

JEMCOnews

A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS



POWER UP:

ELECTRIC VEHICLES MAKING A CHARGE
FOR MAINSTAY ON ROADWAYS

JANUARY 2021

PSC PROTECTS 4+ MILLION EMC MEMBERS FROM RATE INCREASE, ENCOURAGES BROADBAND ROLLOUT





A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR BROADBAND PARTNERSHIPS

It's time to celebrate the future of broadband expansion in rural Georgia.

Last month, the Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) voted to support a proposal that offers incentives to expand broadband in rural areas of our state. With the PSC's approval, broadband providers will have access to EMC utility poles in rural, unserved areas for new attachments for \$1, per pole, per year. This important incentive, called the "One Buck Deal," means a brighter future for broadband access as we partner with broadband providers to bring this much-needed service to rural areas.

Equally important, the PSC's good decision protected more than 4 million EMC member-owners from the possibility of an energy rate increase that could have resulted from other proposals that were under consideration.

I want to thank the PSC for choosing a unique solution for Georgia that balances the need for broadband and protects the investment co-op members have made in the infrastructure of our electric

distribution system. **Commissioners Chuck Eaton, Tim Echols, Lauren "Bubba" McDonald Jr., Tricia Pridemore and Jason Shaw**, along with the staff of the PSC, worked hard on this important issue and rendered a unanimous 5-0 decision. Their support will lower costs for broadband providers to deploy in unserved areas, and streamline the process for broadband expansion.

The PSC's decision carries out the intent of "The Georgia Broadband Opportunity Act," legislation passed by the Georgia General Assembly in 2020. With the passage of this bill, the legislature identified the PSC and their staff as experts on the issue of utility regulation, infrastructure and rates. Legislators entrusted the PSC with the monumental task to research, study and find a solution that would protect energy consumers from a rate increase, but encourage more broadband partnerships across the state.

The five commissioners embraced that legislative directive and their hard work is worth championing. As broadband is expanded in rural Georgia, those communities will have better opportunities to provide reliable internet service for

schools, businesses and residents. With this vote, the PSC gives broadband providers access to utility infrastructure in unserved areas for next-to-nothing for six years in the areas where Georgians need it most. The PSC also protected rental rates in areas that already have broadband access, meaning hard-working co-op members will not face a potential rate increase. This was truly a win-win solution that was adopted for Georgia.

We've rolled out the red carpet to welcome broadband expansion in our state. With the support of the PSC, electric cooperatives in Georgia can now develop meaningful partnerships with broadband providers that connect unserved areas. We're excited about the opportunities we will have in the future to incentivize broadband expansion and build partnerships that help our members.

Have a question about expanding broadband in rural Georgia? Email me at chip@jacksonemc.com.

Chip Jakins, President/CEO



CHUCK EATON



TIM ECHOLS



LAUREN "BUBBA" MCDONALD



TRICIA PRIDEMORE



JASON SHAW

BUDGET BILLING:

PAY THE SAME AMOUNT EACH MONTH

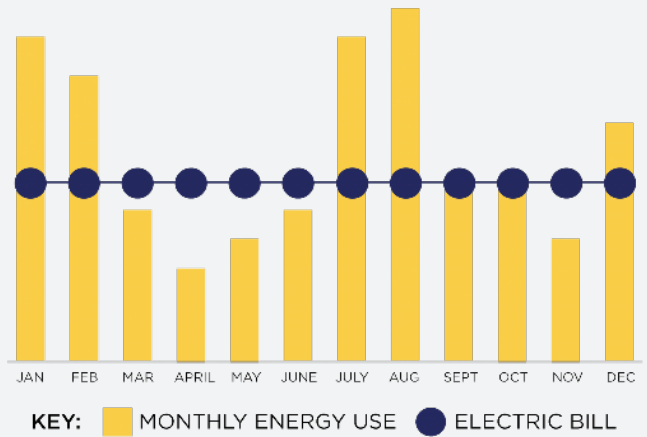
READY TO PAY THE SAME AMOUNT EACH MONTH FOR YOUR ELECTRIC BILL?

