

# Mitchell EMC



The news  
you need to  
know in  
5 minutes!

CAMILLA, GEORGIA  
[www.mitchellemc.com](http://www.mitchellemc.com)

## Mitchell EMC would like to wish you and your family a very

*We will be closed  
on December  
24th and 25th.*

# Merry Christmas



# A Community Partner Since 1937

## GA 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 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 [forms.agr.georgia.gov/gate/](https://forms.agr.georgia.gov/gate/) or call 855-FARM TAX for more information, to renew or apply.

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

To maximize your fireplace's efficiency, always keep the damper closed when the fireplace is not in use. An open damper is like an open window, allowing warm air to escape and cold air to enter. Consider installing a fireplace insert, which improves heat output by circulating warm air into the room rather than letting it escape up the chimney. Also, burn only seasoned hardwood to ensure a hotter, cleaner burn. Regularly clean and inspect your chimney to maintain safe and efficient operation. *Source: energy.gov*



Join Us in a

# COVER-UP!

**NOVEMBER 1-31**

**GENTLY USED OR NEW COATS**

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.

# FALL INTO FIBER

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# Reflecting on Progress, Planning for the Future

By *Tony Tucker, President and CEO*

As we close another year, I want to pause and express gratitude—for you, the members of Mitchell EMC—for your continued trust and support. Our cooperative was built on the promise of people coming together to improve the quality of life in their communities, and that promise still guides everything we do today.

Each decision, whether it's about delivering reliable electricity, innovating for the future or advocating for smart energy policies that impact our local community, comes back to one simple question: How will this benefit the members we serve?

This past year has been marked by meaningful progress, both in strengthening our local system and in working at the national level to influence energy policies that directly affect reliability, affordability and resilience. While the details of federal regulations can feel distant, they shape our daily operations here at home.

Over the past year, electric cooperatives across the country came together for advocacy efforts on the EPA's Power Plant Rule. As originally written, the rule would have forced a rapid shift away from always-available power generation resources, threatening the accessibility of a diverse fuel supply that keeps electricity reliable. Renewable energy sources are an essential and growing part of our energy future, but we also know that the demand for electricity is rising rapidly, and natural gas, coal and nuclear remain essential for ensuring power is available around the clock. As we collaborated and engaged with policymakers, we pressed for a more balanced approach to generating power—one that supports clean energy innovation while still recognizing the role of traditional resources. Our efforts are helping to shape a more workable path forward that better protects reliability and keeps costs in check for Mitchell EMC members.

Another area of ongoing progress came through advocacy work on federal permitting reform. For too long, outdated rules and lengthy delays have stood in the way of building critical infrastructure, including new transmission lines and generation projects. Modernizing this process is essential if we are going to strengthen the electric grid and keep pace with growing demand. This year, electric co-ops helped move the needle on permitting reform, advocating for policies that make the process faster, more predictable and more efficient. Investments we make in infrastructure will reach communities

sooner, improving reliability and preparing us for the future.

We're also seeing progress with bipartisan support of the FEMA Act of 2025, which would speed up the disaster recovery process for electric cooperatives and the communities they serve. Severe storms are a fact of life, and their impact on the electric system can be devastating.

## Our Promise to You

As the demand for electricity continues to grow, our commitment to providing you with reliable power remains steadfast. Looking ahead, we are dedicated to:

- Advocating for energy policies that support our local communities.
- Leveraging innovative technologies to strengthen our grid.
- Listening to your feedback to enhance co-op programs and services.

