

JEMCOnews

A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

POWERING OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH THE YEARS



APRIL 2022 | IN THIS ISSUE

- SHARE YOUR APPRECIATION FOR LINEMEN
- JACKSON EMC TO RECEIVE MORE RENEWABLE ENERGY FROM NEW SOLAR FACILITIES
- 5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING



THANK YOU!

A few months ago, a winter storm moved through our service area and brought with it harsh, freezing conditions, including billowing snow and high winds. It was bitterly cold, and the driving conditions on the roads in our area were hazardous. In the electric utility industry, that kind of weather keeps you up at night.

As a storm like that approaches, my first thought turns to our linemen. It's a big ask to work in those conditions, especially when you add the extra dangers that come with fallen trees, downed power lines and broken poles. Yet, somehow, they see it as a challenge and treat it as a responsibility. I often hear linemen say when the lights are out, that's when they shine their brightest. And, it's true.

Along with facing the challenges of a difficult task comes a rush of adrenaline and a resolve to get the lights back on for members. When a storm rolls in, linemen get a certain look in their eyes like there's a job to be done, and they're the ones that are up for it. It's the same look that I imagine you'd see in the eyes of firemen when the alarm bells ring at a fire station.

The families of linemen make sacrifices, too. The wife of one of our Jackson EMC linemen posted a video on social media during our last winter storm. It was the middle of the night and she was filming their two-year-old daughter, who was watching the driveway and waiting for her daddy to come home. Watching that video and seeing his daughter's joy and excitement when that bucket truck turned into the driveway brought tears to my eyes. It could have been a scene out of a hero movie.

I know you'd agree: We sure consider our linemen heroes, especially when you've been in the dark after a storm. If your house is like mine, there's usually a cheer that goes up when the lights come back on. It's a great feeling.

We ask you to remember that feeling and join us as we celebrate our linemen this month. Every April, we take time to thank our extraordinary group of heroes who dedicate their lives to powering our homes and businesses. Jackson EMC has 118 linemen who maintain more than 14,000 miles of energized lines in our 10-county service area. Without them, our world wouldn't be nearly as bright.

Please join me in appreciating our linemen and their families for their dedication to powering our community. Consider taking a moment to acknowledge their many contributions by sending an email, letter, calling us, or leaving a comment on our social media channels.

To view the video of the lineman and his daughter, scan the QR code or visit: jacksonemc.com/LinemanFamily.

Or if you just want to share a story in appreciation of linemen please email me at chip@jacksonemc.com.

Chip Jakins
President/CEO



SHARE YOUR APPRECIATION FOR LINEMEN THIS MONTH

In good weather and bad, linemen are ready to keep electricity flowing to the community. Linemen often work non-traditional hours, outdoors in difficult weather conditions – as part of their commitment to powering their community. When the power goes out during storms, their efforts are most noticed.

In April, utilities and their customers across the U.S. take time to pay tribute to these highly-skilled professionals. During Lineman Appreciation Month, members are encouraged to show their appreciation for linemen by using the hashtags **#ThankALineman** and **#JacksonEMC** this month on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Members can also share their appreciation for linemen by emailing info@jacksonemc.com, calling **1-800-462-3691**, or sending a letter to Jackson EMC at **P.O. Box 100, Jefferson, GA 30549**. We'll share your comments or stories with our linemen.



WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH YOUR SAVINGS?

Along with higher temperatures, summer can typically bring higher bills. The cost to generate power is higher during the summer, and members typically use more electricity during the summer months than the rest of the year to keep the air inside their homes cool. Fortunately, Jackson EMC members enjoy competitive rates all year long.

Out of 89 utilities surveyed, Jackson EMC's rates were among the 20 lowest summer rates in the state. The 2021 residential rate survey was based on members using 1,500 kWh a month, which is comparable to the average monthly energy consumption of a Jackson EMC residential member in the summer. The survey was conducted by the Georgia Public Service Commission. **According to the survey, Jackson EMC members pay \$16.61 less on their electric bill per month when compared to the statewide average.**

SO, WHAT COULD YOU DO WITH THAT EXTRA SAVINGS EACH MONTH THIS SUMMER?

