

Mitchell EMC



The news
you need to
know in
5 minutes!

CAMILLA, GEORGIA
www.mitchellemc.com



89th Annual Meeting of the Members of Mitchell EMC

The 89th Annual Meeting of the Members of Mitchell EMC will be on Friday, April 17, 2026, at the EMC headquarters in Camilla. Watch your mailbox for your registration card and more details.



Scholarship Opportunity OPERATION ROUNDUP SCHOLARSHIP



Due To The Community Foundation of South Georgia By **MARCH 1, 2026**

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>)

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

As spring arrives, take advantage of milder temperatures to save energy at home. Open windows on pleasant days to bring in fresh air instead of running your HVAC system. It's also a great time to replace dirty air filters, which helps your system run more efficiently and improves indoor air quality. As daylight increases, turn off unnecessary lights and rely on natural sunlight when possible. Small seasonal adjustments like these can reduce energy use, lower monthly bills and help keep your home comfortable as winter transitions into spring.



5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Always call 8-1-1 first, because you never know what's below. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:

Source: call811.com

1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before you start.



2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for a response to your request. Affected utilities will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.



3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded by comparing the markers to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. They are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project.





Surge Protection 101

By Abby Berry

A power surge is an unexpected increase in voltage, and it can occur from a variety of sources. Regardless of the cause, power surges can majorly damage electronic devices and equipment in your home.

Let's take a look at common causes of power surges and how you can protect your sensitive electronics.

One of the most common causes of a power surge is lightning. Most of us have experienced this during a severe thunderstorm. When lightning strikes an electrical system, the excess current must be channeled somewhere—unfortunately in many cases, it's sent through a home. Your best bet is to unplug all unused devices and electronics during severe thunderstorms.

Another common cause of power surges is electrical overload. This happens when devices or appliances are plugged into an outlet that can't handle the required amount of voltage, or if multiple devices are plugged into one outlet through an extension cord. If you're experiencing power surges due to electrical overload, it's time to call a qualified electrician to evaluate your home's circuits and electrical needs.

Faulty wiring in a home can also cause power surges. Damaged or exposed wires can cause spikes

in voltage, creating a potentially dangerous situation. If you notice signs of faulty wiring, like visible burns on outlets, buzzing sounds from outlets or frequently tripped circuit breakers, your home may be due for electrical wiring repairs and updates.

Surges can also occur after a power outage. Sometimes, when electricity is being restored and reconnected, it's common to experience a quick surge in current. Similar to advice for a surge caused by lightning, it's best to unplug sensitive electronics during the outage—then wait to plug them back in after power is fully restored.

Aside from unplugging devices when you suspect a power surge, there are two ways you can take additional precautions to protect electronics in your home.

Point-of-use surge protection devices, like power strips, can protect electronics during most surges. But remember, not all power strips include surge protection, so read the packaging label carefully before you buy, and don't overload the power strip with too many devices. You can also install specialized electrical outlets that offer additional surge protection. Talk to a trusted electrician to learn more.

Another option is a whole-home surge protector, which can help protect your home from larger, more powerful surges. In most cases, whole-home suppressors are connected to your home's service panel and include features like thermal fuses and notification capabilities that indicate when a device has been impacted by a surge. Whole-home surge protection prices vary based on the size of the home and suppressor. Whole-home suppressors should always be connected by a licensed electrician, so consider the cost of installation as well.

Occasional power surges are inevitable, but by unplugging devices when you think a surge may occur and using additional levels of protection like power strips or whole-home suppressors, you can better safeguard your sensitive electronics and devices.



SURGE PROTECTION
Keep your electronic equipment safe.

A power surge is typically caused by lightning, changes in electrical loads, faulty wiring or damaged power lines.

Install power strips with surge protection to protect sensitive equipment.

- Easy to use (just plug them in)
- Protect electronics plugged into the device
- Must be replaced over time or after a major surge event

REMEMBER:
Not all power strips offer surge protection. Carefully read the packaging labels when purchasing.

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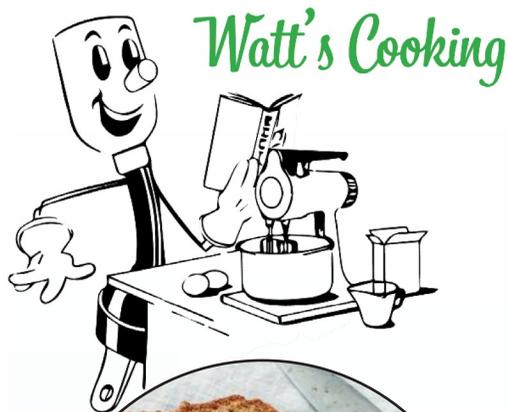
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Note: If you move or no longer have electric service with Mitchell EMC, it is important that members keep their address current, so that future disbursements can be properly mailed. Capital credits are reserved for members even if they move out of 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



Picture Credit: <https://prettysimplesweet.com/easy-banana-bread/>

Banana Bread

Ingredients

2/3 cup of vegetable oil
2 cups of mashed bananas
2 cups of flour
4 large eggs
2 cups of sugar
1 teaspoon of baking soda
1 teaspoon of salt
1 box French vanilla instant pudding

Directions

Preheat oven to 325°. Mix oil, eggs and mashed bananas. Combine remaining ingredients and add to banana mixture. Grease and flour pans, place on a baking sheet. Bake in 2 9x5x3 inch pans or 4 mini loaf pans (minis will take about 45 minutes) for 1 hour or until bread taste done.

Submitted By:

Heather McGahee, Mitchell 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.