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you need to  
know in  
.5 minutes!

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

## Wrapped in Savings

By Abby Berry

Ensuring your home is properly insulated can improve energy efficiency and make your home more comfortable. Insulation acts like a cozy coat that reduces heat loss during winter months and a protective layer that reduces heat gain during summer months.

Many older homes have less insulation than newer homes, but even newer homes can benefit from additional insulation. While it's not the least expensive efficiency improvement, adding insulation and air sealing your home can provide the biggest bang for your buck in energy savings and overall comfort.

The most common areas to insulate are attics, ceilings, crawlspaces or unconditioned basements, exterior and interior walls, floors, and ductwork located in unconditioned spaces.

The amount and effectiveness rating of insulation required for each area varies by climate, but many websites like The Department of Energy or Home Depot provide easy-to-follow recommendations. Visit [energy.gov/insulation](http://energy.gov/insulation) to learn about recommended R-values for specific areas of the home based on climate zones.



It's important to understand how insulation effectiveness is measured. Insulation is rated in R-value, which measures the material's resistance to conductive heat flow. The higher the R-value, the greater the insulating effectiveness. The R-value you'll need depends on factors like climate, type of heating and cooling system and which area of the home you plan to insulate.

Insulation is offered in a wide range of materials from bulky fiberglass rolls to cellulose materials made from recycled paper products. If you're considering installing additional insulation, talk to an expert who can offer guidance on the right materials for your budget, climate and comfort needs.

Investing in proper insulation for your home not only enhances comfort but also reduces energy consumption.

*Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing nearly 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.*

## A Community Partner Since 1937

# Scholarship Opportunities

## Walter Harrison Scholarship Due in the Camilla Office by Feb. 1st

Mitchell EMC is pleased to be a part of helping our members pursue their dream of a college education. We annually offer the prestigious **Walter Harrison Scholarship**, a program sponsored by the EMCs of Georgia. The \$1,000 scholarship can be used to defray educational costs at any accredited two- or four-year university, college or vocational-technical institute in Georgia.



The Walter Harrison Scholarship, created in 1985 by the board of directors of the Georgia Electric Membership Corporation, is awarded to students who excel in the areas of GPA, SAT scores, academic ability, scholastic honors, and demonstrate a financial need. The award pays tribute to the late Walter Harrison, a pioneer in the rural electrification movement and a leader at the local, state and national level in the electric cooperative program.

To be eligible for consideration, students must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited undergraduate degree program, complete the two-page Walter Harrison application, and write a two-page autobiographical sketch with references to future plans and goals. **Students applying for this scholarship MUST live in a house that receives electric service from Mitchell EMC.**

Entries received will be forwarded from Mitchell EMC to the **Statewide Competition**. The statewide scholarship selection committee is comprised of EMC Directors and Managers from across Georgia. **Please do not alter the original application. All submissions must be on Georgia EMC Application Forms. Walter Harrison Scholarship Applications must be submitted to Mitchell EMC. Applications must be submitted directly to Mitchell EMC by postal service or at one of our office locations. Incomplete applications or applications received AFTER the due date of February 1st will NOT be considered.**

## Operation RoundUp

## Scholarship Due to Community Foundation of South Georgia by March 1st

What better way to invest in the future than by investing in the outstanding youth of our communities? Mitchell EMC Members who enroll in **Operation Round-Up** are doing exactly that by providing scholarships to deserving students. Participating members allow us to round their electric bills up to the nearest whole dollar amount. Though it may not seem like much, those funds added together make a huge positive difference in our local community.



A maximum of ten (10) renewable scholarships will be awarded on an annual basis. Scholarships will be \$2,500 per semester, twice a year, for up to four years to assist in attaining an undergraduate degree from a post-secondary institution in the United States. After the first Semester, the monies for subsequent semesters will be issued provided that students have submitted prior semester grades to verify they have maintained a minimum GPA of 2.5 and continue to be enrolled as a full-time student.

