

Mitchell EMC



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CAMILLA, GEORGIA
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Mitchell EMC Partners With Flint River Soil and Water Conservation District

By Casey Cox, *Flint River Soil and Water Conservation District*

I was born and raised in Mitchell County on my family's farm along the Flint River. When I graduated from high school in Camilla, I never imagined that college would lead me back home to the farm. I majored in Natural Resource Conservation in the University of Florida's School of Forest Resources and Conservation. My childhood on the farm and in the woods led me on the path to this degree.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity in college to intern with our local conservation district - the Flint River Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). The Flint River SWCD spans 9 counties in southwest Georgia and is comprised of farmers, landowners, and community leaders that are dedicated to the conservation, wise use, and protection of natural resources in the Flint River Basin. This grassroots agency and its many partners have been instrumental in spearheading some of the most cutting-edge, impactful conservation projects in our region over the last 15 years. I learned so much from my internship and was inspired at the level of innovation in my hometown.

After graduating from UF, I began working with the Flint River SWCD full time, taking on the role as Executive Director in my second year home from college. Our focus is on conserving natural resources, building strategic partnerships, providing technical assistance to farmers and landowners, and educating the public on conservation in agriculture. I work with world-class researchers on a daily basis - as well as some of the Southeast's most progressive farmers - to develop and implement conservation-driven technology on the farm. The Flint River SWCD has secured over \$20 million in funding over the last 15 years for special projects and initiatives that reach across Georgia and even into Alabama and Florida. Our core partner is USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), whose mission is "helping people help the land." Many of our projects focus on precision irrigation and water conservation. Some of our work includes implementing special projects with Coca Cola and IBM and developing and testing new technology in partnership with the University of Georgia and USDA's Agricultural Research



Casey Cox

Service. We even started an urban agriculture conservation program in Albany, which we have formally spun off into a non-profit organization - Flint River Fresh.

Some of our most effective projects in the region are administered through a USDA NRCS program called the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). Authorized through the 2014 Farm Bill, RCPP focuses on innovation and partnership, allowing local entities like the Flint River SWCD to identify areas of need and utilize NRCS programs to address conservation priorities. The Flint River SWCD, because of our local leadership and many strong partners, has been successful in securing 4 RCPP projects: 2 national-scale projects that include Alabama, Florida, and much of Georgia as well as 2 state-level projects that focus on the Lower Flint River Basin and south Georgia. In total, these projects have resulted in \$8.5 million in special funding for farmers and landowners to implement best management practices in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. They have also created a tri-state network of partners working together across political boundaries to enhance conservation of our shared resources.

Our most recent RCPP, "Innovative Conservation at the Energy-Water Nexus," was awarded in 2018. Conservation practices and educational outreach will be implemented in partnership with three local EMC's, including Mitchell EMC, as well as other partners. The project area includes South Georgia counties below the Fall Line. The purpose of this project is to enhance irrigation and energy efficiency across South Georgia by providing additional financial and technical assistance to farmers through the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). The project also will include education on solar energy opportunities for farmers and landowners in south Georgia. We are looking forward to developing this partnership with EMC's across South Georgia and greatly appreciate their willingness to work with us on this innovative project.

To learn more about our work, please visit flintriverswcd.org.

Casey Cox is a sixth generation farmer from Mitchell County. Her family farm, Longleaf Ridge, produces sweet corn, peanuts, corn, soybeans, and timber along the Flint River. She also works part-time with the Flint River Soil and Water Conservation District.

Georgia Agricultural Tax Exemption Expires Dec. 31

If you're an agricultural producer and receive the Georgia Agricultural Tax Exemption (GATE) on electricity, you must renew it beginning this October.

GATE is an agricultural sales and use tax exemption certificate issued by the Georgia Department of Agriculture. The document identifies its user as a qualified farmer or producer who is exempt from sales tax on the inputs used in the production of their commodity.

Mitchell EMC member-owners who receive a GATE certificate should send us a copy along with the account numbers that apply to the GATE certificate, so we can apply the exemption to their account. **We must receive a copy of the new certificate by December 31 for the exemption to continue.**

Producers who have never received GATE can also apply and send a certificate copy to Mitchell EMC. Visit <https://forms.agr.georgia.gov/gate/> or call 855-FARM TAX for more information, to renew or apply.

Mail GATE certificate copies to Mitchell EMC, Attn: Billing Department P.O. Box 409, Camilla, GA, 31730.

