

Mitchell EMC



The news
you need to
know in
.5 minutes!

CAMILLA, GEORGIA
www.mitchellemc.com

January Brings Opportunities to Save Energy and Money

January often brings some of the coldest weather of the year, and as our home heating systems work harder and longer to keep us warm, many of us notice higher energy bills. Fortunately, there are simple, effective ways to reduce energy use and save money, even during the chilliest months of the year.

When you receive your monthly bill from Mitchell EMC you're provided with a summary of how much electricity you used during the billing cycle. This can help you identify patterns in your energy use and pinpoint opportunities to save. For example, you might notice higher energy usage on particularly cold days or when you've had guests staying at home. By understanding how and when you use electricity, you can take steps to reduce your consumption and lower your costs.

Adjust Your Thermostat

The good news is that you have more control over your energy bill than you might think. One of the most effective ways to save energy is through thermostat management. Heating and cooling account for a major portion of home energy use, so adjusting your thermostat to the lowest comfortable setting during winter can lead to noticeable savings. For every degree you lower your thermostat, you could save as much as 1% on your heating costs.

Additionally, be sure to service your heating system annually and replace filters as needed. A clean and well-maintained system will operate more efficiently, saving you both energy and money.

Seal Air Leaks

Another easy and inexpensive way to save is by sealing air leaks around windows, doors, and other openings. Gaps and cracks allow cold air to enter your home, forcing your heating system to work harder to maintain a comfortable temperature. Use weatherstripping, caulk or insulation to seal these leaks and improve your home's energy efficiency.

Energy-Efficient Habits

Small changes in your daily habits can add up to big savings over time. Turn off lights when you leave a room, unplug devices that aren't in use, and consider upgrading to energy-efficient appliances and LED lightbulbs. These simple actions can help you lower your energy use without sacrificing comfort.

Working Together to Keep Costs Low

While external factors like weather and fuel prices can impact electricity costs, Mitchell EMC is committed to helping you save energy and money. As your local energy partner, we're focused on providing reliable power at an affordable cost and empowering you with the tools and knowledge you need to take control of your energy use.

Stay warm this winter and remember that small changes can lead to big savings. Together, we can make a difference for your budget and the environment.



A Community Partner Since 1937

We love being a part of our communities!



We had a great time participating in the Camilla Chamber Chili Cook-Off and meeting the students at Pelham High School during their Career Fair.

The Career Fair gives students an up-close look at different career paths and connects their learning to the real world. Students get the opportunity to listen, ask questions, and consider what careers might be in their future.



OJ Johnson, Operations Supervisor, speaks to students at Baker County High School's College & Career Day.

Scholarship Opportunities

What better way to invest in the future than by investing in the outstanding youth of our communities? Mitchell EMC is pleased to be a part of helping our members pursue their dream of a college education. We annually offer the **Walter Harrison Scholarship**, a program sponsored by the EMCs of Georgia, and the Mitchell EMC Operation Round-Up Scholarship.



Walter Harrison Scholarship

Due in the Camilla Office by: FEBRUARY 1, 2026

OPERATION ROUNDUP SCHOLARSHIP

Due to The Community Foundation of South Georgia by: MARCH 1, 2026

Visit our website, under the community tab, to find out all the details.

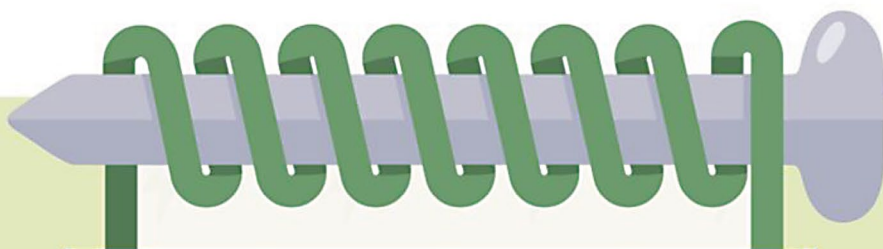




POP QUIZ

Electricity Terms

How well do you know terms related to electricity? Test your knowledge! **Read the definitions below. Then, look at the word bank to match the correct terms to the definitions.** You can only use the words once, so choose carefully. Check your work in the answer key.



Word Bank:

Conductor

Circuit

Insulator

Volt (Voltage)

Static Electricity

1. A complete path that electricity flows through.

2. Something that allows electricity to pass through, such as metal or wire.

3. The standard unit of measurement for electricity.

4. Something that does not allow electricity to pass through easily, such as rubber.

5. Electricity build-up caused by rubbing two surfaces together.



Answer Key:
1. Circuit 2. Conductor
3. Volt (Voltage)
4. Insulator
5. Static Electricity

Serving in 14 Southwest Georgia Counties...

NATIONAL CUT YOUR ENERGY COSTS DAY

January 10

is National Cut Your Energy Costs Day! Take simple steps, like changing air filters, adjusting the thermostat and turning off lights to save energy 💡 and 💡 lower your monthly bill.

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS

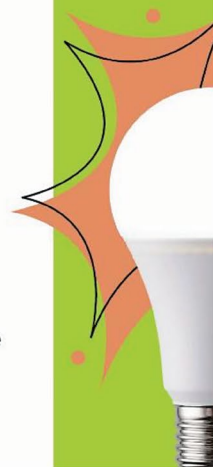


Beware of “winter bill relief” energy scams. Scammers often exploit high winter bills by offering fake discount or relief programs to unsuspecting consumers. They may ask for upfront payments or personal details to lower your rate. Legitimate utilities never demand gift cards, wire transfers or payment through apps like PayPal or Venmo. Always verify offers directly by calling your utility's phone number located on your energy bill—do not call any phone numbers provided in a suspicious email or text. Remember to take time to confirm before you pay; real savings programs won't pressure you for immediate action.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Winter weather can cause your home heating system to work overtime. Check for air leaks and drafts around doors and windows, then seal them with weatherstripping or caulk. Close fireplace dampers when not in use, and consider installing insulating curtains to help keep warm air inside. You can also save energy by lowering your thermostat a few degrees. Even small adjustments like these can reduce heating costs and improve comfort during the coldest months.



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



Slow Cooker Cheesy Potato Soup

Ingredients

28 oz. pkg. frozen hash brown potatoes,
thawed
2 cups diced cooked ham
1/2 cup diced onion
2 stalks celery, chopped
4 cups chicken broth
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
1 (8 oz.) pkg. shredded cheddar cheese
2 tablespoons chopped green onions,
or to taste

Directions

Combine hash browns, ham, onion, celery, chicken broth, salt, pepper, and garlic powder in a slow cooker. Stir well to combine. Place the lid on the slow cooker. Cook on Low heat until celery is soft, 4 to 5 hours. Mix in cream cheese and Cheddar cheese. Stir until cheese is melted. Cover and cook on Low for an additional 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Serve topped with chopped green onions as a garnish.

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.