

JEMCOnews

A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

partnering
to meet a crisis

JACKSON
EMC
FOUNDATION

INSIDE: GEORGIA'S EMCS PLANS FOR
EXPANDING BROADBAND

NOVEMBER 2020 | IN THIS ISSUE

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YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AT WORK

Have you ever saved pennies in a jar? It amazes me how quickly they add up.

As a treat when all the grandkids were visiting, my parents would let them count the coins in their spare change jar and then take them out to splurge on a fun activity. Even though the grandkids are young adults now, they still talk about their excitement when they dumped out the change jar, separating the coins and rolling them in coin wrappers, and then with great joy announcing the final total. Then, they would spend another few hours coming up with a plan for what to do. Recently, we learned mom and dad were letting them count the same change every year. Once the grandkids left, they would empty the coins back out of the wrappers and back into the jug and start adding to the collection again so it got bigger each year. Who knew grandparents could be so sneaky?

We've got a similar concept going on here at Jackson EMC, only it's on a larger scale and it's not sneaky. Through our Operation Round Up® program, Jackson EMC members can contribute their spare change each month by rounding up their power bill to the next dollar. Almost 90% of Jackson EMC members participate in Operation Round Up! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

For the past decade and a half, your contributions have helped organizations that serve people to provide food, emergency shelter, rent assistance, therapeutic services, family counseling, arts programming and more. It's that kind of support that helps improve lives in our community. In the first 15 years of its existence, the Jackson EMC Foundation has awarded a total of \$15.7 million in grants to area nonprofits. That's an incredible amount of change for our community!

This year, that good work took on more urgency. When the COVID-19 pandemic started in March, many local families faced unexpected financial hardships. As the pandemic continued, many of our nonprofit partners lost valuable manpower when their faithful volunteers, who they depend on, had to stay at home because of the disease. Jolts to the supply chain left local food banks in short supply. Social distancing resulted in nonprofits rethinking their operational procedures. In addition to these constraints, these nonprofits were facing a greater call for their services in the community.

That's where our members' support, through Operation Round Up, came at a critical time. In March, April and May, the Jackson EMC Foundation awarded 32 emergency grants to nonprofits that rapidly responded

to the crisis by feeding the hungry, housing the homeless and providing medicine for the sick. A total of \$270,757 was given in emergency grants in response to the pandemic. As one charity reported, "There was no playbook for this, we had to provide our services as quickly as possible."

Once again, your small change changed lives. Thank you for allowing the Jackson EMC Foundation, through Operation Round Up, to be the largest change jar serving the needs of our local community. Indeed, those extra pennies set aside are helping our friends and neighbors in their time of need. It's something we all can be proud of – thanks again for 15 years of support. Well done.

Have a story about how a grant from the Jackson EMC Foundation affected your life? Share it with me at chip@jacksonemc.com.

Chip Jakins, President/CEO

An Update on Offering Incentives to Broadband Providers

In last month's issue of *JEMCO News*, we shared information about the Georgia Broadband Opportunity Act. In response to this act, electric cooperatives across the state, including Jackson EMC, have "rolled out the red carpet" with a proposed solution that incentivizes broadband providers to expand in areas that need it most in Georgia.

HERE'S AN UPDATE ON THIS ISSUE:

- A proposal on behalf of Georgia's EMCs was submitted to the Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC). The two-pronged incentive approach calls for a "One Buck Deal" in which EMCs will lower their pole attachment rate to \$1 per pole, per year, for five years for broadband providers to expand service in unserved areas. The proposal also calls for the "Georgia One Touch Make Ready" program to empower broadband providers to prepare EMC poles without delay for their equipment.
- The PSC will hold public hearings on submitted proposals on November 18-20.
- A final decision by the PSC on the proposals and testimonies will be made on December 15.



GEORGIA'S EMCS ARE EXPECTING A POSITIVE OUTCOME FOR THEIR MEMBERS ACROSS THE STATE. TO LEARN MORE, VISIT EMCS4RURALBROADBAND.COM.



