



The news
you need to
know in
5 minutes!

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CAMILLA, GEORGIA
www.mitchellemc.com

Keeping Pets and Energy Bills Comfortable

By Anne Prince

I don't know about you, but I consider my four-legged companions' part of the family. I can't imagine life without them. I know others feel this way, too. That's why during the winter months, we make sure our *whole* family, including our four-legged members, is cozy—without taking a big “bite” out of our budget.

This month, I'd like to share a few simple ways you can make your home more comfortable this winter, which can ultimately help you save on energy bills.

At the onset of the cold weather season, we replace the HVAC filter for better air quality and to help the unit operate more efficiently. You can also keep your home cozier by caulking and weatherstripping windows and doors. If your home is particularly chilly, you can tape or affix heavy, clear plastic to the inside of your window frames to create an additional barrier against the cold. Ensure that the plastic is tightly sealed to the frame to help reduce infiltration.

We know winter can be “ruff”, so we set our thermostat at 68 degrees, a “purr-fect” temperature for people and pets. This is especially important for smaller, short hair and senior dogs—not just for warmth, but for their general health. Puppies, kittens and older pets with arthritis or other ailments may have a harder time controlling their body heat and need the additional warmth when it's chilly out.

Pets that sleep close to the floor can be subject to cold drafts that enter your home through windows and exterior doors. If your pet's bed is near a window or door that feels drafty, tightly roll up a towel and place it near the bottom of the door or window to eliminate the draft. Cutting down on cold drafts helps everyone feel more comfortable during colder months.

If possible, elevate your pet's bed so it's not placed directly on a cold floor. An old chair or sofa cushion works well. If you don't use a dog bed, take some old blankets and create a donut shape on the cushion so

the dog can snuggle and “nest” within the blanket. You can do the same for cats but on a smaller scale. Blankets enable pets to nestle into them, even when they aren't tired, and provide a comfortable place for dogs and cats to curl up.

During the day, open your blinds and curtains to allow sunlight to warm your home. Close window coverings at night for an added layer of insulation.



During the winter months, we make sure our whole family, including our four-legged members, is cozy—without taking a big “bite” out of our budget. **Photo Credit: Adrian Grover, Pixabay**

At Mitchell EMC, we want to help you save energy and money. Check out our Mitchell EMC App or visit our website at www.mitchellemc.com for additional energy-saving tips.

We can't control the weather, but we can provide advice to help you save energy and keep your family and furry friends more comfortable during the winter season.

Anne Prince 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% of the nation's landscape.

FALL SAFETY WORD SEARCH



Fall is finally here! The leaves are changing, the weather is cooler and the holidays are just around the corner. But Fall also brings greater risks of home fires and electrical hazards.

Read the safety tips below, then find and circle the **bolded** words in the puzzle.

Adults should always stay in the **kitchen** while food is **cooking**.

Smoke alarms should be tested monthly to ensure they're working properly.

Batteries should be replaced every year or right away if the alarm starts to chirp.

Candles should never be left burning when someone isn't in the room.

Keep flammable items away from the **stove, toaster** and other cooking **appliances**.

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A man with a beard and a blue denim jacket is focused on working with a white sewing machine. The scene is dimly lit, with a bright light source illuminating the machine and the man's face. The entire image is framed by a thick yellow border.

We Power Creativity.

Our community is teeming with energy and ideas. We're proud to power yours.



Mitchell EMC would like to wish you all a very

Happy Thanksgiving

Our offices will be closed on November 24th and 25th.



— ★ ★ ★ —
VETERANS DAY

PROUD TO HONOR ALL WHO HAVE SERVED



Serving in 14 Southwest Georgia Counties...

Georgia Agricultural Tax Exemption Expires December 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 sale 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.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Is your home heating system ready for the winter chill? One of the easiest ways to keep your system running efficiently is to regularly replace filters. If your central air system has a furnace filter, it should be replaced about every 90 days. If your home is heated through warm-air registers baseboard heaters or radiators, remember to clean them regularly to boost efficiency.

Source: energy.gov



Daylight Saving

Set your clocks
back one hour
on November 6.



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



Cranberry Ambrosia Salad

Recipe from:
Taste of Country

Ingredients:

- 1 pound fresh or frozen cranberries
- 1 can (20 ounces) crushed pineapple, drained
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 cups miniature marshmallows
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream, whipped
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

Instructions

In a food processor, cover and process cranberries until coarsely chopped. Transfer to a large bowl; stir in pineapple and sugar. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Just before serving, fold in marshmallows, whipped cream and pecans. If desired, top with additional chopped pecans.

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.