

# JEMCOnews

A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS



## BE SCAM **AWARE**

### FEBRUARY 2022 | IN THIS ISSUE

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SHARE YOUR FAVORITE RECIPES WITH *JEMCO NEWS*



# HEARTWARMING SUPPORT

**As a parent, I always enjoyed seeing my kids play in the snow. They'd make snowmen and toss around a few snowballs. Snow days are fun – both for kids and parents. Icy weather, however, doesn't melt my heart as easily.**

Just half an inch of ice can add 500 pounds of weight to the length of a power line. The buildup of ice on power lines and trees may cause them to break, resulting in power outages. In cases of severe weather, like Winter Storm Izzy, there may be many outages that disrupt our community. Icy tree limbs may be entangled in downed power lines, and roads may be slippery – even for a bucket truck.

Thankfully, our crews remained safe while working in such challenging conditions during Izzy. And it was a cooperative effort to restore power. We were fortunate to have assistance from 128 contract crew members. We had the support of local law enforcement agencies to get crews to the right places for replacing broken lines and poles. In all, we restored power to more than 31,000 members in less than 24 hours following the storm on January 16.

We understand how frustrating it is to be without power, especially during extreme weather. In spite of your discomfort, we were truly impressed with our members' outpouring of love and support while we worked to restore power following Winter Storm Izzy. One of the many comments on social media from members said, "With the wind howling out there and all the sleet, freezing rain and snow coming down this morning, I was surprised how quickly power was restored. Thank you!"

We appreciate all your kindness from the words of encouragement on social media

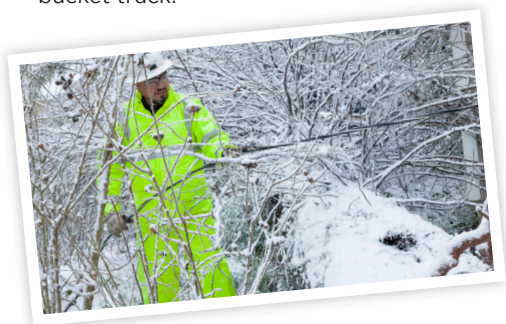


to the warm cups of coffee shared with our crews.

Ice storms are a big deal here in Georgia. We're thankful everyone remained safe and we're humbled by your support. Thank you!

**Have a story to share about crews restoring power following Winter Storm Izzy? Email me at [chip@jacksonemc.com](mailto:chip@jacksonemc.com).**

**Chip Jakins, President/CEO**



## VIEW YOUR ENERGY USE

WITH THE MYJACKSONEMC MOBILE APP, WEBSITE

Did you know you can view your energy use by the hour, day, month or specific date range? With the MyJacksonEMC mobile app and website, you can easily view your energy use.

The tools in MyJacksonEMC allow you to see changes to your energy use based on weather temperatures. MyJacksonEMC can show you the hours of the day you're using the most electricity.



**To get started, download the MyJacksonEMC mobile app on the App Store or Google Play, or visit [MyJacksonEMC.com](http://MyJacksonEMC.com).**



# 5 REASONS TO SWITCH TO PAPERLESS BILLING

Jackson EMC members can choose to receive their monthly bill in their email inbox instead of getting a statement in the mail.

Thinking of signing up for paperless billing? Here are some reasons to make the switch:

## **SPEED**

You'll receive an email alert as soon as your bill is ready.

## **SECURITY**

Use your MyJacksonEMC account to securely access and pay your bill on the website or mobile app.

## **EASE**

Reduce the clutter of paper bills. Log in to the website or mobile app any time to view or print your bill statements.

## **ECO-FRIENDLY**

Fewer paper bills means fewer trees need to be cut down to create them.

## **SAVES MONEY**

Skip buying stamps to mail your payment. The cooperative also lowers its operating costs by spending less on printing and mailing bills.



Sign up for paperless billing with a MyJacksonEMC account at [myjacksonemc.com](https://myjacksonemc.com) or through the MyJacksonEMC mobile app. For assistance, call us at **1-800-462-3691**.



# BE SCAM **AWARE**

Jackson EMC wants you to avoid being the victim of a scam. Scammers are known to target customers of utility companies, including Jackson EMC, by pretending to be a representative of the company.

Jackson EMC will never demand immediate payment over the phone or email. If any request seems suspicious, contact Jackson EMC at 1-800-462-3691.

LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW TO PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION AT  
[JACKSONEMC.COM/SAFETY-AND-SECURITY](https://www.jacksonemc.com/safety-and-security).

## JACKSON EMC USES MULTIPLE WAYS TO COMMUNICATE WITH MEMBERS WHEN THEY HAVE A PAST DUE BILL.

### WHAT WE DO



#### provide secure phone line

**Provide a secure phone number** (1-888-228-9166) to make payments 24/7.



#### offer online payment

**Offer online payment options** on the MyJacksonEMC mobile app and website.



#### mail payment reminders

**Mail payment reminders** to members who haven't paid a bill.



#### provide customer service

**Provide customer service representatives** who can provide information securely about your account by calling 1-800-462-3691 Monday-Friday, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.