VOL. 69, NO. 11, NOVEMBER 2020 (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.

Doorbell Cameras

Offer a View of Who (or What) is on Your Porch

For the holidays, you may be purchasing more items online to give to friends and family. Installing a doorbell camera is one way to potentially deter “porch pirates” from taking those packages that arrive at your home.

A doorbell camera records all activity from your front door with options to select the range the camera views. Most doorbell camera viewing areas can be adjusted for long distance or short. For example, you can set it up to view your yard and road traffic or just your front porch. The best cameras, according to EMC Security, have an intercom that allows you to talk to someone at your doorstep.

EMC Security's doorbell camera is \$149 and offers high-definition video, night vision, two-way audio, and real-time video access to view who's at your door. Subscribe to the video service through the mobile app to activate storage, notifications and clips.

For people who want to see more around their home, EMC Security offers outdoor cameras that can be placed around the perimeter of your home. Outdoor cameras start at \$99 each. You don't have to be an EMC Security customer to purchase security cameras.

EMC Security can offer a quote to customize the right camera system for your home.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO ORDER CAMERAS,
CALL 770-963-0305 OR VISIT **EMCSECURITY.COM**.



VICKI BOLING NAMED TO JACKSON EMC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Banks County native Vicki Boling has been appointed to the Jackson EMC Foundation Board of Directors.

The Jackson EMC Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization established to represent the members of Jackson EMC and distribute money collected from members participating in Operation Round Up®. The 11-member volunteer board of directors meets monthly to review and select grant applications for worthwhile, charitable purposes that will improve lives and respond to immediate needs.

Since Operation Round Up's beginning more than 15 years ago, the Foundation has awarded over \$15.7 million through 1,566 grants to organizations and 389 to individuals.

Along with her father, Boling manages several family businesses in Banks County, including Document Destruction Services, Inc. and Data Survival, Inc.; as well as Books with A'Peal in Cornelia. Her career also



includes working in a variety of positions for various software companies, and 13 years serving as a group sales manager for Chateau Elan. She is a graduate of the Women's College of Brenau University with

a degree in Business Administration after graduating from Banks County High School. Boling is a graduate of Leadership Banks and the Georgia Academy for Economic Development.

Boling currently serves as president of the Banks County Rotary Club. She has been appointed to the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, where she also serves on the Workforce Development Board of Directors. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for The Tree House; is a member of the Banks County Republican Party; and the Banks County Chamber of Commerce. Previously, she served as a member of the Banks County 10-year Land Use Plan Advisory Group and on the Banks County Census Committee. She is a member of Charity Baptist Church in Homer and frequently visits The Torch Worship Center in Demorest.

partnering to meet a crisis

For the first time since its inception in October 2005, last spring the Jackson EMC Foundation distributed emergency grants, awarding funds to organizations serving those hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Within weeks of shelter-in-place mandates, people lost jobs, families lost housing and children lost the normalcy of schooldays. At the same time, area nonprofit organizations worked to meet the surge in need for their services.

To help them help others, the Jackson EMC Foundation awarded emergency grants to 32 agencies that rapidly responded to the crisis by feeding the hungry, housing the homeless and providing medicine for the sick. One recipient group summed it up: “We were so excited and grateful for the grant. It meant we didn’t have to turn anyone away.”

In its 15 years, the Jackson EMC Foundation has awarded a total of \$15,708,412 in grants. This year, the Foundation awarded \$969,319 in regular grants and another \$270,757 in emergency grants in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



SALVATION
ARMY CAPTAIN
MEHELLE
HENRY HOLDS
2-WEEK-OLD
BROOKLYNN.



FOR MORE, SEE THE
JACKSON EMC FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT AT
[JACKSONEMC.COM/FOUNDATION](https://www.jacksonemc.com/foundation)

"I'm more than grateful."

