

JEMCOnews

A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS



MARCH 2019 | IN THIS ISSUE

SIGN UP NOW FOR TIME-OF-USE RATE SAVINGS
YOUR MEMBER RESOURCES
MOVE OVER FOR UTILITY WORKERS



MAKING MEMORIES. SAVING ENERGY.

Ask any parent about their responsibilities raising children and you'll often hear the word "teach." You'll hear it used in examples like, "teach my kids how to tie their shoe" or "teach my kids how to ride a bike."

As a dad who recently became an empty nester, I've been doing a lot of thinking about the things my wife and I taught our kids over the years. Was it the right stuff? Did we give them the skills they need? And sometimes – now that the house is kid-free and quiet – I even have time to think about the lessons my kids taught me.

A lot of the lessons my kids taught me centered around mastering the skill of patience (but that's a story for another day). Many of the other lessons they taught me were inspired by the things they were doing at school – like homework and

projects. I had to relearn those things I worked so hard to forget ... everything from memorizing vocabulary words to long division.

I'm smiling as I write this because those truly were some great bonding moments that we spent together around the kitchen table doing homework and projects. As my mom would say, "we made a lot of memories." I'm also smiling because Earth Day is approaching on April 22. I'm sure that parents and kids are making their own memories as they scramble to complete an Earth Day project or homework assignment. They're making creative things from recycled products or researching some assignment on new ways to make the planet greener.

So, parents: If you're out of ideas, this issue of *JEMCO News* is coming to your

rescue. This issue has plenty of fun ideas on how to teach kids about saving energy. And what could be greener than that? These ideas are intended to engage you and your child with entertaining activities. As you'll see with these ideas, celebrating Earth Day is easier and more enjoyable than you may be thinking. Why not have some fun teaching kids to save energy? You won't have to mention they're saving you money while they're at it!

Have a story about teaching kids to save energy? Share it with me at chip@jacksonemc.com.

**Chip Jakins,
President/CEO**

WAYS TO SAVE: TIME-OF-USE RATE

SIGN UP NOW FOR ENERGY SAVINGS

Making small changes to when you use energy could help you save on your electric bill.

By signing up for Jackson EMC's Time-of-Use rate, you can take advantage of a year-round lower electric rate for reducing your energy use between the hours of 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on weekdays from June 1 to Sept. 15.

Reducing your energy use during summer peak periods helps us control the higher costs of producing electricity in the summer.

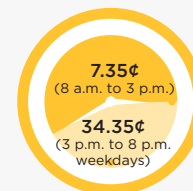
For participating members, Jackson EMC installs a meter that logs all energy used during peak and off-peak periods. During peak periods (3 p.m. to

8 p.m. on weekdays, excluding the Independence Day and Labor Day holidays, between June 1 to Sept. 15), the cost of electricity per kilowatt hour will be 34.35 cents. During off-peak periods, the cost lowers significantly for Time-of-Use participating members to only 7.35 cents per kilowatt hour. The normal residential rate is 8.81-11.66 cents per kilowatt hour. The monthly service charge for Time-of-Use members is \$25 per month.

To participate this summer, sign up by May 1. Members who sign up after May 1 will begin the Time-of-Use rate next summer. Register by calling 1-800-462-3691 or visiting your local Jackson EMC office.



REGULAR RESIDENTIAL RATE
(Year-Round)



TIME-OF-USE RATE
(June 1-Sept. 15)



TIME-OF-USE RATE
(Sept. 16-May 31)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TIME-OF-USE RATE, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/TIME-OF-USE.

YOUR MEMBER RESOURCES

Jackson EMC doesn't have customers. We have members.

If you receive power from Jackson EMC, you're a member-owner of this cooperative. Along with receiving margin refunds and having a say in the management of the cooperative, you have access to additional services.



Through our online energy efficiency store, **Jackson EMC Marketplace**, members can receive instant rebates on select smart thermostats. In addition, members can shop for LED lightbulbs, connected home products, water-saving products and more.
jacksonemcmarketplace.com



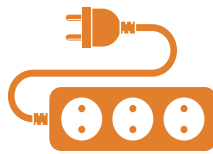
Members over age 62 with a total household income less than \$16,910 can receive a \$12.50 credit on their monthly bill. An application with additional requirements and instructions for the **senior/low-income discount** is available online.
jacksonemc.com/payment-plans-and-assistance



Members interested in adding monitored security service from **EMC Security** to their home or business can add the charges to their monthly electric bill. EMC Security offers professionally-installed or DIY security systems and video cameras.
emcsecurity.com



