

# JEMCOnews

A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS



**PREPARE FOR**

# **WINTER STORMS**

**JANUARY 2019 | IN THIS ISSUE**

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APPLY NOW FOR THE 2019 WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR  
SAVE ON ADMISSION TO NORTH ATLANTA HOME SHOW  
SIGN UP FOR BUDGET BILLING



# ALWAYS READY

When a powerful storm hits a community, the images on TV show the devastation Mother Nature can dish out. Whether it's heavy rain, wind, snow or ice, severe weather can cause large scale outages. When that happens, Jackson EMC stands ready to respond.

Every electric provider – including Jackson EMC – works hard to maintain effective plans before and during emergency situations to restore power as quickly and safely as possible. We can't predict everything Mother Nature will throw at us, but we stay ready and you should, too!

This issue of *JEMCO News* shares how you can make plans and preparations for winter storms. Just as you would prepare for a storm at home, we take steps to prepare, assess and respond here at Jackson EMC. Our storm plan takes in to account lessons we've learned and best practices from other utilities around the country. Some of the experiences from recent storms that impacted the Southeast U.S. have influenced the latest updates to our plan. We constantly strive to improve our plan to be as prepared as possible.

At Jackson EMC, when severe weather approaches our plans call for "all hands on deck." Every Jackson EMC employee has a pre-defined role in response to storms. Some, like linemen, remain in roles that are close to their regular responsibilities. Other employees may shift to roles that are outside of their normal routine. For example, our accounting department becomes responsible for overseeing food distribution for everyone helping in the restoration effort and lodging for crews from other co-ops. This type of response ensures we use all our resources in the most efficient and effective way to get your lights on as quickly as possible.

During a storm, our System Control is at the center of our outage response efforts. Our System Control coordinators are there constantly assessing the ongoing situation and monitoring weather conditions across our service area. Think of their role as an air traffic controller for the electric system. In addition to dispatching crews, they use automated technology to restore power almost immediately. By using this technology throughout our service area, our System Control

has the capacity to decrease a power outage's impact immediately even before a crew arrives.

This type of preparation helps us stay ready to respond in the quick, safe and reliable manner you've come to expect. At Jackson EMC, we're focused on continuous improvement to serve you better.

We hope our storm preparation tips help you feel just as prepared at home. By being prepared, all of us will be ready for whatever Mother Nature has in store.

Have a question for me? Email me at [chip@jacksonemc.com](mailto:chip@jacksonemc.com).



**Chip Jakins,**  
President/CEO

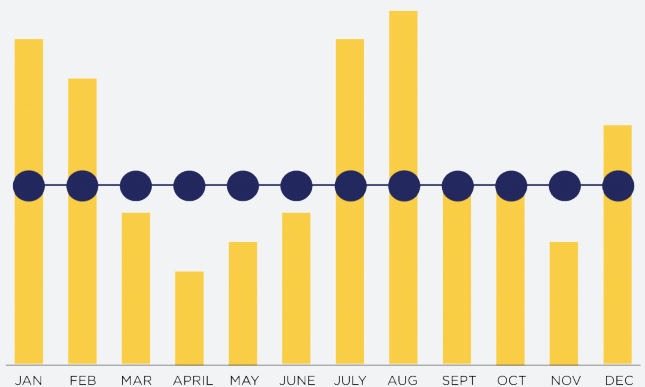
## SIGN UP FOR BUDGET BILLING

# Pay the Same Amount Each Month with Budget Billing

### NEED TO KNOW HOW MUCH YOUR ELECTRIC BILL WILL COST EACH MONTH?

With Jackson EMC's budget billing program, you pay the same amount each month.

In winter and summer months, heating and air conditioning systems are used more often, which is reflected in electric bills. Budget billing takes the 12-month average of your household's electric bill and balances it so you pay the same amount each month.



KEY: ■ MONTHLY ENERGY USE ● ELECTRIC BILL

FOR DETAILS, VISIT [JACKSONEMC.COM/BUDGETBILLING](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/BUDGETBILLING).

