

# Current **WORD**

SPRING 2011  
VOL. 21 NO. 1

A PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBER/OWNERS OF HORRY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

## TOGETHER WE SAVE

Tuesday, April 12

at **Horry Electric's**  
**2011 Annual Meeting**  
**The Myrtle Beach Convention Center**

Horry Electric Cooperative

# \$15

## Electric Bill Credit

- Each member who is present and registers at the Annual Meeting will receive a **\$15 credit on their electric bill** and enjoy a fun filled afternoon. **(Limit one \$15 per membership.)**

SCHEDULE

Registration & Voting ..... **Noon - 7 P.M.**  
Entertainment .... **2 P.M.-7 P.M.**  
Business Meeting ..... **7 P.M.**

**Members MUST bring a valid photo ID to register and vote.**

Prize Drawing at the conclusion of the business meeting.  
You must be present at the time of the drawing to WIN!



### Grand Prize

2000 Chevrolet Silverado pickup w/tool box

The drawing will be held following the business meeting. You must be present to win!

### IMPORTANT

Only members who register, in person, to participate in the Annual Meeting of Members between the hours of noon and 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2011, are eligible to receive the Annual Meeting Registration Gift - **ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Loris Healthcare System  
and HEC's WIRE Chapter  
Health/Wellness Fair  
3 P.M. - 6:45 P.M.

FREE

- Seacoast Medical Center Shared Care
- Little River Medical Center - Blood Pressures/ Fingerstick Cholesterols
- Mercy Care - Blood Pressures
  - Pure Compounding
  - Smoke Free Horry

One Man Band  
Carl Brunson  
2 P.M. - 4 P.M.



### Entertainment

#### Other Prizes:

- \$400 - First
  - \$200 - Second
  - \$100 - Third
- Plus, dozens of additional prizes.

Bluegrass and Gospel  
Carolina Sonshine  
4 P.M. - 7 P.M.



**Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

CONWAY: 843-369-2211  
MYRTLE BEACH: 843-650-7530  
www.horryelectric.com

For energy saving tips visit  
**TogetherWeSave.com**

# Hunting down vampire electronics

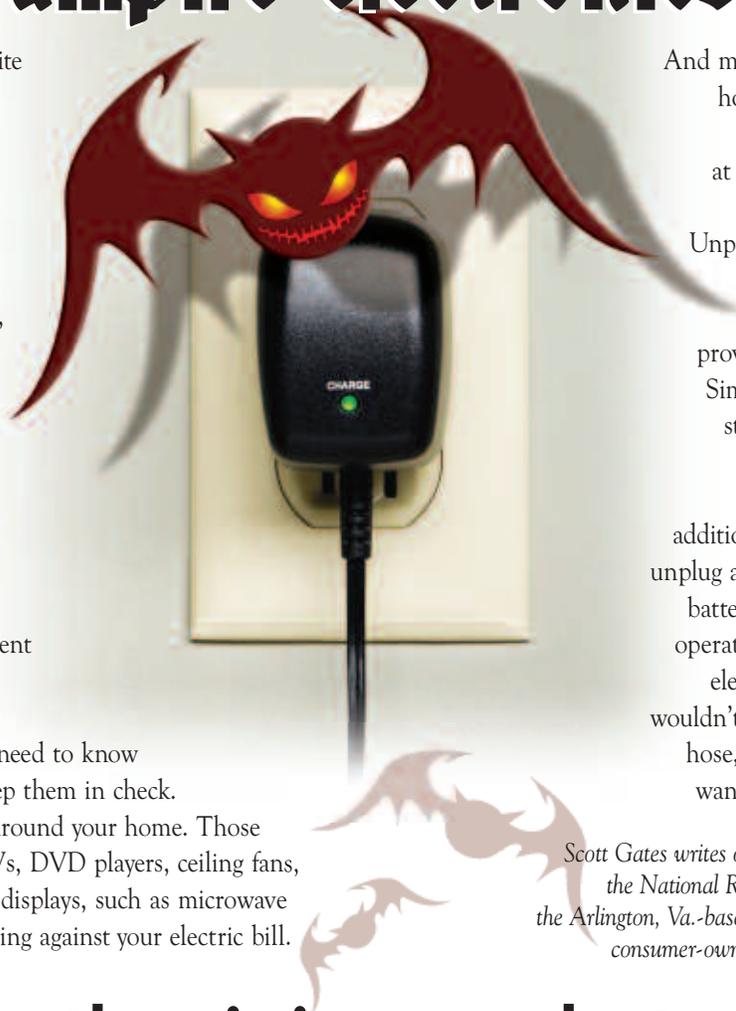
— By Scott Gates

Most homes these days never quite shut down for the night. Although lamps may be off, dark rooms are typically spotted with tiny red and green lights of appliances and the glow of digital clocks.

All of those little lights, clocks, and seemingly “sleeping” appliances, however, are using more electricity than most would think. Sometimes called vampire electronics, these devices suck up 5 percent of all energy used in the United States and cost consumers more than \$3 billion every year.

For the average homeowner, vampire electronics can add 20 percent to monthly electric bills, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. To trim this excess energy use, you need to know where these vampires reside and keep them in check.

Take a closer look at appliances around your home. Those that use remote controls such as TVs, DVD players, ceiling fans, and stereos are suspect. Any digital displays, such as microwave and coffee machine clocks, are working against your electric bill.



And many of those chargers around the house—those that keep cell phones, power tools, and MP3 players at the ready—constantly draw power when plugged in. Unplugging these vampires effectively drives a stake into their energy-consuming hearts. Power strips provide another way to thwart them. Simply plug appliances into a power strip, and switch it off when those appliances aren't being used.

In addition, unplug any battery-operated



electronic device once charged. You wouldn't walk away from a flowing water hose, after all, and you certainly don't want to keep feeding those vampires.

*Scott Gates writes on technology and energy efficiency for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.*

## How to keep the air in your duct system and money in your wallet



You've identified leaks in your home's duct system, and they're costing money. Here's a tip that can help your heating and cooling system work more efficiently — and reduce your utility bill.

While some ducts are concealed in walls and between floors, others are exposed — in attics, crawlspaces, basements and garages — and can be repaired by sealing. To start, you'll need mastic sealant or metal tape. Experts advise against using duct tape, which can dry out and disintegrate when used on ductwork.

In addition to sealing any leaks that you have found, check the connections at vents and registers. They should be well-sealed where they meet the floors, walls and ceiling. It's also important to insulate your duct system. As air travels through your ducts, you want it to stay cool during the summer and warm during the winter. Ductwork located in areas with little or no insulation — crawlspaces, attics or garages — will need to be insulated to make sure that the air running through the ducts isn't affected by temperature extremes.

**According to TogetherWeSave.com, sealing the air ducts in your home can save you up to \$177 a year.**

For other tips on how to save energy—and money—visit [TogetherWeSave.com](http://TogetherWeSave.com)