

JEMCOnews

A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS



storm **READY**

*What Will Your Family
Need If You Lose Power
During a Storm?*

MARCH 2022 | IN THIS ISSUE

STAY SAFE USING A GENERATOR

SHIFT ENERGY USE TO SAVE ON ENERGY COSTS

FIND THE RIGHT CONTRACTOR FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT HOME IMPROVEMENTS



POWER IN PLANNING

Have you ever planned your day around the weather? Sure, we all have. When the forecast calls for rain, you bring an umbrella. When there's a sunny forecast, you may plan to spend extra time outdoors. That kind of planning helps your day and your week go better. But long-term planning for the weather can be a big help, too.

When I think about long-term planning for the weather, my dad and his garden come to mind. He does a lot of "weather planning" to ensure his garden is ready for each season. He's constantly mindful about which crops to plant, which seeds to start germinating, and which plants to rotate in and out of his greenhouse. He amazes me with his ability to produce so many varieties of vegetables and fruit from that small plot of land in his backyard.

The key to his success is carefully planning (followed by a lot of hard work) so no detail is overlooked. We do the same kind of "weather planning" here at Jackson EMC - but we're preparing a different type of garden. Our "garden" is an electric distribution system and just like my dad's garden, it has to be ready for every

season. Here in Georgia, our seasons bring everything from summer thunderstorms to the harsh effects of winter snow and ice. Occasionally, we even face the impacts of a tropical storm. Whatever Mother Nature brings, we have to do the planning and preparation well in advance so we have confidence in our ability to weather any storm.

Like the work Dad does tending the soil, our distribution network must also be properly maintained. Throughout the year, we regularly conduct pole and line inspections. Our goal is to find a potential problem before it becomes a major one. For example, we replace weakened poles, ensuring they are as strong and as resilient as possible.

Proper pruning also plays a big role in the success of his garden. Our system requires pruning to operate successfully. We proactively trim trees and vegetation near power lines and equipment to reduce the likelihood of a prolonged outage caused by fallen trees. Our vegetation maintenance plan ensures that we reach every overhead power line regularly to ensure the safe and efficient delivery of your power.

Another common theme when I'm talking about the success of Dad's garden is, well, Dad. None of that stuff happens without his hard work and dedication. That's where our people come in. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that our crews are ready to respond. Our engineers and technicians have designed a resilient system. Our contact center representatives are ready to take your call. Our warehousemen have our facilities well stocked with the supplies and equipment needed to respond. Our mechanics have our vehicles and equipment in tip-top shape. It's teamwork at its finest.

We're taking steps throughout the year to be sure our garden is ready and if you're planting one this season we hope yours is ready, too. This issue of *JEMCO News* includes ways you can prepare your family for whatever the weather brings - see inside for helpful weather planning tips.

Have a story to share on how your family prepares for severe weather? Email me at chip@jacksonemc.com.

Chip Jakins, President/CEO

CONNECT WITH CONTRACTORS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Finding the right contractor for your energy efficient home improvements can make a difference when it comes to quality and reliability. If you don't know where to start your search, we can help.



Jackson EMC's contractor network helps members connect with qualified contractors to make HVAC, insulation and weatherization improvements.

"Contractors in Jackson EMC's contractor network are trained in whole-house assessments, meaning how your home's HVAC, air sealing and insulation can work together to affect energy efficiency," said Jackson EMC's Director of Residential Marketing Christy Queen. "Contractors who take into consideration 'the house as a system' are most likely to meet members' needs and expectations."

As a member of Jackson EMC, you may qualify for financing of energy-efficient home improvements. To qualify for a HomePlus Loan, improvements must be made by a contractor from Jackson EMC's participating contractor network.

To learn more about the contractor network, including qualifications, contact a Jackson EMC Residential Energy Advisor at **1-800-462-3691**. To view a list of participating contractors, visit jacksonemc.com/contractors.

STAY SAFE WHEN USING A GENERATOR

A portable generator can keep your lights and appliances running during power outages while linemen make repairs to restore electricity. Keep these tips in mind when using a generator:



USE OUTSIDE

Don't run a generator inside any enclosed or partially enclosed structure, such as a garage. Using a generator indoors could be dangerous as carbon monoxide levels will rise faster indoors and could be fatal.



KEEP AT A DISTANCE

Put a generator outdoors at least 15 feet from doors, windows and vents to prevent dangerous carbon monoxide from entering your home.



CONNECT CORRECTLY

Never connect a generator directly to your household's outlets or electrical panel. Power from your generator could be sent back into power lines - which could electrocute linemen working on repairs. Use a qualified, licensed electrician to install a transfer switch to prevent electricity from "backfeeding."