When you participate in Jackson EMC's budget billing program, you'll know how much to pay 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.



VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/BUDGETBILLING FOR DETAILS.



Ways to Pay YOUR JACKSON EMC BILL

When it comes to paying your bill, Jackson EMC offers a number of convenient options. See which options may be best for you.



PAYMENT KIOSKS

Use a payment kiosk at one of our local offices to pay with cash, checks or credit/debit cards*. Kiosks are available 24/7, including weekends and holidays.



AUTO PAY

Pay your bill automatically each month through a draft from your bank account or credit/debit card*. Sign up at MyJacksonEMC.com or via the MyJacksonEMC mobile app.



PHONE PAYMENTS

Call 1-888-228-9166 to pay over the phone using our automated payment service, which is available 24/7.



IN PERSON

Visit one of our local offices in Gainesville, Jefferson, Lawrenceville or Neese to pay in person. Offices hours are Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



ONLINE PAYMENTS

Make a payment at MyJacksonEMC.com or via the MyJacksonEMC mobile app.



MAIL

Send your payment to Jackson EMC at P.O. Box 100, Jefferson, GA 30549.

*We accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover, and debit cards with the Visa or Mastercard logo.



FOR COMPLETE DETAILS, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/WAYSTOPAY.

POWER UP:

ELECTRIC VEHICLES MAKING A CHARGE FOR MAINSTAY ON ROADWAYS

Electric Vehicles - also known as EVs - are gaining momentum as an option for vehicle buyers. From a Chevy Bolt to a Tesla Model 3, EVs are coming in more shapes, sizes and price points.

And with more options in the marketplace, more vehicle owners may be considering making the switch from gasoline to electric. If you're considering buying an electric vehicle - or you're curious about EVs - Jackson EMC can offer guidance.



HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

Jackson EMC's website offers several tools to members interested in buying an EV, including a savings calculator and EV model reviewer. Visit [jacksonemc.com/ev](https://www.jacksonemc.com/ev) for details.

To speak to one of our experts about buying an EV, call Jackson EMC at 1-800-462-3691.

HOW FAR CAN I DRIVE AN EV?

Most of today's electric vehicles have a driving range-per-charge between 50-330 miles. If your daily commute is under 250 miles per day, there's likely an affordable EV model to fit your needs.

However, long-range road trips can be challenging for today's EVs. While public charging infrastructure and battery technology are improving, long-range trips still require planning with an EV.



WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF EVS?

There are three common types of EVs: Battery Electric Vehicles (BEV or AEV), Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEV), and Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEV).



Battery Electric Vehicle or All-Electric Vehicles (BEV or AEV) have a battery and an electric motor instead of a gas tank and an internal combustion engine. These vehicles run entirely on electricity.



Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEV) have an electric motor and a gas-powered internal combustion engine. PHEVs can be plugged in to charge the battery when the vehicle is not in use.



Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEV) have an electric motor and a gas-powered internal combustion engine and don't plug-in for charging. HEVs may be an ideal choice for those with extended commutes and limited charging system access.

WHAT MAINTENANCE DOES AN EV REQUIRE?



EVs that are exclusively powered by electricity require less maintenance than conventional vehicles because there are fewer fluids — like oil and transmission fluid — to change and far fewer moving parts. EVs require minimal scheduled maintenance to their electrical systems.

EVs don't require oil changes. They also don't have spark plugs to be replaced or exhaust systems that may require repairs.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT CHARGERS?

EVs must charge through an electrical connection. There are three common categories of chargers: AC Level 1, AC Level 2 and DC Fast.

AC Level 1 chargers provide charging through a 120 V AC plug, most often used in home applications. A full charge may take up to 24 hours.

AC Level 2 chargers provide charging through a 240 V plug and requires installation by a qualified professional. Level 2 chargers are used in homes, workplaces and some public charging. Level 2 chargers typically deliver 10 to 60 miles of range per hour of charging.

