



Tri-County
EMC

CURRENT LINES

SEPTEMBER 2019

THIS MONTH'S NEWS

- EV Guide, page 1
- Energy Efficiency Center, page 2
- Election, page 3
- National Preparedness Month, page 3
- Roundup Scholarship, page 4
- Chicken & Dumplings, page 4

INTERACTIVE ELECTRIC VEHICLE GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE

Electric vehicles (EVs) are a fast growing sector of the automotive market. Many drivers are switching their gasoline-powered cars for a newer and more efficient electric model. We want to help you get the information you need before you buy an EV.

Tri-County EMC recently launched an interactive Electric Vehicle Guide, available at www.tri-countyemc.com/electricvehicles.cms. This guide features:

- Benefits of Electric Vehicles
- Fast Facts About EVs
- Savings Potential With an EV
- Commute Calculator
- Charger Finder
- EV Models Currently Available on the Market

If you are interested in purchasing an electric vehicle, or just want to learn more about EVs, we encourage you to visit our website at www.tri-countyemc.com/electricvehicles.cms.

**TRI-COUNTY EMC'S
2019 ANNUAL ELECTION
IS UNDERWAY**

more details on Page 3

EVALUATE YOUR HOME'S ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Getting the most for your energy dollar is important. You want a comfortable home with good indoor air quality and reasonable energy bills. By using information and guidelines from our online Energy Efficiency Center, you can do simple things to cut down your energy usage. For homes with greater challenges, it might be time to call in the experts. (88612001)

ONLINE ENERGY TOOLS

In the online Energy Efficiency Center, you will find 7 different tools designed specifically to help you lower your energy usage. From calculators to interactive energy use diagrams, these tools can help you save money on your electric bill. To use these calculators, visit www.tri-countyemc.com/energy-calculator.cms

HOME ENERGY LIBRARY:

This tool will explain different energy terms and answer other energy related questions.



INTERACTIVE ENERGY HOME:

This interactive home tells you how and where energy is used in the home and how to use energy wisely.

TELEVISION CALCULATOR:

This calculator will compare energy usage and cost of LCD, DLP, Plasma and traditional tube TVs.



BILLING INSIGHTS:

This calculator will break down your energy usage using your bills and will allow you to perform energy saving scenarios to pinpoint your opportunities for savings.

APPLIANCE CALCULATOR:

This calculator gives you an estimate of what your home's appliances cost to operate.



LIGHTING CALCULATOR:

This calculator compares the cost to operate incandescent lamps to halogen, fluorescent and LED bulbs.



SPACE HEATER CALCULATOR:

This will detail the monthly cost of running space heaters in your home.

IN-HOME ENERGY AUDIT

Tri-County EMC offers free No Sweat Energy Audits, a comprehensive analysis of your home, to all customers. An Energy Audit will examine your HVAC units, duct systems, insulation, ventilation, water heating and appliance usage. After the audit, you will receive a written report detailing recommended upgrades and suggestions for lowering your energy bill. Homeowners experiencing unreasonably low comfort and high bills will benefit from an in-home audit.

Visit tri-countyemc.com/efficiency-energy-audits.cms or call 1.866.254.8100 to learn more.



ENERGY TIPS

Did you know setting your thermostat to 78°F instead of 72°F in the summer can save 6-18% on your cooling bill? This, along with many other energy tips, are included on our website. This list includes simple things you can do around the house to lower your energy use. Learn more at tri-countyemc.com/energy-saving-tips.cms.



TRI-COUNTY EMC ELECTION IN PROGRESS, MEETING OCTOBER 17

Cast your vote in the Tri-County EMC Board of Directors Election for a chance to win a cash prize.

Tri-County EMC's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 17 at 2:00 PM at the Tri-County EMC Headquarters in Gray. At the meeting, attendees will get an overview of the cooperative's business over the past year.

