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**CAMILLA, GEORGIA** 

October 2014

Mitchell EMC is inviting all to celebrate cooperatives in Georgia – and across America – during National Cooperative Month.

Every October, cooperatives are recognized for the qualities that make the business model unique. Seven cooperative principles set us apart from other businesses: voluntary and open membership; democratic member control; member's economic participation; autonomy and independence; education, training and information; cooperation among cooperatives; and concern for community.

This Co-op Month, we're focusing on "The Electric Co-op Connection: Discover the meaning of membership." Co-ops exist to serve their members, but they also play a major role in their local communities.

"Cooperative membership is unique," says Tony Tucker, President and CEO. "Electric cooperatives are committed to providing members with safe, reliable and affordable electricity, but there's more to it than that. We're local, and that means we care about our community. This is why we participate in programs such as Operation RoundUp®, Washington Youth Tour, safety demonstrations, and Sun Power for Schools."

Mitchell EMC is proud to be part of America's cooperative network, which includes more than 47,000 cooperative businesses.

Electric co-ops provide power for many Georgians, with 41 electric co-ops serving 1,623,667 members.

Mitchell EMC is one of more than 900 electric cooperatives, public utility districts and public power districts serving 42 million people in 47 states.

"In the 1930s, rural America needed electricity just as much as anyone else," Tucker said. "It was a major challenge that big utilities weren't interested in tackling. So, the men and women of rural America banded together and made it happen. And that's why we celebrate in October – we celebrate the power of working together for the common good and bettering the quality of life for our friends and neighbors."

In addition to cooperative utilities, Georgia residents are served cooperatively by credit unions, food co-ops, agricultural co-ops, and more! To learn more about Mitchell EMC, visit www.mitchellemc.com.





### Mitchell EMC... Serving in 14 Southwe

# ENERGY STAR and WATERSENSE Sales Tax Holiday

The state of Georgia will have an ENERGY STAR and WaterSense Sales Tax Holiday on Friday, October 3 through Sunday, October 5, 2014.

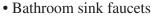
ENERGY STAR is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy that encourages the use of energy efficient products and practices to save money and protect the environment.

WATERSENSE, a partnership program by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, seeks to protect the future of our nation's water supply by offering people a simple way to use less water with water-efficient products, new homes and services.

During the sales tax holiday, these items will be exempt from sales tax if they have the ENERGY STAR label and have a purchase price of \$1,500 or less per item:

- Air conditioners
- Ceiling fans
- Clothes washers
- Dehumidifiers
- Dishwashers
- Doors
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Refrigerators
- Windows

In addition, these items will be exempt from sales tax if they have the WaterSense label and have a purchase price of \$1,500 or less per item:



- Faucet accessories (such as aerators)
- High-efficiency toilets
- High-efficiency urinals
- Showerheads
- Weather- or sensor-based irrigation controllers

The sales tax exemption will not apply to ENERGY STAR or WaterSense products purchased for trade, business or resale. For more information visit: *gefa.georgia.gov* 

# Trick or Treat Safety!

- Opt for brightly colored costumes. Make sure they are clearly visible at night.
- Use face paint instead of masks. Eyeholes in masks can be hard to see out of properly. Test face paint a few days ahead to make sure there are no skin reactions.
- Children should always be accompanied by an adult and should go only to homes where the residents are known and have outside lights on as a sign of welcome.
- Go trick-or-treating in a neighborhood you're familiar with.
- Light your way safely with a flashlight or glow sticks and walk on sidewalks and driveways.
- Warn children not to eat any treats before an adult has carefully examined them for evidence of tampering.





# **ACRE Check Presentation**



Congressman Bishop was presented a check from Bob Ray, Chairman of the Georgia EMC Government Relations Committee and President/CEO of Flint Energies. Representatives from six co-ops participated in the meeting: Flint Energies, Irwin EMC, Middle Georgia EMC, Mitchell EMC, Southern Rivers Energy and Sumter EMC.

The Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE®) is NRECA's political action committee. ACRE was formed in 1966 with the mission of making the voice of rural electric cooperative consumers heard in the U.S. Congress. Currently, ACRE is one of the top PACs in the nation with over 30,000 individuals contributing. ACRE is truly a grassroots roots PAC. Over 7,600 of our members are consumer-owners who have joined the ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action Committee®!

The primary purpose of ACRE is to advance the legislative goals of electric cooperatives across the country. ACRE makes campaign contributions to candidates for Congress who support electric cooperative goals, who share electric cooperative values and who want our electric cooperatives

to be successful. In some states, where a statewide association chooses and state law allows, a portion of each federal ACRE contribution is returned to that state to assist state and local candidates who support electric cooperatives.

ACRE raises personal, voluntary contributions from NRECA's membership. For more information on who can join ACRE and how to build a strong ACRE program at your cooperative, please visit http://www.nreca.coop/political-action/acre/.

# Mitchell EMC Recipes



#### "Better than ice cream" Candied Yams

#### Ingredients

- 6 Medium sweet potatoes
- 1 ½ Stick of butter (not margarine)
- 2 Tablespoons imitation vanilla
- 2 Tablespoons butter flavoring
- 2 Tablespoons nut flavoring
- 1 1/2 Cups sugar

#### **Directions**

Peel and cube sweet potatoes, then boil until soft, but not mushy. Drain and set the sweet potatoes to the side.

Melt butter in a medium size deep skillet. Add vanilla, butter flavoring, nut flavoring, and sugar. Stir often and cook on low until creamy.

Add potatoes and stir until covered with sauce. Bring to a boil and simmer on low for 15 to 20 minutes.

Submitted by: **Henrietta Copeland Pelham, GA** 





### **EMPLOYEE** SPOTLIGHT



Mitchell EMCs October
Employee Spotlight features
Lora Florence. Lora works
in the Camilla District Office, where she is the
Customer Service Supervisor. She has been
employed with Mitchell EMC for over 19
years.

"When I come to work, I know that I am going to be surrounded by co-workers that go above and beyond for our members. At the end of the day, I go home knowing that we have given our best to our members," said Lora.

Lora is an active member of Antioch Baptist Church. She enjoys shopping and working in her yard.

Some of Lora's fondest memories at Mitchell EMC include the Relay for Life Box Cart Race, and performing at the EMC Safety Banquet's EMC's Got Talent Show.

## Join us in a Cover-Up!

Mitchell EMC will be collecting winter coats, good used and new, for the needy. If you can contribute, please bring your coats to any MEMC office or contact any MEMC employee. The coats will be distributed the first of December.



#### **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