

MARCH 2023

# BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

## New Barnstead Substation Adds Capacity, Reliability

Brand new from the ground up, NHEC's substation in Barnstead triples the capacity of the facility it replaced and improves reliability in an area that's seen an increase in electrical demand.

Substations receive high-voltage power from transmission lines and distribute it at reduced voltage to NHEC members across the state. Over the next several years, NHEC is replacing 21 substations and 5 distribution points as part of a project to improve service reliability, replace aging equipment and add needed capacity.

The Barnstead substation provides power to approximately 1,400 members in parts of Alton, Barnstead, Epsom, Northwood and Pittsfield. Advanced numerical protective relays with



The new NHEC substation in Barnstead nearly triples capacity and features enhanced monitoring tools that allow it to detect and remove abnormal conditions on the system.

monitoring capabilities were installed to protect equipment and the electric system by quickly detecting and removing abnormal conditions such as tree contacts. The facility also includes new environmental protections, such as an oil containment system.

With the Barnstead project complete, work shifts to Webster and Jackson, where NHEC will be replacing substations this year as part of our multi-year project to improve service reliability.

## Herbicide Opt-out Form Available for 2023

Selective use of herbicides in NHEC's power line rights-of-way is an important part of our efforts to minimize power outages, but we know that some members would prefer not to have these treatments done on their property.

If you receive notice that NHEC will be using targeted herbicide treatments to maintain the rights-of-way on your property, you may opt out of treatments for the calendar year by submitting the form located on our website:

[WWW.NHEC.COM/HERBICIDE](http://WWW.NHEC.COM/HERBICIDE)



To ensure that you opt out of treatments for 2023, please submit your form before the end of April, when herbicide treatments begin.



Coming Soon to  
**GRAFTON  
COUNTY...**

## ...Fiber-fast NH Broadband Internet!

You may have heard the exciting news that NH Broadband has partnered with Conexon to bring reliable high-speed internet to NHEC members across 32 communities in Grafton County.

The top question we're getting from members right now is: When will service be available at my house?

The great news? We are officially counting down to the launch of our fiber-to-the-home-service for our first members in Grafton County! Our first connections this spring will bring up to 2-Gig internet to members in parts of Plymouth, Holderness, Hebron, Rumney and Campton.

If you have not yet signed up and selected your service package, we encourage you to do so now! There are two ways to sign-up:

1) Visit [www.NHBroadband.com](http://www.NHBroadband.com) and select the "For all other towns..." button. Once on the page, click the "check availability" button. Select "New Hampshire Elec Co-op Inc" from the drop-down menu and complete the steps to sign up and select your package.

2) Call 866-431-1928 to place your order with an NH Broadband customer service representative.

We are excited about what this project will do to close the digital divide in our communities. Get ready for the power of high-speed internet to transform how you live, work, play and learn in Grafton County!

# MONTHLY REMINDERS



**Too Early for Pool  
Pumps? Think Again!**

Yeah, it's still cold, but pool season is right around the corner! Get a full summer of savings by installing an ENERGY STAR® certified variable speed pool pump this spring. Save about \$270 on your annual energy bill and get a \$500 rebate from NHEC, your NHSaves® utility partner.

Your pool pump could be your home's second largest energy user. Make a savings splash when you choose ENERGY STAR certified models! Rebates and info here: [nhsaves.com/learn/rebate/pool-pumps](http://nhsaves.com/learn/rebate/pool-pumps).



**Four Seats Open on  
NHEC Board**

Co-op members will vote in May to fill four seats opening on the NHEC Board of Directors. Members will have the opportunity to vote by mail, or go paperless by voting online. Our election vendor will be emailing members this month seeking their preference.

Regardless of your choice, you'll have the opportunity to vote securely online using the directions that will arrive with your ballot mailing in May. The chance to elect your Board of Directors is unique to member-owned cooperatives. We hope you'll take advantage of the opportunity!



**Board of Directors Meetings**

The NHEC Board of Directors regularly meets on the last Tuesday of each month. Please check the Board of Directors page on the NHEC web site at [www.nhec.com](http://www.nhec.com), or call Sharon Yeaton at (603) 536-8801 to confirm the current month's time and location.





## 'Net Zero' Home in Meredith Recognized for Design and Performance

NHEC members Chris and Kim combined their interests in design and engineering to create a one-of-a-kind home in Meredith that's been named the winner of the NHSaves Drive to Net Zero Home Competition. The real reward comes over time, though, with a home that produces more energy than it consumes.

### WATCH A VIDEO TOUR:

[www.nhsaves.com/learn/service/drive-to-net-zero](http://www.nhsaves.com/learn/service/drive-to-net-zero)



From the solar PV array on the roof to the PVC piping that heats the slab on which it's built, Chris and Kim's new home has achieved a remarkable Home Energy Rating System (HERS) score of -45. By comparison, a HERS score of +100 is average for a newly built home. It also demonstrates that a home which produces more energy on site than it consumes is affordable and achievable.

If new home construction is in your future, learn more about the incentives offered by NHEC and the NHSaves utility partners to include efficiency measures that more than pay for themselves over time.

See program details in the **SAVE ENERGY** menu at [WWW.NHEC.COM](http://WWW.NHEC.COM).



Spring is a busy time for college students and high school seniors, but here's a deadline you don't want to miss! NHEC and the NHEC Foundation are offering thousands in scholarships for members or the children of members.

### **NHEC Foundation Scholarships**

The NHEC Foundation offers six \$1,500 scholarships, one of which is reserved for a student entering a vocational/technical institution. **APPLY BY JUNE 16**

### **NHEC Lineworker Scholarship**

NHEC offers one \$2,500 scholarship annually to a member or child of a member who is pursuing a career as an electrical lineworker. **APPLY BY JUNE 23**

### **GUIDELINES & APPLICATIONS:**

[WWW.NHEC.COM/SCHOLARSHIPS](http://WWW.NHEC.COM/SCHOLARSHIPS)



# WINTER FUN FOR EVERYONE!

How do you get through the winter in New Hampshire? You get out there in it! That's what the kids at Wentworth Elementary School have been doing, thanks to the school's winter activities program. The NHEC Foundation is proud to help keep program costs affordable for all students with this recent \$2,000 grant.

Want an easy way to support your local schools? Join the 40,000 members of New Hampshire Electric Cooperative who participate in the Round Up program. Your average contribution of 50 cents a month funds the NHEC Foundation, which last year alone provided nearly a quarter-million dollars in grants to New Hampshire nonprofits and community groups. Thank you for your support!



**ENROLL IN ROUND UP: [WWW.NHEC.COM/ROUND-UP-PROGRAM](http://WWW.NHEC.COM/ROUND-UP-PROGRAM)**

For member service, please call **800.698.2007**  
(8-5, M-F) or email [solutions@nhec.com](mailto:solutions@nhec.com)

To report an outage, please call **800.343.6432**  
579 Tenney Mountain Hwy Plymouth, NH 03264  
[www.nhec.com](http://www.nhec.com)

