



Tri-County
EMC

CURRENT LINES

JUNE 2021

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WE'RE READY FOR STORM SEASON. ARE YOU?

Now that summer is in full swing, like many of you, we welcome more opportunities to be outdoors and enjoy the warmer weather. Summertime brings many favorite activities, like cooking out with family and friends, afternoons on the water and simply slowing down a bit to enjoy life.

But summer months also make conditions right for dangerous storms, including thunderstorms, tornadoes and even hurricanes. These potential weather events can cause damage to our electrical system, but we want you to know that Tri-County EMC crews are ready and standing by to respond should power outages occur.

When major storms knock out power, our line crews take all necessary safety precautions before they get to work on any downed lines. We encourage you to also practice safety and preparedness to protect your family during major storms and outages.

On page 3, you'll see a list of recommended items FEMA suggests to have on hand during storm season. We encourage you to make a plan for you and your family and visit www.ready.gov for additional resources.

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**OFFICES
CLOSED**

Offices will be closed Monday, July 5
in observance of Independence Day.

BEAT THE HEAT AND SAVE ENERGY

Summer is a great time of year — synonymous with sunshine and vacation. But in Georgia, summer also means it's hot and humid. Really hot and humid! To keep your home cool and humidity low, your air conditioner will likely run more, causing your energy use to go up. One way to get the best bang for your electric dollar during the summer heat is to keep conditioned air inside your home. Follow the electric tips below to help reduce your energy use and enjoy summer again! (90072002)

STOP AIR LEAKS

Add weather-stripping on doors and windows and caulk the cracks and plumbing penetrations to keep cool air inside and hot air from leaking into your home.

PUT YOUR HOME IN SUMMER MODE

During the summer, it's best to run your fan in the counter clockwise position. Only keep fans on when people are in the room. Fans cool people, not the air. Also, if you built fires in the winter, make sure the damper to your fireplace is closed so that the cool air can't sneak out through the chimney.

MAINTAIN YOUR HVAC EQUIPMENT

Make sure there are no leaves, grass or shrubs blocking airflow to your outside HVAC unit. Clear at least 6 feet above the unit and 2 feet around the coils to optimize efficiency. We recommend getting your HVAC system serviced and coils cleaned by a heating and air contractor each year to extend the life of your system.

INSTALL A SMART THERMOSTAT

A smart thermostat allows you to set different temperatures for different time periods throughout the day. Once you program it, you won't have to touch it again. You can also control the system from your smartphone.

PROPERLY INSULATE YOUR ATTIC

Install recommended levels of insulation to lower cooling costs. On warm days, attic temperatures can get up to 140 degrees. Recommended levels of insulation vary. Contact us to help you determine the right level for your home.

USE OUR ONLINE ENERGY TOOLS

In our online Energy Efficiency Center, you will find tools to help you conserve energy in your home. The Billing Insights Calculator will help you break down your energy usage using your bills and allow you to perform energy saving scenarios to pinpoint opportunities for savings. In addition, you can use the Appliance Calculator to determine what it is costing to operate each appliance in your home. Visit www.tri-countyemc.com/energy-calculator.cms for more information.



NO GAS? NO PROBLEM

With EV365, Tri-County EMC members who purchase a total electric vehicle will receive a \$30 bill credit each month for a year. And if you install a Level 2 charger in your home, you'll receive a \$250 bill credit.

LEARN MORE
www.tri-countyemc.com/electricvehicles.cms



STORM SEASON *Continued from Page 1*

BEFORE THE STORM

- Stock your pantry with a three-day supply of non-perishable food, such as canned goods, energy bars, peanut butter, powdered milk, instant coffee, water and other essentials (i.e., diapers and toiletries).
- Confirm that you have adequate sanitation and hygiene supplies including towelettes, soap and hand sanitizer.
- Ensure your First Aid kit is stocked with pain relievers, bandages and other medical essentials, and make sure your prescriptions are current.
- Set aside basic household items you will need, including flashlights, batteries, a manual can opener and portable, battery-powered radio or TV.
- Organize emergency supplies so they are easily accessible in one location.



AFTER THE STORM

- In the event of a prolonged power outage, turn off major appliances, TVs, computers and other sensitive electronics. This will help avert damage from a potential power surge, and will also help prevent overloading the circuits during power restoration. That said, do leave one light on so you will know when power is restored.
- If you plan to use a small generator, make sure it's rated to handle the amount of power you will need, and always review the manufacturer's instructions to operate it safely.
- Listen to local news or a NOAA Weather Radio for storm and emergency information. We also recommend following your local Emergency Management Agency on social media for local updates.
- Check www.tri-countyemc.com and Tri-County's social media pages for updates on power outages and restoration progress.
- After the storm, avoid downed power lines and walking through flooded areas where power lines could be submerged. Allow ample room for utility crews to safely perform their jobs, including on your property. (200387001)



TRI-CO GO



NO CONTRACTS

Super fast internet and quality service with no contracts is what you'll get with service from Tri-CoGo. But while we are building fiber lines to you, we don't want you to get stuck in a contract, either.

● ● ● visit www.tri-cogo.com to view the buildout schedule and to pre-register for internet service!

RECIPE BOX

STRAWBERRY PIE

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup of sugar
- 3 tablespoons of cornstarch
- 1 cup of water
- 4 tablespoons of strawberry gelatin
- 1 qt. fresh sliced strawberries
- 2 baked pie shells
- whipped topping

DIRECTIONS

Combine sugar and cornstarch. Add water. Bring to a boil. Remove from heat. Add gelatin. Stir to dissolve. Allow to cool. Place the strawberries in the pie shells. Pour the filling over the strawberries. Chill. Top with whipped cream.



Thanks to Melba Chapman of Jones County for the recipe. Did you know your recipe is worth \$20 if chosen? Send your best recipes to kimb@tri-countyemc.com or mail to P.O. Box 487, Gray, GA 31032.

TWO LOCAL STUDENTS RECEIVE OPERATION ROUNDUP SCHOLARSHIPS

In addition to awarding grants each quarter, the Tri-County EMC Foundation also awards scholarships to two deserving students in the service area twice per year. The scholarships are worth \$1,000 and are awarded based on academics, financial need and service to others. Special consideration is given to non-traditional students who are working full or part-time and have returned to school. Congratulations to the Spring 2021 Operation Roundup Scholarship recipients. The next deadline for this scholarship program is October 15, 2021. For additional information on this and additional scholarship opportunities, visit www.tri-countyemc.com/scholarships-overview.cms. (41771001)



TAYLOR PRESTRIDGE

Taylor Prestridge is from Eatonton and a senior at John Milledge Academy. She plans to begin classes at Georgia College & State University in the fall, and ultimately have a career in medicine.



TYLER ADKINS-CHATFIELD

Tyler Adkins-Chatfield is from Gray and currently attends Valdosta State University. He is working towards undergraduate degrees in Spanish and Nursing, and ultimately plans to become an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner and practice in cardiology.

ACCOUNT NUMBER

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Tri-County EMC

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