SALVATION ARMY / ATHENS

\$10,000 FOR HOUSING, SHELTER AND FOOD

 uss.salvationarmy.org

What might have been a terrible experience for Shylexius and her baby was instead a joyful memory, thanks to the Salvation Army. Shylexius was in her third trimester of pregnancy when her family became homeless and moved into a Salvation Army shelter in Athens just as the pandemic was starting. They lived there for four months. On May 21, baby Brooklynn was born at Piedmont Athens Regional and four days later mother and child returned "home" to the shelter. "I'm more than grateful," Shylexius said.



GRANDMOTHER KATRINA CUDDLES 2-WEEK-OLD BROOKLYNN AS MOM SHYLEXIUS BEAMS.



CAROLYN APPRECIATES THE HELP SHE GETS FROM NORTH GWINNETT CO-OP.

GRETTA AND EDDIE DEPEND ON NORTH GWINNETT CO-OP TO HELP PAY FOR INHALERS AND INSULIN. "I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE WOULD DO WITHOUT THEM," SAYS GRETTA.



"We saw a lot of anxiety and fear."

NORTH GWINNETT COOPERATIVE / BUFORD

\$20,000 FOR FOOD AND MEDICATION

 northgwinnetcoop.org

In March and April, North Gwinnett Cooperative distributed more food than in all of 2019, according to Executive Director Kim Phillips. "We saw a lot of anxiety and fear," she recalls. A nonprofit that provides basic necessities, North Gwinnett Co-op delivered food and medication to the doorsteps of their clients so older residents didn't have to leave their homes.

"Expanding internet access for students"

JACKSON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM / JEFFERSON

\$2,800 FOR WI-FI

 jacksonschoolsga.org

When schools closed in March, education suddenly shifted from in-classroom to online learning, a move that threatened to leave behind students without internet access. Jackson EMC Foundation emergency grants enabled four school systems—Commerce, Jefferson, Jackson County and Madison County—to provide internet service via hot spot Wi-Fi systems placed in school buses that were parked in neighborhoods where students needed it the most.



KANNAM, 4, JOYFULLY USES HIS LAPTOP ONBOARD A JACKSON COUNTY SCHOOL BUS.



LUMPKIN COUNTY FAMILY CONNECTION SUPERHEROES WHO SUPPLIED FAMILIES WITH FOOD ARE, FROM LEFT, HEATHER MARSHALL, BRIGETTE BARKER AND WENDY WHITFIELD.

"We started to panic."

LUMPKIN COUNTY FAMILY CONNECTION, DAHLONEGA

\$5,000 FOR FOOD

 lumpkin.gafcp.org

Lumpkin County Family Connection typically feeds 40 families a week, but that number shot up to 120 families a week after the pandemic began, said Executive Director Brigette Barker. "When schools closed, we started to panic because the number of requests tripled," she said. "We were telling people 'We'll feed you,' but we didn't know how we were going to do that." The Jackson EMC Foundation provided the way, according to Barker.

\$77,595 IN GRANTS AWARDED IN SEPTEMBER

The Jackson EMC Foundation board of directors awarded a total \$77,595 in grants during its September meeting, including \$73,485 to organizations and \$4,110 to an individual.

ORGANIZATIONAL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

\$15,000 | **Boys and Girls Clubs of Jackson County**, to provide supplies, materials and technology for its academic development and achievement program in the Jefferson and Commerce club locations.

\$15,000 | **Gwinnett Children's Shelter**, to provide financial assistance for the Home of Hope program, which includes up to 12 months of transitional housing, life skills training, individual and family

therapy, and life coaching so families can emerge from homelessness into a sustainable mode of living.

\$15,000 | **Gwinnett County Habitat for Humanity**, to purchase materials for two homes, including an HVAC unit, cabinets, paint and trim.

\$15,000 | **Georgia Mountains YMCA**, in Gainesville, to help underprivileged elementary and middle school students attend its afterschool program, which provides a safe environment with homework assistance, enrichment activities, relationship building, sports, games and arts and crafts on site at Hall County and Gainesville City elementary schools.