DC Fast chargers provide charging through 480 V AC input and requires specialized, high-powered equipment. DC Fast chargers are most often located in public charging stations, especially in high traffic corridors. DC Fast chargers can deliver 80% battery charge in 20-30 minutes of charging.

EV charging times vary, based on the type of charger, type of battery, battery capacity, and whether the battery is depleted.

LEVEL 1
9-24 HRS
120 VOLT

LEVEL 2
4-6 HRS
240 VOLT

DC FAST
30 MIN.
480 VOLT

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO BUY AN EV?

The price of an EV depends on the make and model. Jackson EMC offers a comparison of price, range and battery capacity of EVs at jacksonemc.com/ev.

Jackson EMC members may qualify for a rebate for purchasing AC Level 2 EV chargers. Jackson EMC also offers an EV rate. More information is available at jacksonemc.com/ev.

—Information provided by Choose EV

OPERATION ROUND UP: YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total

\$72,319 IN GRANTS

during its November meeting.

ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

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

\$15,000 | **Northeast Georgia Care, Inc.**, in Gainesville, for its My Baby Counts program, which provides educational materials on parenting skills to pregnant women and new parents in Banks, Barrow, Clarke, Gwinnett, Hall, Jackson, Lumpkin and Madison counties.

\$10,000 | **Asian American Resource Foundation**, in Duluth, providing 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 within 30 days of program entry.

\$10,000 | **Sacred Roots Farm**, in Gainesville, providing a safe haven for women and children rescued from sex trafficking and abuse throughout the Jackson EMC service area, for childcare expenses, educational programming and counseling services.

\$5,000 | **Ark Family Preservation Center, Inc.**, which serves families in need of therapeutic support to help them remain unified and prevent abuse, for its Supervised Family Visitation Program that provides supervised visitation for children in foster care, in Banks, Franklin, Jackson and Madison counties.

\$5,000 | **Hispanic Alliance Georgia**, a Gainesville-based organization serving the Hispanic community in Gwinnett and Hall counties with educational programming, financial stability and healthcare, for its literacy program, including ESL (English as Second Language) and GED testing.

\$5,000 | **Lumpkin County Family Connection**, to purchase food for its Backpack Buddies Program, which provides six meals, snacks and drinks each weekend to children identified by Family Advocacy as food insecure.

\$5,000 | **Rachel's Gift**, an organization providing specialized bereavement care for parents who have lost a child to miscarriage, stillbirth or infant death, for its Support and Guidance Program, serving Banks, Barrow, Clarke, Gwinnett, Hall, Lumpkin, Madison and Oglethorpe counties.

\$2,319 | **Reins of Life, Inc.**, 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.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING LATEST GRANT AWARDS AND HOW TO APPLY FOR A GRANT, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION.

MEMBERS MAKE IT DELICIOUS

Cinnamon Bread



INGREDIENTS:

1 cup butter, softened
2 cups sugar
2 eggs
2 cups buttermilk or 2 cups milk plus 2 Tbsp. vinegar or lemon juice
4 cups flour
2 tsp. baking soda

CINNAMON & SUGAR MIXTURE:

$\frac{2}{3}$ cup brown sugar
2 tsp. cinnamon

DIRECTIONS:

Cream together butter, sugar and eggs. Add milk, flour and baking soda. Take half of batter and divide into two greased 5x9-inch pans so that each pan contains $\frac{1}{4}$ of the batter.

In separate bowl, mix brown sugar and cinnamon. Divide $\frac{3}{4}$ of the cinnamon mixture between the two pans, sprinkling onto top of batter in each pan. Divide remaining batter between the two pans, and sprinkle each with half of the remaining cinnamon topping. Use knife to swirl cinnamon mixture throughout batter.

Bake at 350 degrees for 55 to 60 minutes. Cool 20 minutes. Makes two loaves.