USE APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT

Use heavy-duty, outdoor-rated extension cords that can handle the electric load when plugging in appliances directly into a generator.



REFUEL SAFELY

Turn off your generator and allow it to cool down before refueling.



KEEP DRY

Put your generator in a dry place outdoors under an open, canopy-like cover.

FOR MORE SAFETY TIPS, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/SAFETY.

storm

What Will Your Family Need If You Lose Power During a Storm?

READY



THINK OF YOUR FAMILY'S NEEDS

Before preparing your emergency plan, think of the needs and responsibilities of your family. Keep in mind these may include:

- Different ages of household members
- Responsibilities for helping others
- Dietary needs
- Medical needs, including prescriptions, medical devices and equipment
- Pets or service animals

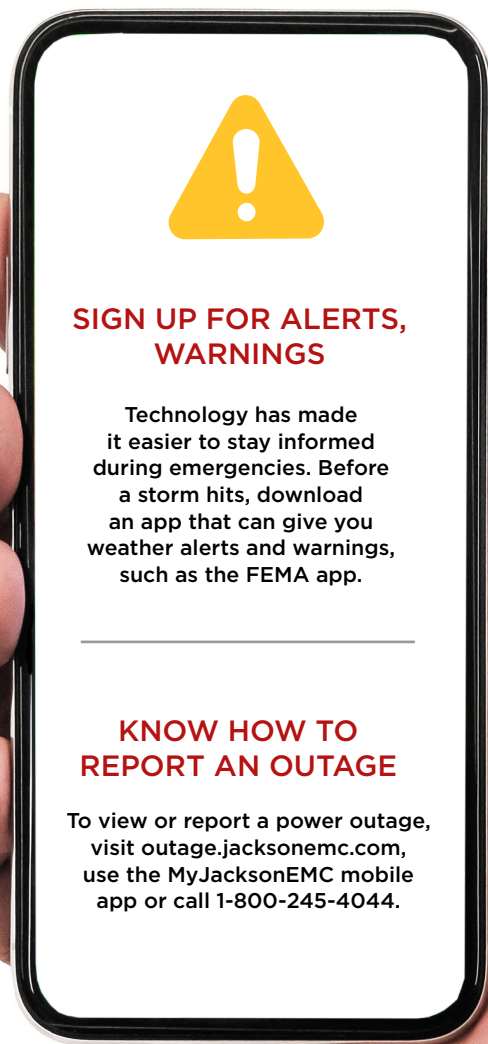


MAKE A PLAN

Put a plan together on how your family will respond to a storm. Consider that during a widespread emergency, such as a hurricane, you may not have power for several days.

Ask your family these questions and create a plan to respond.

- How will we receive emergency alerts and warnings?
- Do we need to update our emergency kit?
- How do we plan to communicate with family and friends during and after the storm?
- What is our plan to evacuate or seek other shelter, if needed?



MAKE AN EMERGENCY KIT

- WATER (A GALLON PER PERSON, PER DAY FOR SEVERAL DAYS)
- NON-PERISHABLE FOOD, SUCH AS DRIED FRUIT, PEANUT BUTTER OR ENERGY BARS
- MANUAL CAN OPENER
- PAPER PLATES, PLASTIC CUPS AND UTENSILS, PAPER TOWELS
- CASH
- PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS
- EXTRA BATTERIES OR AN ALTERNATIVE POWER SOURCE
- CELL PHONE CHARGING CABLES AND A BACKUP BATTERY
- TOILETRIES
- BATTERY-POWERED OR HAND-CRANKED RADIO
- SLEEPING BAG OR WARM BLANKET FOR EACH PERSON
- FLASHLIGHTS
- WHISTLE TO SIGNAL FOR HELP
- FIRST AID KIT
- PET FOOD
- BABY SUPPLIES (FORMULA, DIAPERS, ETC.)
- EXTRA PAIR OF EYEGLASSES

FOR MORE SEVERE WEATHER PREPARATION TIPS, VISIT JACKSONEMC.COM/STORM.

The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total

\$102,300 in grants

to organizations during its January meeting.

ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:
\$18,000 | Boys & Girls Club of Winder-Barrow, for its Goals for Graduation program that uses goals for school attendance, homework completion and positive study habits to promote academic achievement in middle and high school-aged members.

\$15,000 | Georgia Mountain Food Bank, Inc., which serves Hall and Lumpkin counties, for its Prescriptive Food Box Program, which provides healthy food and nutrition information tailored for low-income patients with cancer, diabetes or cardiac disease.

\$15,000 | St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lawrenceville, for its financial assistance program that provides funds for rent and mortgage to Gwinnett County families in crisis.

\$10,000 | Gainesville/Hall County Alliance for Literacy, Inc., to provide instructors for basic literacy classes for adults 16 and older, and GED preparation classes for students who have not completed high school.