\$6,985 | **North Hall Lions Club**, in Clermont, to purchase a spot vision screener for its Eyes for Education program that will screen K-5th grade students in the Hall County School System.

\$6,500 | **Rotary Club of Gainesville**, for its Accessibility Ramp Program, to purchase materials and supplies to construct solid, safe accessibility ramps at the primary entrance to the homes of local citizens with disabilities or other mobility challenges.

INDIVIDUAL GRANT RECIPIENT:

\$4,110 to help **an elderly citizen** purchase an HVAC unit.

MEMBERS MAKE IT DELICIOUS

Old-Fashioned Cake



“ I got the recipe out of a cookbook a long time ago. I can't eat chocolate myself, but I make it and take it to church. Everybody likes it. It's quick to make and you can't go wrong with the icing. ”

— MARY HARDEMAN, WINDER

INGREDIENTS FOR CAKE BATTER:

- 2 cups self-rising flour
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 cup Crisco oil
- 3 eggs
- 1½ cups sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla

INGREDIENTS FOR ICING:

- 2 cups sugar
- ½ cup cocoa
- ½ cup milk
- 1 stick margarine
- 1 tsp. vanilla

DIRECTIONS:

Mix cake batter ingredients with mixer. Pour in greased 9x13-inch baking dish. Bake at 375 degrees for 30 to 40 minutes.

For icing, mix ingredients in sauce pan and bring to a boil for 3 minutes. When cake is done, cut into squares while still in pan and still hot. Pour icing over cake.



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.

who owns what?

JACKSON EMC-OWNED EQUIPMENT VS MEMBER-OWNED EQUIPMENT

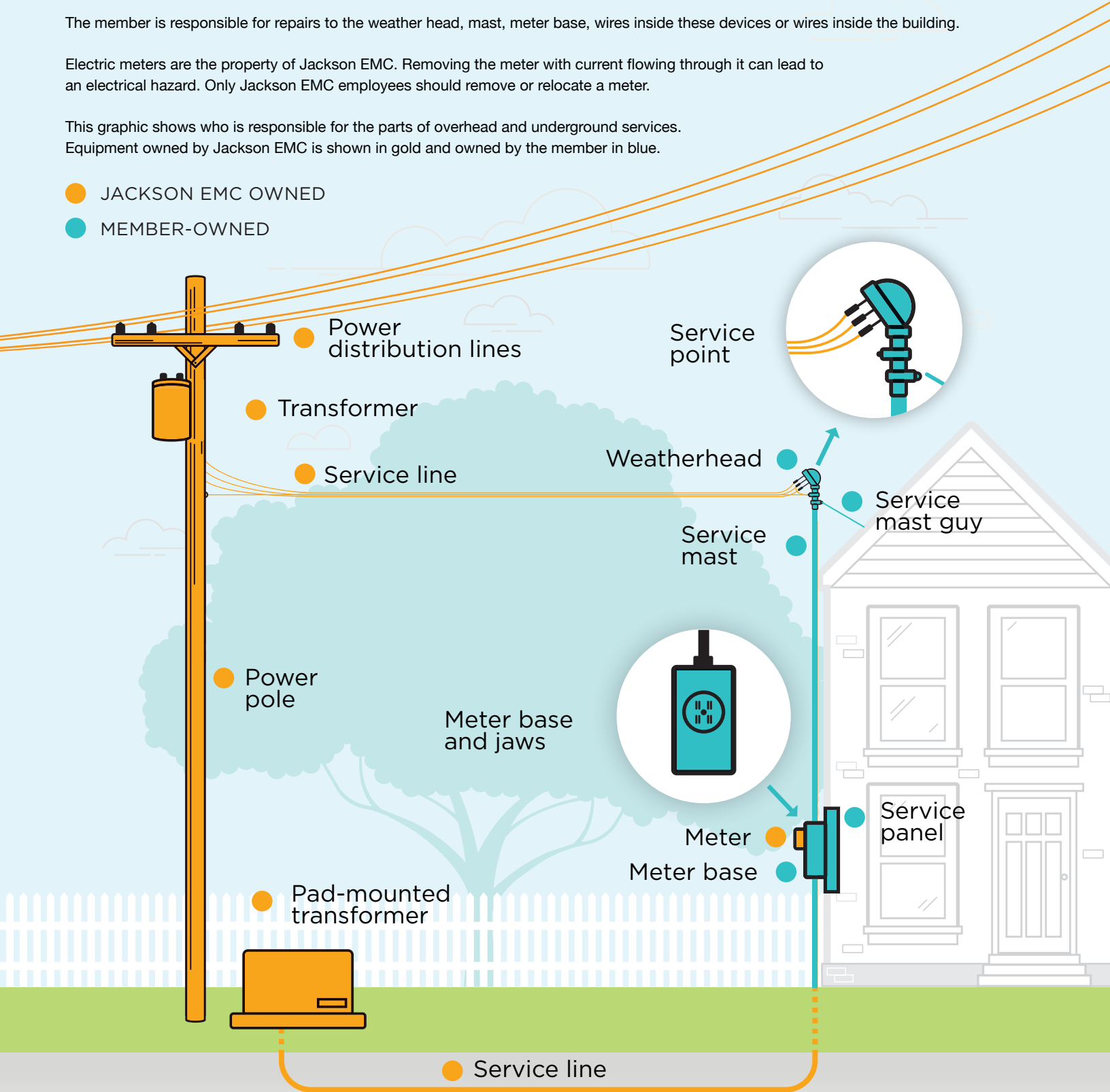
Getting electricity to your home or business is a partnership. Jackson EMC supplies the wires that connect to your building and you're responsible for the elements that bring the power inside. This may be important if equipment is damaged during a storm.

