

# JEMCO A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS news

*Plug*



**INTO**  
**SAFETY**

ARE YOU FOLLOWING PROPER ELECTRICAL SAFETY STEPS  
TO HELP PROTECT YOUR HOME AND FAMILY?

MAY 2018

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SUMMER RATES NOW IN EFFECT

RIGHT CHOICE HOMES: DESIGNED FOR COMFORT & SAVINGS

EDUCATORS: APPLY FOR A BRIGHT IDEAS GRANT



## STAYING SAFE

Like many parents, before my kids could crawl, I made sure my house would keep them safe.

I installed child-proof latches on the kitchen cabinets, so they couldn't open the doors. I removed tiny (and tempting!) objects they could possibly place in their mouths. And, I installed those child safety gates to keep them away from the stairs.

Then, of course, I made sure our electrical outlets were properly protected to ensure that tiny fingers didn't get too curious.

When our children are younger, it seems that's when we're more likely to hear about these types of safety measures for our home. But, the truth is that staying safe around electricity is something people of all ages should know about.

At Jackson EMC, we care about educating not only kids on how to be safe around electricity, but the entire community. We conduct electrical safety demonstrations at schools and public events. Our Powertown™ display and video provide a demonstration about what happens when objects, like kites, come in contact with energized lines and equipment. Kids and adults are always amazed to see how this real-world safety lesson illustrates the dangers of power lines.

For that matter, if you ever see a downed power line, always assume it's electrically charged and report it to Jackson EMC. And, never fly a drone near power lines – it could create a dangerous situation.

Jackson EMC employees are always eager to come to your community group to showcase electrical safety and other energy-related topics. This type of in-person interaction is helpful for anyone to understand how they get electricity in their homes and schools, and how they can stay safe. Teachers and community groups can request a visit from a Jackson EMC employee by submitting a request on our website ([jacksonemc.com/schoolvisit](http://jacksonemc.com/schoolvisit)). Our website also has resources to teach kids about energy.

We want everyone to be safe around electricity. This issue of JEMCO News has a quiz about electrical safety. See if you can correctly answer the questions about safely plugging into electricity.

**Have a suggestion on how we can help better educate the community about electrical safety? Send me an email at [chip@jacksonemc.com](mailto:chip@jacksonemc.com).**

Chip Jakins, President/CEO



INTERESTED IN HAVING A JACKSON EMC EMPLOYEE COME TO YOUR SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY GROUP? REQUEST AN EDUCATIONAL VISIT AT [JACKSONEMC.COM/SCHOOLVISIT](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/SCHOOLVISIT).

## WAYS TO SAVE: SUMMER RATES NOW IN EFFECT

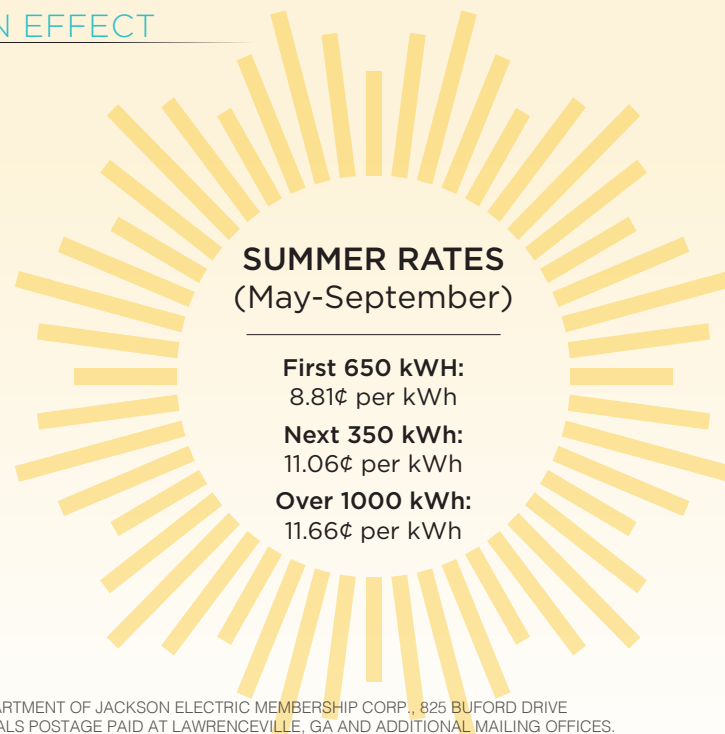
**WHEN THE SUMMER MONTHS HIT, JACKSON EMC MEMBERS TYPICALLY USE MORE ELECTRICITY TO COOL THEIR HOUSES AND BUSINESSES. BUT, TAKE HEART: YOU'LL SPEND FEWER ENERGY DOLLARS THAN MOST HOUSEHOLDS IN GEORGIA.**

Higher temperatures increase the demand for electricity. Still, our 2017 summer residential rates for an average member consuming 1,500 kWh per month were on average 8.6 percent lower than all electric providers in the state, according to the Georgia Public Service Commission's Residential Rate Survey.