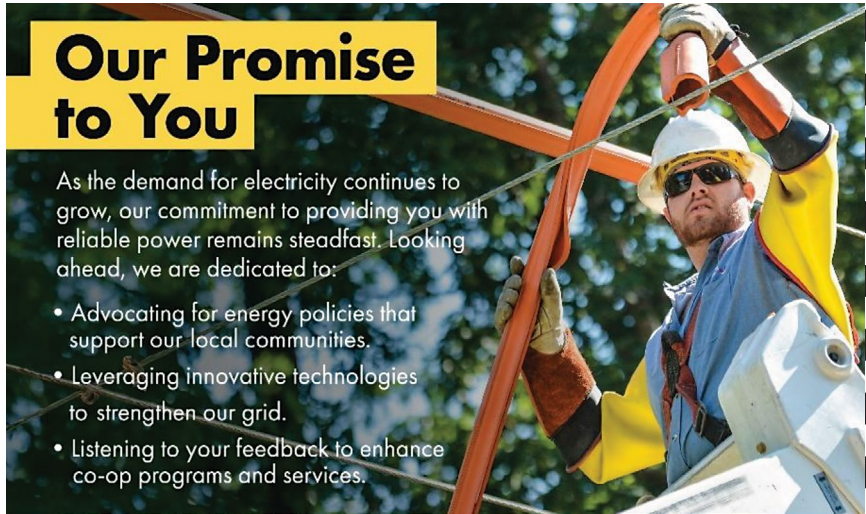
FEMA is a crucial partner for electric co-ops in efforts to restore power after disaster strikes, but currently, the federal reimbursement process after a major storm is slow and full of red tape. If passed, the bill would make FEMA a stronger, more responsive agency to help strengthen rural resilience, protect taxpayer dollars and ensure essential services are restored as quickly as possible after a natural disaster.

Achievements like these are not just wins in Washington—they are wins for Mitchell EMC members like you.

In addition to advocacy efforts, we are proactively addressing our communities' needs for the future by investing in new technologies and programs that improve service for our members. Through advanced monitoring systems and AI tools that improve daily operations, we are better equipped to identify power delivery issues or challenges before they occur.

As we look ahead to a new year, I see both challenges and opportunities on the horizon. The energy industry is undergoing significant change driven by the rising need for more electricity, new tools and technologies, and federal energy policies.

The path forward requires innovative thinking and member-focused solutions. I'm confident that with the dedication of Mitchell EMC employees and the continued support of our members, we are well positioned to adapt and meet challenges head-on. Through it all, our promise to you remains steadfast: reliable power for today—and tomorrow.



# Purchasing Appliances and Electronics: **Best Times to Buy**

| Product Type                                                                                                                                       | Best Time to Buy for Discounts                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <b>Refrigerators and Freezers</b>                                | Late winter to early spring (March/April); New models arrive in spring, and older models are discounted; Holiday sales (Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day).                  |
|  <b>Washers/Dryers, Dishwashers, Ovens and Ranges</b>             | September and October when new models are released and older models are discounted; Holiday sales (Labor Day, Black Friday, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day); End-of-year clearance. |
|  <b>Large Home Electronics (TVs, home theater)</b>               | Holiday sales (Black Friday and Cyber Monday); Amazon Prime Days; Late fall/early winter; Other promos, like Super Bowl sales for televisions.                                     |
|  <b>Smart Assistants and Other Smart Devices</b>                | Holiday sales (Black Friday, Cyber Monday); Other sales events, like Amazon Prime Days.                                                                                            |
|  <b>Air Conditioners, Heaters and Other Seasonal Appliances</b> | Off season (purchase AC units in fall or winter, heaters in summer); Retailers offer bigger discounts when demand is low.                                                          |

### Additional Purchasing Tips:

- When possible, bundle major appliances for significant savings.
- Be on the lookout. When new models arrive, older models drop in price.
- Retailers typically clear out inventory at the end of the year, which mean big discounts.
- Local retailers typically try to meet end-of-month/end-of-quarter sale quotas, which could mean flexible prices and/or negotiating.



**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 applications 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





Picture Credit: [whatsintheipan.com/peanut-butter-rice-krispie-treats/](http://whatsintheipan.com/peanut-butter-rice-krispie-treats/)

### **Christmas Candy**

#### **Ingredients**

16 ounces almond bark (vanilla or chocolate)  
1/2 cup crunchy peanut butter  
3/4 cup rice crispies  
1 cup mini marshmallows  
1 cup dry roasted peanuts

#### **Directions**

Melt almond bark in the microwave. Add peanut butter to the melted almond bark. Add remaining ingredients to the mixture. Drop by spoonfuls onto wax paper. Refrigerate until set. About two hours. Put in plastic bag.

*Submitted by*  
**Tricia Johnston, Worth County**

## ***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](mailto:heather.greene@mitchellemc.com).