Georgia Mountain Food Bank

\$10,000 | Our Neighbor, Inc., a Gainesville grassroots nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting young adults with special challenges to reach their maximum level of independence, to assist with its independent living program for residents with disabilities.

\$10,000 | Palm House Recovery Center, in Athens, for its services program for men and women throughout the Jackson EMC service area recovering from substance abuse.

\$10,000 | Madison County Rotary Foundation, to purchase materials for handicap ramps, which are built by Rotary Club members for local residents who can't afford them, increasing their general mobility and improving safety.

\$9,300 | Harmony House Child Advocacy Center, Inc., in Royston, which serves survivors of sexual assault in Franklin, Madison and Oglethorpe counties, for its Survivor Therapeutic Services Program.

\$5,000 | Ferst Readers, Inc., for its Readers Program that provides books to children under the age of five to improve childhood literacy in Franklin County.

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

SHIFT ENERGY USE TO SAVE IN THE SUMMER

Could you shift when you cool your home, do laundry or wash your dishes in the summer? If so, Jackson EMC's Time-of-Use rate may be an option allowing you to benefit from a lower rate all year.

How does it work? During summer (June 1 to September 15), your rate is lower on weekends, nights and mornings. During peak hours (3 to 8 p.m. on weekdays) when electricity is most expensive, your rate is higher for using electricity. In the fall, winter and spring, you'll pay a low, flat residential rate – regardless of when or how much electricity you use.

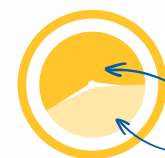
Time-of-Use is an option for members who can significantly shift when they use electricity during the summer, especially using their air conditioner, washer and dryer, and dishwasher. Sign up by May 1 by calling 1-800-462-3691 or visiting your local Jackson EMC office.

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



REGULAR RESIDENTIAL RATE
(Year-Round)

8.06¢-11.66¢



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

7.35¢ (8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. to 8 a.m.)

34.35¢ (3-8 p.m. weekdays)



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

7.35¢ (all hours)

Butterscotch Pound Cake



INGREDIENTS:

- 1 package yellow cake mix (15.25 oz), unbaked
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 package instant vanilla pudding mix (3.4 oz)
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 4 eggs
- 1 package butterscotch chips (11 oz)

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix yellow cake mix, sour cream, instant pudding mix, oil and eggs together in a bowl. Mix well. Add butterscotch chips and mix. Pour in a well-greased Bundt pan. Bake for 1 hour.

“ This has been our family favorite for generations! We would eat slices while sitting around and playing games during the holidays. We would also save room for another piece! ”

— BONITA SMITH, DACULA

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: BUTTERFLY DREAMS FARM THERAPEUTIC RIDING PROGRAM

Butterfly Dreams Farm Therapeutic Riding Program helps children and adults with special needs gain mobility and social skills while riding horses. The Jackson EMC Foundation provided a \$10,000 grant to the nonprofit for its therapeutic riding and hippotherapy program.

Hippotherapy targets children and adults with special needs like autism, cerebral palsy and Down syndrome. A licensed therapist uses the horse's movement to stimulate a rider's sensory systems, helping riders with limited mobility or speech to develop coordination and strength. Therapeutic riding focuses on horse care and riding techniques as certified instructors monitor horse and rider interaction to boost communication and psychosocial skills.

“At Butterfly Dreams Farm, children who work so hard to navigate a world not made with them in mind have a chance to be free and joyful with their equine companions,”

said Butterfly Dreams Board President Joey Bristol. “It's good for children and adults with various mental and physical challenges as well as any suffering from stress or anxiety.”

Riders are matched with horses that help them develop balance, coordination, and core strength which, in turn, strengthens brain muscles.

According to Bristol, studies show that a rider's movement while on a horse provides neurological, psychosocial and emotional benefits while developing fine and gross motor skills, communication skills, sensory awareness and independence.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BUTTERFLY DREAM FARMS, VISIT BUTTERFLYDREAMSFARM.ORG.



When riding horse Lilly, Nicholas gains confidence and improved posture while forming friendly relationships with Butterfly Dreams Farm volunteers.

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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PLANT THE RIGHT TREE IN THE RIGHT PLACE

Trees beautify the community, and when planted in the right spot, can help lower energy bills. But planting trees too close to power lines could be dangerous. Plant the “right tree in the right place” to enjoy safe, reliable electricity.

SMALL TREES

Avoid planting within 20 feet of power lines. When planting within 20 feet is unavoidable, use only shrubs or small trees.

MEDIUM TREES

Plant at least 25 feet from power lines.

LARGE TREES

Plant at least 50 feet from power lines.

Over 40 feet