By reducing your energy use, you can lower your monthly electric bill this summer.



FOR TIPS ON STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO LOWER YOUR MONTHLY BILL, VISIT [JACKSONEMC.COM/WAYSTOSAVE](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/WAYSTOSAVE).



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## RIGHT CHOICE HOMES: DESIGNED for Comfort & Savings



### “LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION.”

It's a familiar phrase that's on your mind if you're buying a home.

But, are you also thinking about your new home's energy efficiency?

Thanks to its Right Choice home program, Jackson EMC makes it easier for homeowners to ensure their new home will be comfortable and energy efficient.

Right Choice homes are built from the ground up by industry-leading builders and are tested for home performance to ensure their energy efficient construction is working. In fact, Right Choice homes come with a one-year comfort warranty and a three-year energy usage warranty.

New homes built under the Right Choice program also earn Jackson EMC's lowest residential energy rate, which saves homeowners over the life of their home. Right Choice new homes help lower your largest energy expense – heating and air conditioning – by 20-30 percent, compared to standard homes.

The Right Choice home program is exclusive to Jackson EMC. More than 10 million square feet of Right Choice homes have been built since the program began.

Ask your Jackson EMC representative for complete warranty terms and conditions.



TO LEARN WHY A RIGHT CHOICE HOME IS RIGHT FOR YOU, ASK YOUR BUILDER OR REALTOR, OR VISIT [JACKSONEMC.COM/RIGHTCHOICE](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/RIGHTCHOICE).

TV host and home expert  
Ty Pennington for Right Choice  
homes by Jackson EMC.

# Plug INTO SAFETY

May is National Electrical Safety Month. According to the National Fire Protection Association, a residential fire was reported every 90 seconds in 2016. Many of those fires were caused by outdated or improperly used electrical equipment.

Are you following proper electrical safety steps to help protect your home and family? Take this quiz to find out.

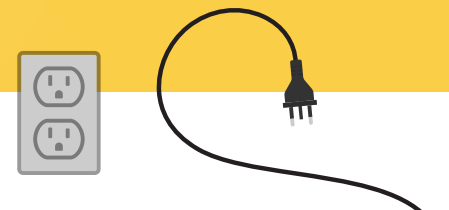
1



**When should you contact a qualified electrician?**

- a. Frequent problems with blowing fuses or tripping circuit breakers
- b. Flickering or dimming lights
- c. A tingling feeling when you touch an electrical appliance
- d. Any of the above

2



**What is the purpose of a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) outlet?**

- a. It shuts off the electrical circuit when it becomes a shock hazard.
- b. It protects against “brown outs.”
- c. It stores electricity.
- d. It shuts off the outlet if there’s a sudden power surge.

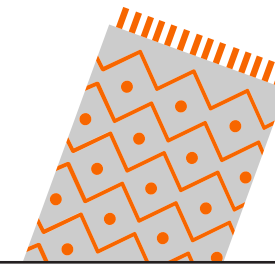
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**If there’s an electrical fire, what do you use to extinguish it?**

- a. A fire extinguisher
- b. Water

4



**True or False: Using electrical cords across doorways and under carpets is safe.**

- a. True
- b. False

5



**How many heat-producing appliances, like microwaves and coffee makers, can you plug in to one outlet?**

- a. One
- b. Two
- c. It doesn’t matter

6



**How can you tell if you have a safe light bulb for a lamp?**

- a. There isn’t a way to tell
- b. All light bulbs are the same and don’t pose a fire hazard
- c. Look for a sticker showing the wattage for a light bulb

7



**True or False: It’s OK to plug major appliances in an extension cord or power strip.**

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWERS:**

- 1. D. You should contact a qualified electrician if you notice any of these issues. All work should be completed by a qualified electrician.
- 2. A. GFCI outlets are typically installed in kitchens, bathrooms, garages and basements, where shock hazards are more likely to occur, due to exposure to water. When the GFCI detects a potential shock hazard, it turns off the electrical circuit.
- 3. A. Never use water to extinguish an electrical fire. Water on an electrical fire could cause electrocution. Use a fire extinguisher to extinguish an electrical fire. Call 911 to report the fire.