The member is responsible for repairs to the weather head, mast, meter base, wires inside these devices or wires inside the building.

Electric meters are the property of Jackson EMC. Removing the meter with current flowing through it can lead to an electrical hazard. Only Jackson EMC employees should remove or relocate a meter.

This graphic shows who is responsible for the parts of overhead and underground services. Equipment owned by Jackson EMC is shown in gold and owned by the member in blue.

- JACKSON EMC OWNED
- MEMBER-OWNED



Note: This graphic depicts overhead and underground service. Please be aware of which type of service you receive at your home or business.

YOUR POWER.
YOUR COMMUNITY.

A PUBLICATION FOR
JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

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Lawrenceville, GA
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EMC SECURITY
55 Satellite Blvd., NW
Suwanee, GA
(770) 963-0305 or
(706) 543-4009



PERIODICALS
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3 WAYS TO SAVE ENERGY *in the Kitchen*

The kitchen is where people often gather with friends and family for enjoying meals and memories. When you're making the perfect dish, you can also keep saving energy in mind with these tips.



When possible, cook with smaller appliances.

Using smaller kitchen appliances, like slow cookers, toaster ovens and convection ovens is more energy efficient than using your large stove or oven. A toaster or convection oven uses one-third to one-half as much energy as a full-sized oven.



Unplug appliances that draw "phantom" energy load.

Appliances that remain plugged in an outlet - even when they're not in use - continue to use energy. The Department of Energy estimates that by leaving "energy vampires" plugged in year-round, a household is wasting \$100-200 in energy costs.



Use your dishwasher efficiently.

Only run full loads, avoid using your dishwasher for just a few dirty dishes for just a few dirty dishes; it uses 3-7 gallons of hot water each use. You can also save energy by letting your dishes air dry. If your dishwasher doesn't have an automatic air-dry switch, simply turn it off after the final rinse and prop the door open so the dishes will dry faster.



FOR MORE ENERGY-SAVING TIPS, VISIT
JACKSONEMC.COM/WAYSTOSAVE.