#### make courtesy calls

**Make courtesy reminder calls** to members who may be subject to disconnection. These calls don't demand immediate payment.

## SCAMMERS ARE KNOWN TO USE TACTICS THAT WILL GET POTENTIAL VICTIMS TO ACT FAST.

### WHAT WE DON'T DO



#### send people

**Send people** to your house or business to collect payment.



#### pay through text

**Require you to make a payment** from a link sent in a text message.



#### threaten disconnection

**Call and threaten disconnection** if a payment isn't made immediately, typically over the phone, via money transfer, prepaid debit cards or by cryptocurrency, like Bitcoin.



#### urgent payment via email

**Send emails urging immediate payment** for past due balances.



#### demand payment

**Demand payment** to a third-party payment website that's not jacksonemc.com or MyJacksonEMC.com.



#### ask for your Social Security number

**Ask for your Social Security number**, date of birth or financial information (bank account or debit/credit card information) in an unsolicited call, email or text.

The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total

**\$74,781 in grants**

including \$60,000 to organizations and \$14,781 to individuals, during its December meeting

**ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:**

**\$15,000 | Adventure Bags, Inc.,** an Auburn-based nonprofit that creates comfort bags and distributes them to displaced children through local DFCS offices, domestic violence shelters, fire departments, group homes and children's shelters in Jackson EMC's service area to provide comfort and security in a crisis.

**\$15,000 | Jackson County Certified Literacy Community Program,** to provide financial assistance for students to take the GED exam.

**\$10,000 | Angel House of Georgia, Inc.,** a Gainesville recovery residence for women with alcohol and/or drug addiction, to enable women with no financial resources

or support, to participate in the program by covering entrance fees and one month of living expenses.

**\$10,000 | Eyes of Love Lighthouse Mission, Inc.,** a Buford-based grassroots ministry that collects and distributes clothes, food and furniture to families in need in Barrow, Gwinnett and Hall counties, to help pay with rent on the building that houses the mission's inventory.

**\$10,000 | J's Place Recovery Center,** which provides support services for Hall County residents recovering from drug and alcohol addiction, to help purchase a vehicle to transport clients to the center.

**INDIVIDUAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:**

**\$4,781 |** to obtain a **city water connection** for a senior citizen.

**\$5,000 |** to fund **roof repairs** for a senior citizen.

**\$5,000 |** to fund **plumbing repairs** for a person with disabilities.



Jackson County Certified Literacy Community Program



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

## MOVE OVER TO PROTECT UTILITY, EMERGENCY WORKERS

### HELP KEEP LINEMEN SAFE.

When you see a utility vehicle on the side of the road with its emergency lights flashing, be sure to move over a lane. If you can't move over, slow down.

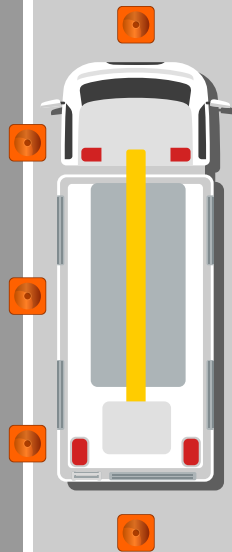
Move Over Laws, like those in Georgia and across the U.S., help protect emergency and utility workers from passing vehicles while protecting them from accidents.

If you can't move over a lane because it would be unsafe – because other vehicles are in the lane or you're on a two-lane road – then you're required to slow down to a "reasonable and proper speed" that's less than the speed limit.

In those cases, be prepared to stop.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GEORGIA'S MOVE OVER LAW, VISIT [GAHIGHWAYSAFETY.ORG](http://GAHIGHWAYSAFETY.ORG).



## Penang Pineapple Salsa



### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cucumber, diced
- 1/2 pineapple, cored and diced
- 1/2 green bell pepper, diced
- 2 tomatoes, diced
- 1/2 lime, juiced
- 1 Tbsp sugar
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp black pepper
- 1 tsp cilantro, chopped



“ In Penang, Malaysia, my family often uses this dish as a side for special occasions. It’s a go-to dish for when you want to add an extra zing to your meal! ”

— HAFIZAH AB RAHIM, LAWRENCEVILLE

### DIRECTIONS:

Prepare all fruits/vegetables and add to a medium-sized mixing bowl. Add sugar, salt, black pepper and cilantro. Stir ingredients together and serve. Store in refrigerator.

