

Mitchell EMC



The news you need to know in 5 minutes!

CAMILLA, GEORGIA
www.mitchellemc.com



Mitchell EMC Celebrates Georgia Agricultural Awareness Week



Georgia Agricultural Awareness Week was March 18 – 22, 2019. Mitchell EMC teamed up with the Mitchell County 4-H to celebrate. On March 20 the 3rd graders from Mitchell County Schools, Pelham Schools, Westwood Schools and Baker County Schools came and visited with exhibitors to learn about agriculture.



Safety Starts with You

Tips for spotting potential electrical hazards in your home

By Derrill Holly

Electricity plays many roles in our lives, from powering baby monitors, cell phones and lighting, to running HVAC systems and appliances. No wonder we get so comfortable with its instant availability that when we flip a switch, we expect most systems or devices to do the job.

May is National Electrical Safety Month, and here at Mitchell EMC, we think it's a great time to look around your home and check for potential safety hazards.

Remember, every electrical device has a purpose and a service lifespan. While we can extend their operations with maintenance and care, none of them are designed to last or work forever. When electricity is involved, failures can present electrical hazards that might be avoided with periodic inspections.

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters

Outdoor outlets or those in potentially damp locations in a kitchen, bathroom or laundry room often include GFCI features. They are designed to sense abnormal current flows, breaking the circuit to prevent potential electric shocks from devices plugged into the outlets.

The average GFCI outlet is designed to last about 10 years, but in areas prone to electrical storms or power surges, they can wear out in five years or less. Check them frequently by pressing the red test button. Make sure you hit the black reset button when you are done. Contact a licensed electrician to replace any failing GFCI outlets.

Loose or Damaged Outlets or Switches

Unstable electrical outlets or wall switches with signs of heat damage or discoloration can offer early warnings of potential shock or electrical fire hazards. Loose connections can allow electrical current arcing. If you see these warning signs, it may be time to contact an electrician.

Surge Protectors

Power strips with surge protectors can help safeguard expensive equipment like televisions, home entertainment systems and computer components from power spikes. Voltage spikes are measured in joules, and surge protectors are rated for the number of joules they can effectively absorb. That means if your surge protector is rated at 1,000 joules, it

should be replaced when it hits or passes that limit. When the limit is reached, protection stops, and you're left with a basic power strip.

Some surge protectors include indicator lights that flicker to warn you when they've stopped working as designed, but many do not. If your electrical system takes a major hit, or if you don't remember when you bought your surge protector, replacement may be the best option.

Extension Cords

If you use extension cords regularly to connect devices and equipment to your wall outlets, you may live in an underwired home. With a growing number of electrical devices connecting your family to

the electricity you get from Mitchell EMC, having enough outlets in just the right spots can be challenging. Remember, extension cords are designed for temporary, occasional or periodic use.

If an extension cord gets noticeably warm when in use, it could be undersized for the intended use. If it shows any signs of frayed, cracked or heat-damaged insulation, it should be replaced. If the grounding prong is missing, crimped or loose, a grounded cord will not provide the protection designed into its performance. And always make sure that extension cords used in outdoor or potentially damp

locations are rated for exterior use.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, approximately 51,000 electrical fires are reported each year in the United States, causing more than \$1.3 billion in annual property damage.

Electricity is an essential necessity for modern living, and Mitchell EMC is committed to providing safe, reliable and affordable power to all of our members. We hope you'll keep these electrical safety tips in mind so that you can note any potential hazards before damage occurs.

Derrill Holly writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56 percent of the nation's landscape.





This Memorial Day, let us remember the heroes who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Today and every day, we celebrate their extraordinary service, commitment and courage.

In observance of Memorial Day Mitchell EMC Offices will be closed Monday, May 27th

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near your air-conditioning thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause the A/C to run longer than necessary.

Source: energy.gov



Serving in 14 Southwest Georgia Counties...

Did You Know?

Electric cooperatives have retired \$16 billion to members since 1988 – \$1.1 billion in 2017 alone.

Because electric co-ops operate at cost, any excess revenues (called margins) are allocated and returned to members in the form of capital credits.

Source: National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation

\$1.1
BILLION
IN 2017

\$16
BILLION
SINCE 1988



Margin Assignment for 2018

Margins accrued by Mitchell EMC (revenue after all expenses have been paid) have been assigned to Member's patronage credit records. This assignment is made by applying the percentage of the Cooperative's margins to each Member's annual bill, before taxes. The percentage from Mitchell's margins for 2018 is 1.47%.

The table below shows examples of how you may figure your assignment. Simply multiply the percentage figures shown below times your total billing, less sales taxes, for the year.

Percentage	If annual bills (less taxes) were:	\$500	\$750	\$1,000
1.47%	Credits assigned from Mitchell's operating margins	\$7.36	\$11.04	\$14.72

Remember to keep us informed of your correct mailing address, especially if you should move out of Mitchell EMC's service area. If you have any questions about your assignments, please call us at 229-336-5221 or 800-479-6034.

Attention Farmers Just a reminder...

Time Of Use (TOU) rates for irrigation systems begins on June 1. The TOU kWh cost is based on the time of day in which it is used. The rate will distinguish between ON-PEAK and OFF-PEAK usage.

**TOU rates apply from June 1 - September 30.*
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 229-336-5221 or 1-800-479-6034.



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



Chicken Dip

Ingredients:

- 2 small cans of chicken
- 3 ounces Texas Pete's Hot Sauce
- 3 ounces Ranch dressing
- 2 blocks of cream cheese

Directions:

Mix all ingredients and put into a greased casserole dish. Bake at 350° until warm and bubbly. Serve with chips.

Thanks!

to

Arlene Ferguson,

Worth, 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.