“ I like it because it's very soft and moist, almost like cake. It's really good. ”

— DU KIM VUONG, LAWRENCEVILLE

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:

JACKSON COUNTY CERTIFIED LITERATE COMMUNITY PROGRAM (CLCP)

Based in Hoschton, the Jackson County Certified Literate Community Program (CLCP) works to increase graduation rates and employability options through its support of adult education and family literacy for Jackson County residents.

The nonprofit organization recently received a \$12,400 Jackson EMC Foundation grant to subsidize GED exam costs for students.

“The largest barrier to GED enrollment and graduation for Jackson County residents is the exam fee,” said CLCP Executive Director Lisa Paez. “Anticipating this expense can be overwhelming and prevent students from enrolling.”

To help residents advance their education and obtain employment, CLCP recruits community support and funding sources while implementing literacy programs for adults 16 and older. Students are required to attend classes at least three hours a week and make regular learning gains. In 2019, Jackson County CLCP served 649 clients.

Paez describes the organization as “the social go-between” that connects GED students with career advisors and employment recruiters, health services and daycare providers.

“Students often can’t focus on tests because they’re worried about daycare, feeding their children, paying bills, things of that

nature,” she said. “The CLCP is the wraparound service that utilizes every local resource we can find to meet every challenge for these students. That way, when they’re in class, they’re focused on getting that diploma and not stressed about everything in the background.”

Almost all CLCP students who pass the GED earn more than a diploma, according to Paez who says they receive job training as well.

“That way, their pay rate is likely to be higher and they’re qualified to go into continuing education,” she said.

The Jackson EMC Foundation grant has been a huge help for students, according to Paez who says, “The four GED exams cost \$40 each for a total of \$160, and since most students are unemployed or underemployed, that’s a huge challenge for them and one of the main reasons they don’t graduate.”

On top of that, most CLCP students take an average of 16 to 20 practice tests to ensure they pass the GED, and those are \$6 apiece, Paez adds.

“The Jackson EMC Foundation grant gave us a little pot for practice tests and a giant pot for exams,” she says. “The grant made it possible for students to pay for their exams, so right now, there’s no excuse. The barrier of paying fees is gone. This grant gives us the flexibility to help a lot of people. And improved literacy not only helps residents increase in self-sufficiency – it helps the state attract new business and jobs.”



FOR MORE ON JACKSON COUNTY CLCP, VISIT JACKSONCOUNTYCLCP.ORG.

NEED TO KNOW: NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jackson Electric Membership Corporation (EMC) has corporate offices 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 Banks, Franklin, Jackson and Madison counties will be elected at the 2021 Annual Meeting, which will be held on Thursday, September 16, 2021, 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 or at any office.

**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

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID



@JacksonEMC



jacksonemc



JEMCTV1



jackson_emc



Jackson EMC

jacksonemc.com

CHECK YOUR HOME FOR POTENTIAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY ISSUES

Electrical failures and malfunctions are the most common causes of electrical fires.
You can check your home's electrical system to spot potential safety hazards.



ELECTRICAL OUTLETS

Faulty electrical outlets are a leading cause of home fires. As outlets age, so do the wires behind them. Any loose, damaged or warm-to-the-touch outlets should be checked by a licensed electrician.



OVERLOADED CORDS AND OUTLETS

Extension cords are not permanent solutions. Using an extension cord for too long may damage the cord, creating a fire and shock hazard. Consider having a licensed electrician install new outlets.



OLD APPLIANCES

Older appliances are more likely to have loose or damaged wiring, which means they're more likely to be a fire hazard. Check the wiring on any older appliances to determine if it's time to upgrade or replace.



ELECTRICAL WIRING

Frequently tripped breakers, flickering lights and burning smells are clear warning signs that electrical wiring isn't working properly. If your home is more than 20 years old, it may not be able to handle today's increased demand to power more appliances and equipment. If you suspect your home's wiring is outdated, contact a licensed electrician.