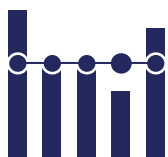
Members who participate in the **Green Power** program can reduce their impact on the environment without installing equipment. Participating members can purchase 150-kilowatt-hour blocks of green energy for an additional fee of \$4.50 per month.
jacksonemc.com/green



Whole-house **surge protection** is available for motor-driven appliances, such as HVAC units, refrigerators, garage door openers and water heaters. High-quality plug-in surge protectors are also available for \$17-\$88.
jacksonemc.com/surge



Low-interest loans up to \$5,500 can help members complete energy efficient home improvements, such as installing ENERGY STAR®-rated appliances or installing an ENERGY STAR-qualified heat pump replacement.
jacksonemc.com/homeplus



Budget billing levels out the seasonal peaks of electricity use so members pay an average of their annual energy consumption each month.
jacksonemc.com/budgetbilling



Through our partnership with filterchange.coop, you can have the right-sized **filters delivered** to your door at the lowest price. You can also get email reminders when it's time to check them.
jacksonemc.com/filter



Rebates save you money if you need to replace your heat pump or water heater.
jacksonemc.com/rebates

MAKE IT *fun* TEACH KIDS TO SAVE ENERGY

Parents may understand that saving energy is a part of managing a household budget. But, kids? Most likely, they need some help.

The good news is that teaching kids about energy efficiency can be fun. By making energy-saving steps entertaining for kids, they'll have an easier time learning.

Not sure how? Try some of these kid-friendly lessons to make energy efficiency fun.





“GOODNIGHT, LIGHTS”

Make conserving energy part of your daily bedtime routine. **Walk around your house with your child and say “goodnight” to every light** while turning it off.

LIGHT POLICE

Pretend your child is a police officer on “light duty.” **Give your child the job of turning off all lights in your home** to enforce the idea of saving energy.



CONNECTED ENERGY

If you have a smart thermostat, use your smart thermostat’s app to access your energy use. **Make it a game for your kids to guess your daily energy use**, based on the recent weather temperatures. The guess (or guesses) closest to your actual energy use gets a reward.



DINNER POWERED BY KIDS

Encourage your kids to prepare a family dinner that doesn’t use electricity. That means skipping the microwave and oven to create a healthy family meal (hey, salads count!).



“I SPY”

Have your child put on a “detective suit” and **pretend to go hunting for energy wasters**, like devices plugged in electrical outlets that aren’t in use, or dripping faucets.

RIBBON GAME

Find potential air leaks in your home by using a piece of ribbon. Hold the ribbon around window frames and gaps around doors. If the ribbon moves, there’s an air gap - which means your house is losing energy. If you find an air leak, involve your kids in buying and installing weather stripping.



ELECTRICITY

challenge

During a week, aim to check all five of these boxes for your household. Make this a family game and celebrate your accomplishment when you check all five boxes:

- Turn off all lights before leaving your home

- Take a shower in five minutes or less to conserve heated water

- Wash clothes in a full load of the washing machine using cold water, which saves energy

- Have a “digital detox” day or a few hours and skip turning on TVs, computers, video games and smartphones

- Keep your thermostat at 68 degrees in the winter and 78 degrees in the summer

For 20 years, Habitat for Humanity of Madison County has been an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, the worldwide nonprofit that works with families to build affordable homes.

Habitat for Humanity International started in 1976 in Americus, Ga., and now builds houses in more than 70 countries and almost 1,400 communities across the U.S. Habitat partners with prospective homeowners to build or renovate houses. New homeowners work alongside volunteers to build their home, for which they pay an affordable, interest-free mortgage.

Based in Comer, Habitat of Madison County was organized in 1998, and has built eight houses and remodeled one. Using the Habitat model for homeownership helps get families unable to qualify for conventional loans into homes and provides them with a community as well, according to Habitat of Madison County President John King.

“We work with the families to build their houses, and then visit them and keep in touch,” King said. “We live in the same community and care about one another.”

Ron Little, Don Mosley and Larry Blount formed the affiliate in 1998 in response to the need in Madison County for affordable housing. Two years later, they completed construction on the



Patty, seated, was the first Habitat for Humanity of Madison County homeowner and continues to volunteer with the organization. Board members are, from left, Brad Smith, Hattie Lawson, John King, Mitchell Hill, and Ron Little, who donated the land on which Patty’s house was built.

first Habitat house on land in Comer donated by Ron and his wife, Marcia. Eighteen years later, the Littles are still neighbors to the organization’s first homeowner. The affiliate’s last home was built in 2017 and the next is set for construction this year, according to King, who says Habitat owns 15 lots in Comer on which to build future homes.

