

Mitchell EMC



The news
you need to
know in
.5 minutes!

CAMILLA, GEORGIA
www.mitchellemc.com

Shift Timing, Shift Savings

By Tony Tucker, President & CEO

As we settle into the heat of July, our homes naturally use more electricity. Air conditioners run longer, refrigerators work harder and daily routines—from cooking dinner to doing laundry—often overlap during the warmest parts of the day. That’s also when the demand for electricity across our community is at its highest.

At Mitchell EMC, our top priority is delivering safe, reliable and affordable power whenever you need it. But during peak energy hours—there’s added pressure on the grid as homes and businesses require larger amounts of electricity, all at the same time. On the hottest days, that strain can be significant.

The good news is that small changes at home can make a meaningful difference.

Think of our electric grid like a highway system. During rush hour, traffic is heavy, congestion builds and everything slows down. But when drivers adjust their schedules, even slightly, it helps ease the bottleneck. The same principle applies to energy use.

By shifting some of your high-energy activities to off-peak hours—like doing laundry later in the evening, running the dishwasher before you go to bed or cooking meals earlier in the day—you’re helping spread out demand. That reduces pressure on the grid during those critical peak hours.

Time Of Use (TOU) rates for irrigation systems begin on June 1. The TOU kWh cost is based on the time of day in which it is used. The rate will distinguish between ON-PEAK and OFF-PEAK usage. **TOU rates apply from June 1 through September 30.* If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 229-336-5221 or 1-800-479-6034.

Here are a few simple steps you can take to lower energy use during peak hours.

Smart technology can be a valuable partner in saving energy. A programmable or smart thermostat can automatically adjust your home’s temperature when demand is highest, helping you stay comfortable while using energy more efficiently. Even a small adjustment of a few degrees during peak hours can make a difference.

In the kitchen, simple swaps can help, too. Using a slow cooker, air fryer or outdoor grill instead of the oven keeps your home more comfortable and reduces the need additional cooling during the warmer parts of the day. And when it comes to laundry, air-drying clothes or spacing out loads can cut down on both energy use and indoor heat.

Don’t overlook the power of ceiling fans, either. They can you feel several degrees cooler, allowing you to raise your thermostat setting without sacrificing comfort.

These actions may seem small on their own, but to-

Same Energy. Different Impact.

The demand for electricity is typically highest in the late afternoon during peak energy hours. You can help lower demand by shifting when energy-intensive activities happen.



Shift appliance use to off-peak hours.

- Run the dishwasher before you go to bed.
- Use the oven earlier or later (during off-peak hours.)
- Space out use of major appliances.



Use a programmable or smart thermostat.

- Automatically adjust the temp setting during peak hours.
- Schedule home cooling cycles for efficiency.



Opt for low-energy alternatives during peak hours.

- Use small appliances like slow cookers or air fryers—or fire up the grill—instead of the oven.
- Air-dry clothes instead of using the dryer.
- Use ceiling fans for additional cooling.

gether, they add up. When many members make mindful choices about when and how they use electricity, it helps reduce peak demand, eases strain on the grid and supports more stable energy costs for our local communities.

That’s the cooperative difference. As a member, you’re not just a customer—you’re part of a community working together to power our future. Every effort you make contributes to a stronger, more resilient system.

This summer, I encourage you to take a closer look at your daily routines. A few simple shifts can go a long way in keeping your home comfortable, your energy use efficient and our grid running smoothly—no matter how high the temperatures climb.

NRECA is 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



Mitchell EMC Members Help Send Local Students to College Through Operation RoundUP Scholarships

Students from across Mitchell EMC's 14-county service area received scholarships for college thanks to Operation RoundUP. Applicants were evaluated by the Community Foundation of South Georgia. Scholarships are awarded based on "All-Around Student Performance" including academic performance, community service, volunteerism, and extracurricular activities. Financial need is also considered. The foundation also reviewed recommendations from teachers and other adults involved in the students' lives.

Mitchell EMC members who enroll in Operation RoundUP provide 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 are 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. Graduating children of Mitchell EMC employees receive a scholarship of \$500.

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 that live in a primary residence serviced by Mitchell EMC electricity are eligible.