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

## COMMUNITY IMPACT: GEORGIA HEALTHY FAMILY ALLIANCE

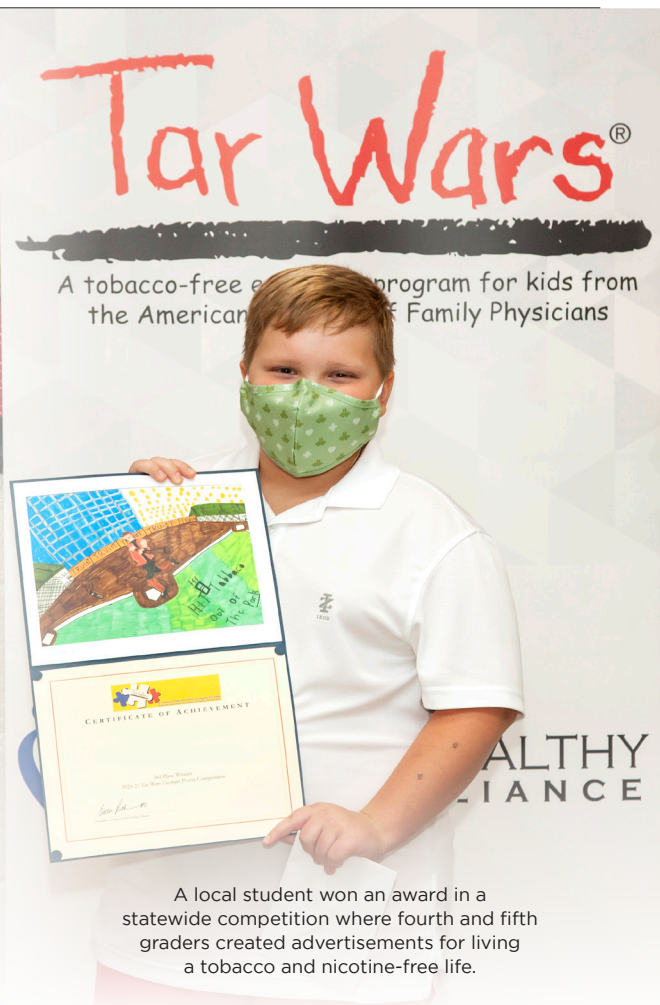
The Georgia Healthy Family Alliance works to reverse the recent trend of more teens vaping and using e-cigarettes.

The Jackson EMC Foundation provided a \$10,000 grant to the Northeast Georgia Strike Force for its Tar Wars campaign to address this trend. This national vaping and tobacco use prevention program is overseen in Georgia by the Tucker-based Georgia Healthy Family Alliance, the foundation arm of the Georgia Academy of Family Physicians. The initiative began in 1988 to combat smoking and chewing tobacco and evolved as tobacco products changed.

The Tar Wars program focuses on the dangers of tobacco use, e-cigarettes, vapes and hookahs for fourth and fifth graders in Barrow and Hall counties. “Our goal is to shape children’s opinions

about vaping before they start – to teach them about the dangers before they are offered their first cigarette, vape or dip,” said Kara Sinkule, deputy director at Georgia Healthy Family Alliance.

The Tar Wars program was presented to 2,731 students last spring with many creating artwork for a statewide poster contest. The Georgia Healthy Family Alliance continues to seek creative ways to keep kids away from tobacco and vapes. “The need for vaping and tobacco use prevention could not be more urgent,” said Dr. Monica Newton, chair of the Northeast Georgia Strike Force.



A local student won an award in a statewide competition where fourth and fifth graders created advertisements for living a tobacco and nicotine-free life.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE GEORGIA HEALTHY FAMILY ALLIANCE, VISIT [GEORGIAHEALTHYFAMILYALLIANCE.ORG](http://GEORGIAHEALTHYFAMILYALLIANCE.ORG).

**YOUR POWER.  
YOUR COMMUNITY.**

A PUBLICATION FOR  
JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

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Suwanee, GA  
(770) 963-0305 or  
(706) 543-4009



PERIODICALS  
POSTAGE PAID



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JEMCTV1



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Jackson EMC

[jacksonemc.com](http://jacksonemc.com)

## Share Your Favorite Recipes with **JEMCO News**

### Have a prize-worthy recipe you want to share with your fellow Jackson EMC members?

We test member-submitted recipes each month for *JEMCO News*. The selected winner receives a prize package including a pressure cooker/air fryer combo and other kitchen goodies from Jackson EMC.

By submitting your favorite recipe to *JEMCO News*, you can be part of the long history of members sharing their recipes. When Jackson EMC began serving members in 1938, members weren't familiar with how to prepare food with electric appliances.

So, co-op employees shared ideas on how to use these resources in the kitchen. That tradition continues today with members sharing their favorite recipes with fellow members.

We also publish archives of recipes at [jacksonemc.com/recipes](http://jacksonemc.com/recipes).

Send us your recipes, with your name, address and phone number to: Cooperative Cooking, Jackson EMC, P.O. Box 38, Jefferson, GA 30549, or send an email to *JEMCO News* editor Kerri Testement at [recipes@jacksonemc.com](mailto:recipes@jacksonemc.com).

