar farms as required by law.

To learn more about these options and the requirements to connect a solar array to Brunswick Electric's distribution system, review the Interconnection Process and Procedures document found on [bemc.org](http://bemc.org) under Energy Info. For more information about our Community Solar program, call customer service at 800-842-5871, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

# SOLAR FAQ

- **Does BEMC lease or buy land from members to build solar farms?**

No. BEMC does not buy land to develop solar farms. The only solar arrays BEMC has are two community solar farms and those were built on BEMC substation property by our statewide organization, NCEMC.

- **I have land and I'm interested in installing a solar farm. What should I do?**

Contact a third-party solar developer who would provide you with feasibility studies for a prospective farm. BEMC does not advocate for one solar developer over another, however we recommend you research all available options before selecting a developer.

- **I am planning to add a solar array to my home. How does BEMC buy the power the array produces?**

We give you credit through our net metering program for the power produced by your solar array that you don't use for powering your home. For example, if you generate 30 kWh in a day and only use 15 kWh in your home that day, then you will receive a credit from us for the unused 15 kWh.

- **Are there restrictions where I can put a solar array on my property?**

Before installing solar panels you should review the Interconnection Process and Procedures document located on [bemc.org](http://bemc.org) under Energy Info. This document outlines the process you will need to follow to connect to our distribution lines.

## Watts-for-Sale

**EdenPURE Quartz space heater**, infrared, portable, never used, paid \$400, asking \$150; 287-5505

**Coleman Canoe**, 15' fiberglass, \$200; 579-0986

**2 display cases**, oak w/glass doors, both hold 63 golf balls, \$55 ea.; golf balls with NC/SC course logos available; 575-0527

**Bicycles**, tandem auto bike & recumbent bike, like new, \$150 ea.; 843-222-2487

**2000 Panasonic TV**, good cond., FREE; 754-3295

**Bag Boy Express GX Pro Push cart**, includes pump, rain canopy & umbrella kit, both new, in box, \$100; 603-502-0933

**Ladies golf clubs**, left-handed, bag included, good cond., great starter set, \$35; 228-2358

**3 lots in Village of Calabash**, amenities, 2 lots side-by-side, 1 cleared, POA \$150/yr., \$25,000 per lot OBO; 540-0863

**Golf cart**, almost new; Grasshopper lawn mower; 579-6064

**1997 Ford Mustang Cobra**, convertible, black, 5 speed, new tires, exc. cond., \$7,200 or make offer; 617-1917

**Dining set**, solid wood, table, 2 removable leaves, 6 upholstered chairs, buffet/hutch, paid \$6,600, asking \$2,500; 575-6917

**1996 Chevy Caprice Classic**, leather seats, fully loaded, LT 15.7 V8 engine, sport suspension, garage kept, 63k miles, \$6,500; 371-1046

**Land**, mountainous, Wilkes County, near Boone NC, 54 ± undeveloped acres on US Hwy 421, stream, \$199,900; 269-1339

**Currier Piano**, standard upright; 619-2726

**Fine furniture**, many miscellaneous items; 383-0133

**Total Gym 1500 home gym**, like new, used only a few times, many extra parts included, \$100; 755-0049

**Stair Climber**, like new, paid \$400, asking \$200; 575-6416

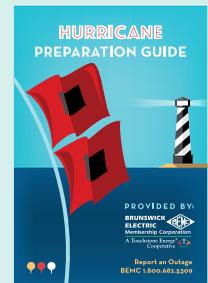
**John Deere 430 tractor**, 3 point hitch, dump bucket, \$3,500; 253-8156

### Prepare now for the 2018 hurricane season

The season starts June 1 and ends November 30.

The start of hurricane season is the ideal time to update your safety plans and to replenish your stash of emergency supplies. Take time now to stock up on water and non-perishable foods, and develop a family communication plan so your whole family knows what to do in case you need to evacuate.

Brunswick Electric has developed a handy guide packed full of information to help you prepare your family and your home for severe weather. Pick up a copy of the hurricane guide from any of our offices today, or download a copy at [bemc.org](http://bemc.org).



### Attention Teachers:

BEMC is currently accepting Bright Ideas grant applications for the 2018-19 school year. Learn more at [NCBrightIdeas.com](http://NCBrightIdeas.com).



**HOW TO SUBMIT AN AD:** Ads must be received via email or fax no later than the first of each month. Ads will then appear in the following month's publication due to the printing schedule. Example: If ad is received by June 1, it will appear in the July issue of Carolina Country magazine. This is a free service for BEMC members to advertise non-commercial items for sale. Ads run ONE TIME, are limited to three lines, and only one phone number. We reserve the right to edit or refuse ads due to content, length or AVAILABLE SPACE. Please no email addresses, names or repeat ads. All numbers are 910 area code unless otherwise listed. Some mobile providers require 10-digit dialing. BEMC does not endorse items advertised and is not responsible for reliability of items.

**E-MAIL:** [watts4sale@bemc.org](mailto:watts4sale@bemc.org) **MAIL:** BEMC, Attn: Watts For Sale, PO Box 826, Shallotte, NC 28459. **FAX:** (910) 755-4299



**CUSTOMER SERVICE (800)842-5871 | OUTAGE REPORTING (800)682-5309**

Shallotte (910)754-4391 | Southport / Oak Island (910)457-9808 | Whiteville (910)642-5011

**P.O. Box 826, Shallotte, NC 28459**

**[www.bemc.org](http://www.bemc.org) | email: [newsletter@bemc.org](mailto:newsletter@bemc.org) | Auto bill payment 24/7 (866)934-6830**



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