2026 Operation RoundUP Scholarship Recipients include: Trinity Do, Thomasville High School; Mia Burnett, Westwood Schools; Taylor Turley, Baconton, Community Charter School; Tyler Hayes, Baconton Community Charter School; Daisy White, Worth County High School; Joseph "Hunter" Spence, Westwood Schools; Ashton "Caleb" Etheredge, Baconton Community Charter School; Matison Shiver, Baconton Community Charter School; Charles "Weston" Cowart, Southwest Georgia Academy; Nebraska West, Westwood Schools; Nathan Fowler Piercey, Lee County High School; Rebekah Milling, County High School; Jada Rodgers, Albany State University; Zach Faircloth, Southern Regional Technical College, each received a \$1,000 employee scholarship.

Mitchell EMC also introduced the 2 winners of the 2026 Washington Youth Tour Aiden Jackson Peavy, Baconton Community Charter School and Christian Hernandez, Dougherty Comprehensive High School.

We are proud of these high-achieving students and honored to assist them as they pursue their field of choice in college.



Fill-in-the-Blank: Fireworks Safety Tips

Holidays like the Fourth of July and other celebrations can be fun times with great memories. But everyone should practice safety near fireworks. Read the safety tips below, then fill in the blanks with the correct answer in the word bank.



1. The best way to stay safe is to never use fireworks at home. Instead, attend a public _____ and leave fireworks to the pros.
2. Watch fireworks from a _____ of 500 feet away from where they are launched.
3. Never touch or pick up pieces of fireworks or duds as they may still be _____ or could explode at any time.
4. Remember, _____ are not toys and can reach 2,000 degrees F. Use glow sticks instead.
5. Think about _____ when fireworks are nearby. It's best to leave them indoors to reduce the risk of them running away or being injured.



Answer key: 1) display 2) minimum 3) Ignited 4) Sparklers 5) Pets





**OUR OFFICES WILL BE
CLOSED
ON JULY 3
IN OBSERVANCE OF
INDEPENDENCE DAY.**

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Running multiple major appliances at the same time—like your dishwasher, laundry machines and oven—can spike energy demand and strain the electric grid, especially during peak hours (typically late afternoon to early evening). Instead of stacking appliance use, spread it out throughout the day or shift chores to off-peak hours when energy demand is lower. This not only helps improve overall efficiency but can also reduce your energy costs. A simple habit change, like doing laundry in the morning and running the dishwasher overnight, can make a meaningful difference for both your wallet and energy reliability.



TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



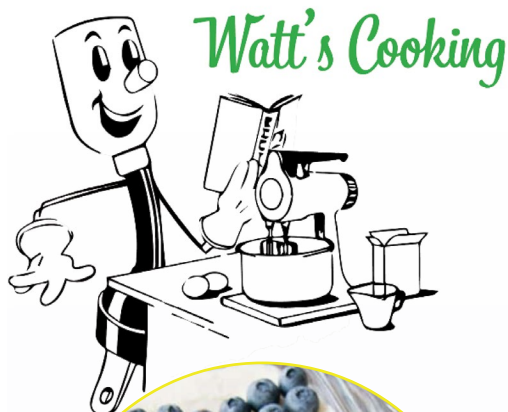
Scammers are increasingly using “smishing” — fake text messages designed to look like they’re from legitimate businesses, including your electric utility. These texts may claim your bill is overdue, your service will be disconnected or you’re owed a refund. They often include a link that directs you to a fake payment site or asks for personal information. Never click suspicious links or respond to unexpected texts, even if the message appears urgent. Instead, log in to your utility account through the official website or mobile app to verify any claims. We will never ask for sensitive information like passwords or banking details through text messages.



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



Flag Fruit Pizza

Prep time: 15 minutes

Ingredients

1 roll of refrigerated sugar cookie dough,
1 block of cream cheese (softened),
½ cup powdered sugar, and fresh
strawberries and blueberries.

Directions

Press the cookie dough onto a pizza pan and bake according to package directions; let it cool. Beat the cream cheese and powdered sugar together, and spread it over the cookie crust. Arrange blueberries in the top left corner and alternating rows of sliced strawberries and remaining whipped cream/cream cheese to resemble the American flag.

*Submitted By:
Little Street Baker, Lily Earnest*

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.