



# POWER FACTS

An informational publication for members of Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative concerning electricity and related subjects.

JULY 2011

## Get Ready For a Fun-Filled Fourth!

It's America's birthday, and it's a perfect time for mid-summer fun with friends and family. But use a little caution as you celebrate.

- \* Delegate a responsible adult to supervise sports and games.
- \* Make sure someone is always in charge of the outdoor grill, camp-fire or barbeque.
- \* Use extreme caution with fireworks; make sure a knowledgeable person handles the fireworks display.
- \* Don't overdo on food and drinks - there's always tomorrow.

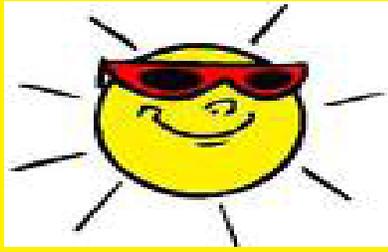
Make your holiday festivities the best ever with a little thoughtful pre-planning. And, enjoy our nation's birthday!!

### VACATION TIME!!

Pack up the kids, the dog, the half ton of luggage, and you're off! But wait! Who's home alone working while everyone is gone? Your electric meter.

Remember that your meter continues to measure the usage of your electric water heater, refrigerator and freezer, your clocks, attic fans, air-conditioning units, lights and TV sets.

So, turn that A/C off and unplug any other unnecessary electrical devices before you head out on that vacation.



## Summer Energy Saving Tips

With temperatures hitting the 90s so early this year, we will all be turning those air conditioners down, hitting the pool and staying inside a lot more. Help stay cool this summer and save on your electric bill by using these energy saving tips:

- \* Keep the thermostat at 78° when at home and 85° when away. Use ceiling or room fans to circulate the air. This allows you to keep the thermostat set higher, so the unit will run less.
- \* Wash laundry by using cold or warm water instead of hot. Line dry clothes whenever possible.
- \* Fire up the grill in the afternoons to cook your meat and use the microwave to fix side dishes. Microwaves use 2/3 less energy than a stove.
- \* Reduce operating time for pool filters and automatic sweepers to between 4-5 hours instead of all day.
- \* Replace or clean your cooling system's air filter monthly for maximum energy efficiency.

Try this no-bake dessert -  
**Lemon-Berry Trifle**



What you will need:

- 2-1/2 cups cold milk
- 2 pkg. (3.4 oz each) JELL-O Lemon Flavor Instant Pudding
- 2 cups thawed Cool Whip
- 4 cups mixed berries (blueberries, raspberries, sliced strawberries)
- 42 Nilla Wafers

Beat milk and pudding mixes in large bowl with whisk for 2 min. Stir in 1-1/2 cups Cool Whip. Reserve 1/4 cup of berries for garnish.

Arrange 21 wafers on bottom and up side of 2-1/2 qt. bowl; top with layers of 1/3 of the pudding mixture and half each of the berries and remaining pudding mixture. Top with layers of remaining wafers, berries, pudding mixture and Cool Whip. Garnish with reserved berries.

Refrigerate for 1 hr before serving.

Our Offices will be closed on Monday, July 4th, in observance of Independence Day!