VOL. 67, NO. 1, JANUARY 2019 (ISSN 1061-5601), IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT OF JACKSON ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORP., 825 BUFORD DRIVE LAWRENCEVILLE, GA. SUBSCRIPTION \$3.50 PER YEAR AS PART OF YEARLY MEMBERSHIP. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT LAWRENCEVILLE, GA AND ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Kerri Testament, Editor. | POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *JEMCO News* 825 Buford Drive Lawrenceville, GA.

# Washington Youth Tour Applications Open

Student leaders in high schools across Jackson EMC's service area can experience a unique leadership opportunity in the nation's capital this summer.

Applications are now open for the Washington Youth Tour – a week-long, all-expenses paid experience to develop students' leadership skills while educating them about the cooperative business model, American history and government. The tour has been sponsored by the nation's electric cooperatives since 1958. Jackson EMC will send four delegates to Washington, D.C. for the tour June 13-20, 2019.

Tour highlights include visits to the Smithsonian museums, the Newseum and Mount Vernon; a wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery; and the Sunset Parade at the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima statue). Also, delegates will meet Georgia's congressional delegation during a personalized tour of the U.S. Capitol.

Current high school sophomores and juniors with demonstrated potential for leadership, academic success and community service can learn more about the Washington Youth Tour, including how to apply, by visiting [jacksonemc.com/wyt](http://jacksonemc.com/wyt). The deadline to apply is Feb. 15.



*"Visiting the Newseum confirmed my career choice to be a journalist. It showed me the importance of documenting history."*

BRIANI NETZAHUATL, A MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL STUDENT AND 2018 DELEGATE.

*"Meeting my congressman inspired me to get involved in my community."*

EBUN AJAYI, A PEACHTREE RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT AND 2018 DELEGATE.



FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
VISIT [JACKSONEMC.COM/WYT](http://JACKSONEMC.COM/WYT)

# PREPARE FOR WINTER STORMS

## STAY WARM



Use generators only outside of buildings and away from windows. Always read the manufacturer's directions before using a generator.



Limit your time outside. If you need to go outside, wear layers of warm clothing. Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.



Gather warm clothing, blankets or sleeping bags, along with sturdy shoes.

## STAY CONNECTED



Use an AM/FM radio or NOAA weather radio to hear news updates on winter storm conditions. Be sure to have extra batteries.



Charge cell phones and tablets prior to a winter storm hitting. Stay connected to loved ones via text messaging or phone calls.



Plan to check on neighbors and loved ones to ensure they are safe in extreme winter weather conditions.

When temperatures drop and winter storms hit, heavy snow and ice can lead to downed power lines. During a power outage, Jackson EMC crews will work as quickly and as safely as possible to restore power, but there are a few things you can do to prepare for winter storms.

## STAY FED AND HEALTHY

Prepare at least a three-day supply of food in your household that doesn't require cooking. Canned goods, cereal, crackers and bread are good options. Five gallons of water per person per day should also be available in the event of an extended power outage.



Ensure you have enough medication, including prescription medication, for at least three days or more. If your medication requires refrigeration or you have medical equipment that requires electricity, create a backup plan in the event of an extended power outage.

## STAY SAFE



Pack an emergency supply kit in your vehicle that includes a cell phone

charger, first-aid kit, jumper cables, flares, water, snacks, flashlight, blanket, shovel, gloves, boots, warm clothing and ice scraper. In extreme winter conditions, avoid driving on roads unless it's necessary.

Prepare your vehicle for cold temperatures by having a mechanic check its antifreeze levels, battery, brakes, exhaust system, filters, lights, oil, windshield wipers and tires.



Stay away from downed power lines.

Always assume a downed line is live and stay as far away as possible. If the line is down in an area that poses an immediate risk, call 911 and report downed lines to Jackson EMC at 1-800-245-4044.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [JACKSONEMC.COM/STORM](https://www.jacksonemc.com/storm).