“There’s real need for safe, affordable housing here,” he says, noting that Habitat of Madison County builds one house every two or three years. “We would like to build more. We have the lots and we have some funds. Our challenge is to increase the number of volunteers on our board and to increase Habitat’s visibility in the

county so we can eventually build one house each year.”

While many Habitat affiliates have at least one paid staff member, the Madison County affiliate is an all-volunteer organization with a need for more leadership, according to its president.

The Jackson EMC Foundation has provided several grants to Habitat of Madison County to purchase building materials such as drywall, plumbing fixtures, and vinyl siding. The last grant from the Jackson EMC Foundation provided \$10,000 for the organization to purchase building materials for its next house.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF MADISON COUNTY, VISIT MCGHFH.ORG.

MEMBERS MAKE IT DELICIOUS

Bread Pudding Recipe



“This is a great dessert for family and friends.”
— LINDA RENDON, LAWRENCEVILLE

- INGREDIENTS:**
 2 cans (12 oz.) evaporated milk
 1 lb. sliced bread, cut in pieces
 3 tsp. vanilla extract
 1 cup water
 1 ¼ cups granulated sugar
 ½ tsp. salt
 1 tbsp. ground cinnamon
 3 eggs, beaten

- 1 stick butter, melted
 ½ cup seedless raisins

- SAUCE:**
 ½ cup butter, softened
 1 cup granulated sugar
 1 egg, well beaten
 ½ tsp. vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS:
 Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine bread, evaporated milk, vanilla extract and water in a bowl and let stand for 3 minutes. Add sugar, salt, cinnamon, eggs, butter and raisins to bowl and mix well with spoon. Place mixture in a greased 13x9 baking pan. Bake for 1 hour.

For sauce, combine butter and sugar in a small saucepan. Cook over medium heat, stirring frequently until sugar is dissolved. Add beaten egg and whisk until well blended. Cook and stir over medium heat 1 minute. Remove from heat and allow to cool slightly. Add vanilla extract. Serve sauce warm, poured over individual servings of baked bread pudding.

FEATURED RECIPES WIN A \$200 PRIZE PACKAGE

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

The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total

\$93,200 IN GRANTS

during its January meeting, including \$83,200 to organizations and \$10,000 to individuals.

ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

\$20,000 | **North Gwinnett Cooperative Ministry**, for its Medication Assistance Program, which covers the cost of non-narcotic/controlled substance prescriptions for senior citizens and families who qualify for assistance, to provide consistent access to medication when costs or co-pays are too much.

\$15,000 | **L.A.M.P Ministries**, in Gainesville for its Community Youth and Children's program, which combines group and individual counseling, community activities and mentoring to provide high risk youth in Banks, Gwinnett, Hall, Jackson and Lumpkin counties with a positive alternative to gangs, drugs and other delinquent behaviors.

\$15,000 | **Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry**, for its Emergency Assistance Program, which provides a safety net for clients dealing with difficult and often temporary circumstances by providing emergency food supplies, shelter, prescription medications and referrals to local clinics, enabling them to move toward self-responsibility.

\$10,000 | **Banks-Jackson Emergency Food Bank**, a Commerce-based nonprofit organization, to help purchase food for needy families in Banks and Jackson counties.

\$9,200 | **Hope Pregnancy Resource Center**, a pregnancy and family resource center serving Jackson County, to help purchase new curriculum and lesson modules, as well as its "Earn While You Learn Program," which provides clients an opportunity to learn about infancy, child care, parenting, and life skills while earning needed supplies.

\$5,000 | **Bethany Christian Services of Georgia**, to help provide financial assistance for foster care development, training, recruitment

and home study materials throughout the Jackson EMC service area.

\$5,000 | **Jewish Family & Career Services**, a nonsectarian agency providing human services programs, for its Ben Massell Dental Clinic in Gwinnett County to provide dental care to 232 uninsured, low-income residents.

\$2,500 | **Happy Sacks**, a program of the Duluth First United Methodist Church, to provide weekend backpacks filled with nutritious foods to needy children in seven local schools.

\$1,500 | **Cozy Quilters of St. Matthew Women's Club**, in Winder, to help purchase fleece, thread and other materials and supplies to make quilts for distribution to the sick, injured or terminally ill in Jackson, Barrow and Gwinnett counties.

INDIVIDUAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

\$5,000 to provide assistance with a new HVAC unit for a senior citizen.