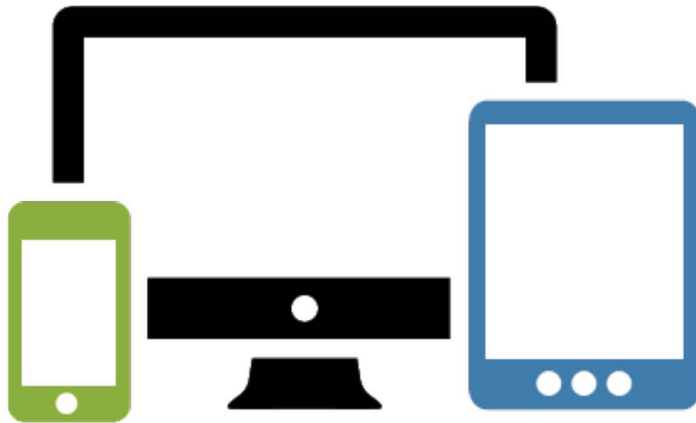


Equipment Bids

Mitchell EMC has the following vehicles / equipment for sale 'as is' to the highest bidder. You can view the items at our Camilla Office Monday - Friday, 8am until 5pm. For more information, contact Keith Gilliard, Shop Mechanic, at (229)336-5221 or (800)479-6034. Please submit your bid in a sealed envelope no later than 5pm, Friday, November 9th, 2018 to the Camilla Office location. The winners will be contacted the week of November 12th. Pickup and payment of vehicles / equipment no later than Friday, November 30th. **Mitchell EMC reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.**

Item #	Year	Make	Model	Description	Mileage	VIN
1	1994	FORD	E-150 VAN	ECONOLINE VAN	138,128	1FTEE14N8RHC19841
2	2004	INTERNATIONAL	4300 SERIES TK	BUCKET TRUCK	121,204	1HTMMAAN55H689745
3	2001	INTERNATIONAL	4900 SERIES TK	BUCKET TRUCK	141,936	1HTSDAARX1H376940
4	2010	CHEVROLET	4X4 1500 EXT CAB WT	PICKUP	185,979	1GCSKPEA8AZ244179
5	1999	ANDERSON	ANDERSON 8' X 20'	FLATBED TRAILER	N/A	4YNTE242XXC280078
6	1991	CLARK FORKLIFT	GPX20	FORKLIFT	5568 hrs	GPX230-0292-7600KOF
7	2009	FORD	4X4 150 SUPERCAB	PICKUP	169,481	1FTRX14W79KC70934

Pay Directly. Pay with confidence.



It used to be local convenience stores, now it's a host of online services. Sites like doxo.com, MoneyGram, and others offer to pay your power bill with the promise of convenience and automation. The problem is, none of these sites are authorized by or have a relationship with Mitchell EMC. They are not aware of our payment schedule, fees, policies, or processes.

Using an unauthorized third party to pay your power bills can lead to:

Late Fees - Payments made through these sites are not immediate and often take days to get to Mitchell EMC.

Service Interruptions - If payments are made near your disconnect date, these delays could result in disconnections.

Insufficient payments - Added fees deducted from your payment by these websites can result in an amount less than your balance due.

Mitchell EMC offers convenience you can trust and payments will be direct and immediate.

Mitchell EMC offers members many payment options:

- You can pay your bill online in the online portal
- Use our Mitchell EMC smartphone app to make payments
- Three district offices to drop off payments
- Recurring Credit Card
- Bank Draft
- Members can also mail in payments



For more information on payment options offered at Mitchell EMC, visit www.mitchellemc.com/customer-service/payment-options.

Serving in 14 Southwest Georgia Counties...



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Don't forget to fall back

on **November 4!**

Set your clocks back
by one hour.

**Mitchell EMC's
offices
will be closed on
Nov. 22 & 23**

in observance of

Thanksgiving.



Note: If you move or no longer have electric service with Mitchell EMC, it is important that members keep their address current, so that future disbursements can be properly mailed. Capital credits are reserved for members even if they move out of the Mitchell EMC service area. Mitchell EMC will make a diligent effort to send a check by mail.

Statement of Equal Employment Opportunity

All applicants for employment shall be considered and hired on the basis of merit, without regard to race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), age, national origin, disability, genetic information, or past or present military status. The employment practices shall ensure equal treatment of all employees, without discrimination as to promotion, discharge, rates of pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or past or present military status. M/F/V/DV/D



WATT'S COOKING



Chocolate Chocolate-Chip Cake

Ingredients:

- 1 pkg. chocolate cake mix
- 1 small pkg. instant chocolate pudding mix
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup hot water
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup mini semi-sweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease and flour a bundt pan. Combine cake mix, pudding mix, oil, eggs, water, sour cream, and vanilla. Beat until smooth. Stir in chocolate chips. Pour batter into prepared pan. Bake for one hour. Allow to cool.

Thanks!

to

Jan Majeski,

Worth County, GA,
for sharing this recipe.

Share & Win!

Send us your favorite quick and easy dinner recipes. If your recipe is chosen for print, you can win a

\$25 credit

on your next Mitchell EMC bill.

Send recipes to

Heather Greene, P.O. Box 409, Camilla,
GA 31730 or email to
heather.greene@mitchellemc.com.