## COMMUNITY IMPACT: BARROW MINISTRY VILLAGE

When Barrow Ministry Village started in 2012, its founding leaders wanted to focus on three key areas that lacked resources in the community: Food distribution, foster family resources and affordable counseling services. Over time, the Barrow Ministry Village has narrowed its focus to offering professional counseling, foster family support and support for grandparents raising their grandchildren.

Barrow County's poverty rate is 20 percent – making it difficult for many people in the community to get professional counseling, even with medical insurance. Oftentimes, co-pays for counseling make it cost prohibitive, said Becky Lee, executive director of the Barrow Ministry Village.

"If you're looking at paying your electric bill or getting counseling, there just wasn't a good option," Lee said.

Providing professional counseling services to those who otherwise couldn't afford it is the greatest demand for Barrow Village Ministry, Lee said. The nonprofit organization uses funding it receives from the Victims of Crime Act Assistance (VOCA) grant to provide

counseling services for victims of crimes that are recovering from trauma, child abuse, domestic violence and other issues. However, Barrow Ministry Village needed additional resources to support people in the community facing family or mental health issues that could be addressed through counseling.

The Jackson EMC Foundation recently awarded the Barrow Ministry Village a \$12,000 grant to serve 50 individuals with counseling sessions.

Barrow Ministry Village uses licensed therapists who are either employed or contracted with the Winder-based organization for counseling sessions. Clients are referred to the organization by churches, schools and other agencies. For clients, their treatment plan includes goals that address their individual needs, whether they be emotional, psychological or physical.

"We help them build coping skills," Lee said. "We help give them things they can do daily to reach their goals."

For Lee, one of the most rewarding aspects at Barrow Ministry Village is watching people turn the corner in the healing process and using their newfound coping skills.



Barrow Ministry Village's team includes Stephanie Miller, Ann Shannon, Teresa Brown, Sarah Beth Wheeler and Becky Lee.

"Seeing people really struggling and then seeing them change after a few sessions is inspirational," she said.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT  
BARROW MINISTRY VILLAGE, VISIT  
[BARROWMINISTRYVILLAGE.ORG](http://BARROWMINISTRYVILLAGE.ORG).

## NEED TO KNOW: NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jackson Electric Membership Corporation (EMC) has its corporate office at 850 Commerce Highway in Jefferson, Ga., with district offices in Gainesville, Lawrenceville, Jefferson and Hull. Jackson EMC is a cooperative providing electric service to 10 Northeast Georgia counties – Banks, Barrow, Clarke, Franklin, Gwinnett, Hall, Jackson, Lumpkin, Madison and Oglethorpe.

The cooperative is governed by a nine-member board of directors geographically representing the service area. Board members serve three-year staggered terms. Board members representing Gwinnett County, Barrow County, and Hall/Lumpkin counties will be elected at the 2019 Annual Meeting, which will be held on Thursday, September 19, 2019, at the corporate office in Jefferson.

Candidates may be nominated by the nominating committee, or by a petition complying with Article III Section 4 of the Bylaws that is signed by 50 or more members. Petitions must be delivered to the Corporation's office in Jefferson not less than 150 days, and not more than 200 days, prior to the Annual Meeting. The complete director nomination and election process is contained in Articles II and III of the Jackson EMC Bylaws, which are available at [jacksonemc.com](http://jacksonemc.com) or at any office.

The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total

**\$72,614 IN GRANTS**

during its November meeting, including \$58,319 to organizations and \$14,295 to individuals.



**ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:**

**\$15,000** | Gateway House, a Hall County nonprofit serving victims of domestic violence and their children, to provide emergency legal assistance in requesting, filing and enforcing a Temporary Protective Order (TPO) and safety plan to keep abusive partners from having contact with or harassing domestic violence victims.

**\$15,000** | Hi-Hope Service Center, in Lawrenceville, to help fund part-time nursing and nutrition services for 20 developmentally-disabled residents from Gwinnett and Barrow counties who require on-site nursing care for services such as daily medication, insulin, blood checks and specialized medical treatment.