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

IT'S THE LAW: MOVE OVER FOR UTILITY WORKERS

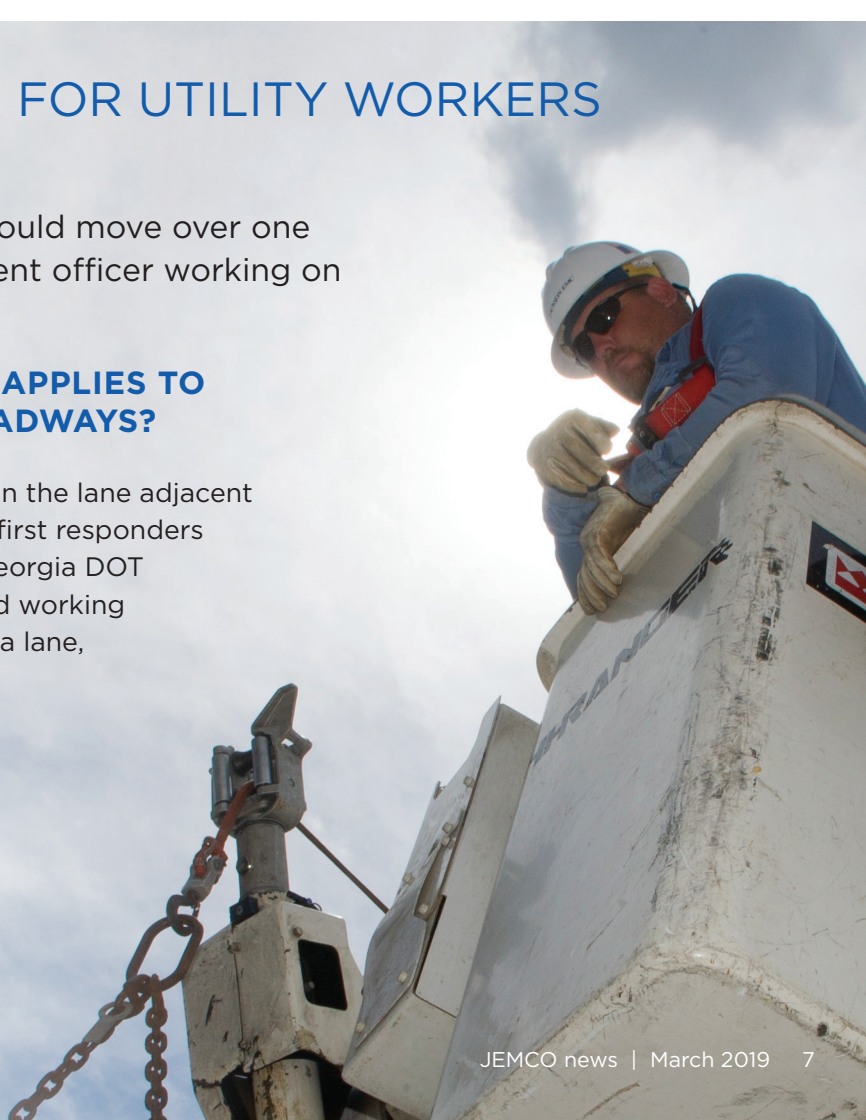
Motorists in Georgia already know they should move over one lane when they drive near a law enforcement officer working on the side of a roadway.

BUT, DID YOU KNOW THAT SAME LAW APPLIES TO UTILITY LINEMEN WORKING NEAR ROADWAYS?

Georgia's Move Over Law says motorists traveling in the lane adjacent to the shoulder must move over one lane when all first responders (law enforcement, fire and EMS), utility vehicles, Georgia DOT vehicles, HERO units and wreckers are stopped and working in an official capacity. If motorists can't move over a lane, they should slow down and be prepared to stop.

The law is intended to keep emergency and utility personnel safe.

With peak travel season approaching, motorists are reminded that failure to follow the law could result in a fine up to \$500, according to the Governor's Office of Highway Safety.



**YOUR POWER.
YOUR COMMUNITY.**

A PUBLICATION FOR
JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

JACKSON EMC OFFICES

1000 Dawsonville Highway
Gainesville, GA
(770) 536-2415

85 Spratlin Mill Road
Hull, GA
(706) 548-5362

850 Commerce Road
Jefferson, GA
(706) 367-5281

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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JEMCTV1



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Jackson EMC

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID

jacksonemc.com

DOWNED AND DANGEROUS

If you see a downed power line, always assume it's energized and dangerous. Avoid going near it or anything in contact with the power line. Also, follow these tips:



Never drive over a downed power line or through water that's touching a line.



Downed power lines can energize the ground up to 35 feet away - **so keep your distance.**



If you see a downed power line, call Jackson EMC immediately at 1-800-462-3691.



Never try to move a downed power line, even if you think the line is de-energized or if you're using a non-conductive item.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/SAFETY.