3 DAILY PARK PASSES TO GEORGIA STATE PARKS



1 TICKET TO A MOVIE



2 BANANA SPLIT SUNDAES



5 SNOW CONES



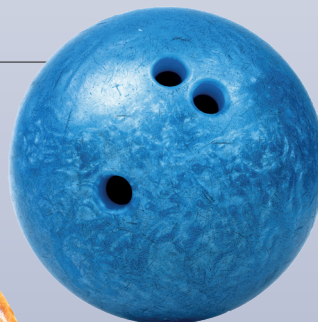
1 MONTH SUBSCRIPTION TO STREAMING SERVICE



5 COOKIES & CREAM MILKSHAKES



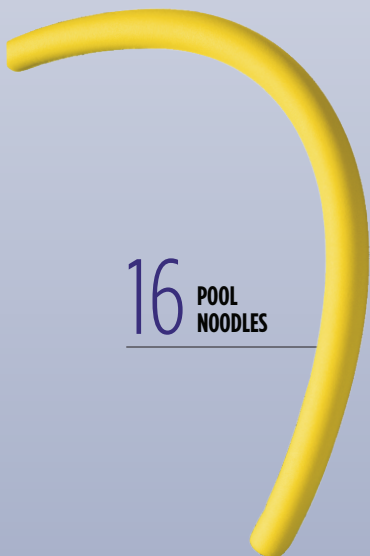
3 GAMES OF BOWLING



1 ONE LARGE PIZZA



16 POOL NOODLES



2 TICKETS TO THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA HISTORY MUSEUM



POWERING OUR **COMMUNITY** THROUGH THE YEARS

This month marks 83 years since Jackson EMC first energized its lines.

On April 10, 1939, the cooperative started providing electricity - less than a year after Jackson EMC was chartered.

At that time, about 5% of homes in Northeast Georgia had electricity. Today, Jackson EMC provides electricity to more than 245,000 meters across 10 counties. We're one of the largest electric cooperatives in the U.S.

1938

Jackson EMC chartered



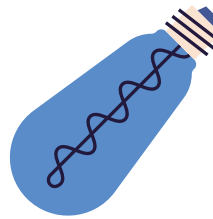
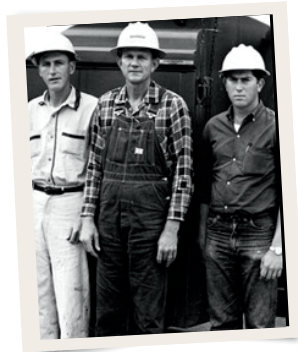
1939

First lines energized



1958

Hard hats added for linemen safety



1964

First bucket truck boosts work efficiency



1977

Energy efficient home program launched

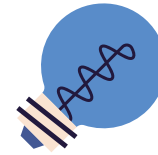


1993

Jackson EMC serves **100,000** meters

1998

EMC Security launches. EMC Security is owned by Jackson EMC, Walton EMC and GreyStone Power Corporation.



2001

Green Power EMC founded. Green Power EMC is a not-for-profit corporation owned by 38 of Georgia's EMCs that provides renewable energy resources and education programs to its EMC owners and their members.



Right Choice™

2004

Right Choice™ home program launched



2005

Operation Round Up® launched



2007

Jackson EMC serves **200,000** meters



2012

First mobile app for Jackson EMC launched

2015

Bright Ideas grant program launched



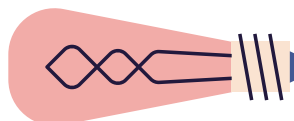
2019

MyJacksonEMC website and mobile app launched



2022

Jackson EMC serves **245,000+** meters



The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total

\$147,500 in grants

including \$137,500 to organizations and \$10,000 to individuals, during its February meeting.

ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

\$20,000 | Hi-Hope Service Center, Inc., in Lawrenceville, to help fund part-time nursing and nutrition services for 20 developmentally disabled Gwinnett County residents who require onsite nursing care for services.

\$20,000 | North Gwinnett Cooperative, for its Prescription Assistance Program to cover the cost of non-narcotic/controlled substance prescriptions for senior citizens and families to provide consistent access to medication when costs are not affordable.

\$17,500 | Boys & Girls Clubs of Jackson County, to provide supplies, materials and technology for its academic development and achievement program in the Jefferson and Commerce club locations.

\$15,000 | Children's Center for Hope and Healing, Inc., in Gainesville, to provide children in Barrow, Banks, Hall, Jackson and Lumpkin counties who have been sexually abused with therapy to reduce trauma symptoms, and to decrease their families' sense of isolation, strengthen the family, assist with parent-child attachment and family functioning.

\$15,000 | Gwinnett-Walton Habitat for Humanity, to provide interior trim and doors, cabinets, vanities, HVAC unit and flooring for house #153 in Gwinnett County.



Hi-Hope Service Center, Inc.

\$15,000 | Good News Clinics, in Gainesville, to provide free medical and dental care to underserved and uninsured residents of Hall County, to provide clients of its Sam Poole Medical Clinic with laboratory tests and non-narcotic medications.

\$15,000 | Lawrenceville Cooperative, an emergency food bank for residents of Lawrenceville and Dacula in Gwinnett County, for its Emergency Assistance Program to purchase food from the Atlanta Community Food Bank.