Applicants must be a graduating high school senior, or a student currently enrolled in or attending a post-secondary college, technical college, or university in the United States, and that has attained at least a 2.5 GPA. The applicant, their parent(s), or legal guardian(s) must have their primary residence or a place of business in the Mitchell EMC Service Area. Preference will be given to Mitchell EMC consumers. However, further consideration will be given based on financial need, academic achievement, extracurricular school activities or employment, community service, and leadership qualities. Mitchell EMC Operation Round-Up Scholarship applications will be available through an online portal at the Community Foundation of South Georgia (<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=cfsga>)

Please note that the scholarships have different deadlines and should be mailed to different addresses listed on the scholarship form. We encourage students to apply for both scholarships. Applications will be judged by an independent scholarship committee, and winners will be notified by May 1.

## Save the Date

## 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Members of Mitchell EMC

The 88th Annual Meeting of the Members of Mitchell EMC will be on **Friday, April 18, 2025**, at the EMC headquarters in Camilla. Watch your mailbox for your registration card and more details.



# Report Your Outdoor Light Outage

Mitchell EMC services approximately 18,588 outdoor lights throughout our service territory. When an outdoor light is reported out, Mitchell EMC crews will locate, troubleshoot, and make repairs as soon as possible.

You can now report your outdoor light outage in the Outage Center on the Mitchell EMC website at [www.mitchellemc.com/outage-center](http://www.mitchellemc.com/outage-center).

Below you will find the steps to submit an outdoor light repair:

- Click on Outage Center
- Click on Outage Map
- Under service type - select light in the dropdown box.
- Search by address in the search bar located at the top of the page.





# Serving in 14 Southwest Georgia Counties...

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

If you have a home office, look for opportunities to save energy in your workspace. Use ENERGY STAR®-rated equipment, which consumes up to 50% less energy than standard models. Set equipment like printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saving mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life. Another way to save energy in your home office is to use efficient lamps for task lighting. Replace any older bulbs with energy-saving LEDs.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



## STAY CONNECTED THIS VALENTINE'S DAY

Fall in love with fiber internet from Connect, powered by Mitchell EMC.

### CHECK YOUR AVAILABILITY!

Visit [ConexonConnect.com](http://ConexonConnect.com), scan the QR code or call us at 844-542-6663 to sign up today!



Connecting you  
to your online  
community.



## TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



Scammers will try anything to deceive utility customers, including a tactic that claims customers have overpaid their bill. If you receive a call, text or email from someone claiming you overpaid a utility bill and need to provide your banking or credit card information to receive a credit, it's likely a scam. In most cases, your utility will apply a credit to your account to cover future charges or refund an overpayment with a mailed check.

Source: *Utilities United Against Scams*



**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



## Watt's Cooking



Photo Credit: DOTDASH MEREDITH FOOD STUDIOS

### Red Velvet Brownies

#### Ingredients

1 cup white sugar  
 1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted  
 1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder  
 1 ounce red food coloring  
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
 1 teaspoon distilled white vinegar  
 1/4 teaspoon salt  
 2 large eggs, slightly beaten  
 3/4 cup all-purpose flour

#### Cheesecake Filling

1 (8 oz) pkg. cream cheese, at room temperature  
 1/4 cup white sugar  
 1 large egg  
 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract

#### Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease an 8x8-inch baking pan. **For the red velvet brownies:** Whisk 1 cup sugar and melted butter in a large mixing bowl; stir in cocoa, red food coloring, 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, vinegar, and salt, one at a time, mixing well after each addition to avoid lumps. Mix in 2 eggs until thoroughly combined. Stir flour into cocoa mixture just until combined; set aside 1/4 cup batter. Pour remaining batter into the prepared baking dish. **For the cheesecake filling:** Beat cream cheese in a bowl using an electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add 1/4 cup sugar, 1 egg, and 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract; continue to beat until well blended and only small lumps remain, 3 to 4 minutes. Spoon cream cheese mixture in dollops over the batter in pan; gently smooth tops of dollops even with batter using a knife or offset spatula. Do not overmix. Drizzle reserved 1/4 cup of batter over the dollops of cream cheese mixture. Drag a knife or skewer through the batter and cream cheese mixture to create swirls. Bake in the preheated oven until top is dry and edges have started to pull away from the sides of the pan, about 30 to 35 minutes. Cool completely before cutting into bars; store covered in refrigerator.

Submitted By: <https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/231865/red-velvet-cheesecake-swirl-brownies/>

## 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).