- 4. B. Electrical cords across doorways and under carpets aren’t safe because they could become damaged and expose the wiring, which poses a risk for fire or electrical shock.
- 5. A. Plug only one heat-producing appliance in each outlet to prevent overheating.
- 6. C. On the lamp, there should be a sticker showing the maximum wattage—such as 60 watts—for a light bulb to use in the lamp.
- 7. B. Major appliances (washers, dryers, refrigerators, stoves, microwaves, etc.) should be plugged directly in a wall outlet.

\*Information provided by the National Fire Prevention Association



## COMMUNITY IMPACT: *Food Bank of Northeast Georgia*

**ONE IN SIX GEORGIANS IS FOOD INSECURE – MEANING THEY DON’T KNOW WHERE THEY’LL FIND THEIR NEXT MEAL, ACCORDING TO THE GEORGIA FOOD BANK ASSOCIATION.**

For the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia, eliminating hunger among residents in its 14-county area means taking a community-based approach.

Using a fleet of refrigerated box trucks and tractor-trailer trucks, the food bank’s Mobile Food Pantry Program brings food options to food insecure people who are ill, needy, seniors or children. The Food Bank of Northeast Georgia coordinates its Mobile Food Pantry Program through partner agencies, such as churches and senior centers, to deliver food at their locations.

It’s those partner agencies who tell their community members that could benefit from the mobile food pantry about upcoming deliveries.

“We call hunger a silent issue. People don’t speak up publicly when they need food. Only their local groups and neighbors may know they need help,” said Mark Bailey, grant manager for the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia.

What makes the Mobile Food Pantry unique is its ability to provide a farmer’s market style option with plenty of fresh and healthy foods. Families can receive up to 50 pounds of food that includes produce,

dairy and meat products. Each event at partner agencies feeds an average of 600 people and delivers an average of more than 9,000 meals.

In 2017, the Mobile Food Pantry delivered more than 4.1 million pounds of food at partner agency events.

“We’re not just fighting a meal gap, but a nutrition gap,” Bailey said.

Keeping a large supply of refrigerated food isn’t feasible for most partner agencies, he explained. Instead, the Athens-based food bank brings fresh and nonperishable food directly to partner agencies, who often set up the farmer’s market style events in their parking lot. Partner agencies may have regularly-scheduled mobile food pantry events or plan a single event.

“The real strength of the Mobile Food Pantry is bringing hunger relief to local communities,” Bailey said.

The Jackson EMC Foundation recently gave the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia a \$15,000 grant to distribute food at mobile food pantry events with partner agencies in Banks, Barrow, Clarke, Franklin, Jackson, Madison and Oglethorpe counties. Since 2005, the Northeast Georgia Food Bank has received \$115,000 from the Jackson EMC Foundation.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA FOOD BANK’S MOBILE FOOD PANTRY PROGRAM, VISIT [FOODBANKNEGA.ORG](http://FOODBANKNEGA.ORG).

## OPERATION ROUNDUP: YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total

**\$94,000 IN GRANTS**

during its March meeting, including \$92,500 to organizations and \$1,500 to an individual.

### ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

**\$10,000 | Hall County Library System**, to help purchase a Pop-Up Reading Room Kit, which provides a custom-designed rolling cart, benches and books in a transportable unit to festivals, schools and other presentations.

**\$10,000 | Books for Keeps**, an Athens nonprofit organization sponsoring the Stop Summer Slide program to improve Clarke County children’s reading achievement, to provide books for summer reading to children in the Cleveland Road Elementary School, where 90 percent or more of the students receive free or reduced lunches.

**\$10,000 | Gainesville Housing Corporation**, which provides affordable living environments, improved quality of living, economic opportunities and fair housing to working poor families of Hall County, to provide quality programming through the RISE Summer

Program for low-income and at-risk youth of Gainesville and Hall County.

**\$10,000 | St. Vincent de Paul Society – Flowery Branch**, for its Aid Hot Line program, which provides emergency aid to South Hall, North Gwinnett and West Jackson families in crisis for rent, mortgage and temporary housing to prevent homelessness and disrupted lives.

**\$10,000 | St. Vincent de Paul Society – Gainesville**, to help fund direct aid for housing assistance, including rent, mortgage and temporary housing for Hall County families in crisis.