\$10,000 | Asian American Resource Foundation in Duluth to provide supportive services to members of the community in need, for its Rapid Re-Housing Program that provides low-income homeless families with safe and affordable permanent housing.

\$10,000 | Vision to Learn Inc., to provide free vision screenings, eye exams and prescription glasses for K-12 students in need in Gwinnett County schools.

INDIVIDUAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

\$5,000 | heating and air conditioning unit, for a senior citizen who is disabled.

\$5,000 | heating and air conditioning unit, for a person with a brain injury.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY FOR A GRANT, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION.



JACKSON EMC TO RECEIVE MORE RENEWABLE ENERGY FROM NEW SOLAR FACILITIES

Jackson EMC is one of 16 Georgia electric cooperatives partnering together to purchase energy from three new solar facilities under construction in South Georgia designed to provide even more renewable energy into the homes of members.

When completed, the solar sites will generate 252-megawatts of electricity. Green Power EMC, the renewable energy provider owned by 38 Georgia Electric Membership Corporations (EMCs) – including Jackson EMC – is purchasing the full power output of the three solar facilities and providing it to participating electric cooperatives. The total capacity generated will be

enough renewable power to help serve more than 44,000 EMC households annually.

Jackson EMC will receive a total of 20 megawatts of solar energy from the facilities once operational, which adds to the 24 megawatts of solar energy members already receive.

The three solar facilities will be built in stages over the next three years by Silicon Ranch, one of the nation's largest independent solar producers. The company will also own, operate and maintain the solar facilities.

Buffalo Chicken Dip



“ I got this recipe from a friend.
Our family loves this dip.”
- SUSANNE EMERICH, LAWRENCEVILLE

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 8 oz. blocks of cream cheese
- 1 12 oz. bottle Texas Pete hot sauce
- 1 16 oz. bottle Hidden Valley Ranch dressing
- 1 1/2 - 2 cups of shredded chicken breast (canned or from rotisserie chicken)
- 1 package Mexican blend shredded cheese

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spread cream cheese on bottom of 9x13 glass dish. Top cream cheese with shredded chicken and ¾ bottle of hot sauce. Add ½ bottle of ranch dressing on top. Then top with shredded cheese. Bake for 45 minutes or until top starts to lightly brown and slightly bubble. Let cool and serve with tortilla chips, celery or carrots.

SEND US YOUR BEST RECIPES: RECIPES@JACKSONEMC.COM OR MAIL TO:
COOPERATIVE COOKING | JACKSON EMC | PO BOX 38 | JEFFERSON, GA 30549
FIND MORE RECIPES AT WWW.JACKSONEMC.COM/RECIPES.

COMMUNITY IMPACT: HELPING MAMAS

“It’s astounding to me that so many women have to choose between basic needs for their children,” said Jamie Lackey, who founded Helping Mamas in 2014 - a Norcross-based baby supply bank - that helps close the gap between needs and resources for mothers.

The baby supply and period product bank collects and distributes products for mothers and children in need. Helping Mamas serves more than 60,000 children a year and distributes more than 2 million essential items to women and children.

Helping Mamas recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Jackson EMC Foundation to help provide essential baby items to Gwinnett and Hall County women and children in need. The grant provides funds to purchase products such as diapers, wipes, period products and personal hygiene products to be distributed through their mobile program, which uses a van to get critical items directly to those in need. The Helping Mamas van can often be seen at schools, libraries and churches hosting distribution days throughout the community.

“This grant from the Jackson EMC Foundation will allow us to provide assistance to more than 500 children, allowing moms to focus on meeting other needs and helping their children thrive,” Lackey said. “We’re very grateful for the support of the Jackson EMC Foundation and members who have made this possible.”



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HELPING MAMAS,
VISIT HELPINGMAMAS.ORG.



**YOUR POWER.
YOUR COMMUNITY.**

A PUBLICATION FOR
JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

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825 Buford Dr
Lawrenceville, GA
(770) 963-6166

EMC SECURITY
55 Satellite Blvd., NW
Suwanee, GA
(770) 963-0305 or
(706) 543-4009

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5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Here are five easy steps to keep people, utility lines and underground equipment safe during digging:



1

NOTIFY

Call 811 or submit an online request at Georgia811.com two to three days before your work begins. Georgia 811, which is a free service, will notify affected utilities, including Jackson EMC, about your plans.



2

WAIT

Wait two to three days for utilities to respond to your request. They will send a person to locate and mark any underground utility lines.



3

CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded to your request by comparing the flags to the list of utilities notified by Georgia 811.



4

RESPECT

Respect the designated flags or paint lines provided by the affected utilities. The designated flags or paint lines mark where underground utilities are located and are your guide for the duration of your digging.



5

DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the designated flags or paint lines (within 18 inches on all sides), consider moving your project location.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/DIG.