An important part of the Tri-County EMC Annual Meeting is the election of the board of directors. All members can participate in the election without attending the Annual Meeting. Every Tri-County EMC member was sent a ballot — by email if you enrolled by August 30, or by mail. All members who cast a vote will have a chance to win a \$500 cash prize or one of ten \$50 bill credits. (64857001)

This year, the ballot consists of four bylaw amendments and the election of directors representing Post 3 of Districts 1, 2, and 3. The ballot sent to you has all the information you need to cast a vote. If you have additional questions regarding the election, visit tri-countyemc.com/election.cms or call 1.866.254.8100.



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

National Preparedness Month is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster and emergency planning now and throughout the year. This is a great time to prepare your home for possible power outages due to natural disasters that may occur. We recommend having the below items in your home in an easily accessible area.



FLASHLIGHTS

Have flashlights with extra batteries on hand. While candles can be helpful as light sources, flashlights are the safer option.



FOOD

Stock up on non-perishable food items that do not require cooking. Remember, your electric can opener will not work without electricity. Have a manual opener on hand.



WATER

For those with well service, have a case of bottled water on hand. Fill any bathtubs and extra pitchers with water as well.



HEAT/FANS

Gather heavy clothes and blankets to have on hand. If you have a working fireplace, stock up on firewood now. During summer, you may want battery-powered fans.



INFORMATION

Keep a battery-powered radio on a local station to get weather and outage updates. Be sure to charge all cell phones before the storm hits. Have a car phone charger in case you need to recharge your phone.



MEDICAL

Have a first aid kit and several days of prescriptions handy. Those who depend on electricity for medical devices may need to move to another location until power is restored.

RECIPE BOX

CHICKEN & DUMPLINGS INGREDIENTS

- 6 chicken thighs (bone in, skin on)
- 2 tbsps. chicken powder or 2 bullion cubes
- 1 cup milk
- 1 egg
- Dash of pepper
- Crisco shortening
- All Purpose Flour

DIRECTIONS

Fill a 2-quart sauce pan 2/3 full of water. Add the chicken and chicken powder or bullion cubes. Boil until the meat can be easily removed from the bone. Remove and shred the meat. Strain the broth and set aside.

For the dumplings, mix the milk, egg, pepper, shortening and flour together until firm. The dough should not be sticky. Pinch off a small ball of dough and roll it on a flour coated surface until very thin. The dumplings will swell so start thin. Cut into 1/2 inch wide x 4 inch long strips. Place the dough strips spaced out on a wax paper covered cookie sheet. In a 4-quart pot, bring the strained chicken broth to a boil and start adding dumplings quickly so they will cook evenly. Cook the dumplings for 10 minutes and then add the pulled chicken. Do not stir. Cook until the dumplings thicken.

Tip: Use a wooden spoon to lift the dumplings out of the pot to keep them from sticking to the pan.

Thanks to Ray Good of Baldwin 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.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE OCTOBER 15

In addition to funding community grants, the Tri-County EMC Foundation offers scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students—with preference given to non-traditional students—to help pay their college costs.

Through Operation Roundup, a total of \$4,000 (\$1,000 per winner) is awarded annually to students residing in the homes of Tri-County EMC members. Applicants must be enrolled in any U.S. accredited college, university or technical school and have maintained at least a 2.0 average. Applications are judged based on merit by an independent panel of judges. (72610001)



Applications can be mailed by request or completed online at www.tri-countyemc.com/roundupscholarship.cms. Applications are due October 15.

SERVICE YOUR HVAC

While it may still be warm outside, cooler weather is on the way! In the winter, heating requires more energy than any other system in your home, typically making up about 42% of your energy bill. With proper equipment maintenance and upgrades like additional insulation and air sealing, you can see significant savings on your energy bill. In addition, we recommend getting your HVAC unit serviced annually to have them run at optimum efficiency and to extend the life of the unit.



ACCOUNT NUMBER

Did you find your Tri-County EMC account number? Three random account numbers are hidden in each issue of Current Lines. Find your complete account number inside parentheses in this issue of Current Lines for a \$50 bill credit. Call us at 478.986.8126 to claim your credit.



Tri-County
EMC
Owned By Those We Serve

P.O. Box 487
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www.tri-countyemc.com

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Monthly Publication for
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