**\$10,000 | St. Vincent de Paul Society – Jackson County**, for its financial assistance program that provides funds to Jackson and Banks county families in crisis for rent, mortgage, food, transportation, car repair and insurance premiums, and medical assistance.

**\$10,000 | YMCA – Athens**, to help enable children in Clarke, Jackson, Madison and Oglethorpe counties to participate in its nine-week Summer Day Camp project, which serves young people by offering supervised sports and other activities, as well as teaching values, and math and reading.

**\$10,000 | YMCA – Georgia Mountains**, in Gainesville, to enable Hall County youth from pre-K to 10th grade from economically disadvantaged families to participate in a 10-week Summer Day Camp that teaches core values, conflict resolution and leadership skills.

**\$10,000 | YMCA – Georgia’s Piedmont**, in Winder for its Summer Day Camp to help children from economically disadvantaged families in Barrow, Clarke, Gwinnett, Hall and Jackson counties attend a 10-week day camp.

**\$2,500 | Gainesville/Hall Community Food Pantry**, to purchase food from the Atlanta Community Food Bank and the Georgia Mountain Food Bank for distribution to those in need in Hall County.

### INDIVIDUAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

**\$1,500** to make a bathroom handicap accessible for a 17-year-old who is paralyzed and wheelchair bound.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY FOR A GRANT, VISIT [JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION)

## MEMBERS MAKE IT DELICIOUS

### *Doritos Chip Pizza*



### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 bag of Doritos chips (9 3/4 oz.)
- 1 lb. lean hamburger meat
- 1 can of chili peppers and tomatoes (10 oz.)
- 1 can of Luck’s pinto beans (15 oz.)
- 1 cup shredded lettuce
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

### DIRECTIONS

Brown meat in large skillet. Add can of chili peppers and tomatoes, and pinto beans. Simmer for two minutes.

In an 8x13 baking pan, spread Doritos chips evenly to cover the bottom of the pan. Spread meat mixture over chips. Sprinkle shredded lettuce over meat mixture. Sprinkle shredded cheese over lettuce. To melt cheese, bake in oven at 375 degrees for 3 minutes.

“You can take this to a church social or family event. Everyone I’ve cooked this for has liked it.”

—EDNA DRENNON, CLERMONT



SEND YOUR BEST RECIPES: [RECIPES@JACKSONEMC.COM](mailto:RECIPES@JACKSONEMC.COM) OR MAIL TO: COOPERATIVE COOKING | JACKSON EMC | PO BOX 38 | JEFFERSON, GA 30549

## educators APPLY FOR A BRIGHT IDEAS GRANT



FOR COMPLETE DETAILS ABOUT BRIGHT IDEAS GRANTS AND TO APPLY, VISIT [JACKSONEMC.COM/BRIGHTIDEAS.COM](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/BRIGHTIDEAS.COM).

**Bright Ideas is a grant program from Jackson EMC that funds creative and innovative classroom projects in middle schools. Educators who teach grades 6-8 can earn up to \$2,000 for classroom projects that would not be funded otherwise.**

With a Bright Ideas grant, some of our recent recipients have included solar car building, robotics, and wind turbine technology in lesson plans for their students.

To apply for a Bright Ideas grant, applications must be submitted online no later than June 4. Applicants must be state-certified educators in a public middle school in Jackson EMC’s service area.

**YOUR POWER.  
YOUR COMMUNITY.**

A PUBLICATION FOR  
JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

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PERIODICALS  
POSTAGE PAID

# VEHICLES FOR SALE

**Jackson EMC has equipment for sale to members and employees. Sealed bids will be accepted at the Jackson EMC headquarters in Jefferson until 3 p.m., June 22, 2018, after which time bids will no longer be accepted. Jackson EMC reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.**

These vehicles are being sold in "as is" condition with no written warranties. Vehicles may be viewed at the Jackson EMC office in Jefferson (located at 850 Commerce Highway) on June 12 and on June 14, between the hours of 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Come by at these dates and times ONLY to view the equipment.

The list below contains the types and approximate quantities of the equipment and vehicles to be sold. All equipment and vehicles are retired from Jackson EMC's fleet and are generally five years or older with odometer readings above 100,000 miles.

This list is subject to changes, additions and/or deletions. Standard bid sheets and a complete vehicle list will be provided in our main lobby on viewing dates.

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FOR SALE:**

- 3 Full Size Pickups • 1 Full Size 3/4 Ton Pickup Truck
- 1 37-Foot Service Bucket • 1 55-Foot Bucket Truck • 1 Forklift
- 1 Trencher • 1 Excavator • Various Trailers