**\$12,000** | Barrow Ministry Village, a Winder nonprofit that provides food distribution, foster family resources and affordable counseling services to needy families in Barrow, Clarke, Gwinnett and Jackson counties, to provide 50 individuals struggling with PTSD, anxiety and other family issues with its counseling program.

**\$9,000** | Junior Achievement of Georgia, for program materials, support materials and supplies for the JA Biztown and JA Finance Park interactive programs at Discovery High School to teach Gwinnett County middle school students the concepts of financial literacy, business, entrepreneurship and career readiness.

**\$7,500** | Madison County Rotary Club Foundation, to purchase materials for at least 10 wheelchair-accessible ramps, which are constructed by Rotary Club members for local individuals who cannot afford them, increasing their general mobility and improving safety in the event they need to evacuate their home.

**\$7,500** | Reins of Life, a Franklin County nonprofit that offers hippotherapy treatment for special needs and at-risk children, youth and their families, to help five clients from Franklin and Banks counties attend therapy sessions that use a horse's movement to improve neuromuscular function.

**INDIVIDUAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:**

**\$4,800** | to help provide a new HVAC unit for a senior citizen with a disabled adult son.

**\$4,285** | to help provide a new HVAC unit for a senior citizen.

**\$3,590** | to provide assistance with dental work and dentures for a disabled person.

**\$1,620** | to provide assistance to purchase a rolling shower chair for a disabled person.

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

**MEMBERS MAKE IT DELICIOUS**

*Chicken Enchilada Soup*



“ This is the best soup there is and it’s great for cold weather. ”  
— ANGELA JONES, STATHAM

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 tbsp. canola oil
- 2 poblano peppers, finely chopped
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breast
- 1 (48 oz) box chicken broth
- 1 (14.5 oz) can diced tomatoes (undrained)
- 1 (10 oz) can enchilada sauce
- 2 tbsp. tomato paste
- 1 tbsp. chili powder
- 1 tsp. pepper

**DIRECTIONS:**

In a large skillet, heat oil on medium heat. Add peppers and onions. Cook for 6 minutes. Add garlic and cook one minute. Put all ingredients in a slow cooker, including pepper and onions. Cover and cook on low for 6 hours. When done, shred chicken and return to slow cooker. Stir all ingredients. Serve after stirring. Add shredded cheese, sour cream and tortilla chips for topping, if desired.

**FEATURED RECIPES RECEIVE \$200 PRIZE PACKAGE**

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).

**YOUR POWER.  
YOUR COMMUNITY.**

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JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

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**GET HOME IMPROVEMENT IDEAS AND SAVE**

**NORTH ATLANTA  
HOME  
SHOW**

Looking to make home improvements in the new year? The North Atlanta Home Show offers hundreds of home improvement experts and products under one roof.

The 2019 North Atlanta Home Show will be held at the Infinite Energy Center in Gwinnett on February 8-10. Experts on everything from flooring and cookware to outdoor lighting and furniture will be at this year's home show in Duluth. Use the accompanying coupon to save on ticket prices.

While you're there, be sure to visit the Jackson EMC booth where our representatives will be on hand to answer your energy-related questions and share information on our products and services.

**SAVE \$3 ONLINE NOW!**

Use promo code **JEMCO** at [NorthAtlantaHomeShow.com](http://NorthAtlantaHomeShow.com) or redeem at the box office. Valid on adult admission only.

**Friday, February 8 - Sunday, February 10**

**North Atlanta Home Show**

Infinite Energy Center

6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth, Ga.

800-395-1350 // [NorthAtlantaHomeShow.com](http://NorthAtlantaHomeShow.com)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 11 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 10 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 11 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

ADULTS (ONLINE): \$6

ADULTS (BOX OFFICE): \$8

SENIORS 65+ W/ID: FREE

CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER: FREE



USE PROMO CODE **JEMCO** AT  
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