

# THE SAWNEE HIGHLINER

Volume 42 • Issue 8

## Energy Bang for Your Buck 5 Ways to Beat the Heat

During these last “dog days” of summer, electric bills can increase as everyone operates their air conditioners. Since your AC can account for approximately 45% of your summer electric bill, start using these low-cost ways to keep your energy usage as low as possible.

- 1. Do touch that dial.** If your family is heading out for the day, set your thermostat three to five degrees higher than usual. Remember, Sawnee EMC recommends a thermostat setting of 78 degrees when you are at home.
- 2. Bigger is not always better.** Air conditioners function by removing both the heat and humidity from the air. While an oversized unit can cool rooms quickly, it can only remove a portion of the humidity, leaving the room with a damp and clammy feeling. Be sure to consult your HVAC professional about right-sizing your home’s cooling system.
- 3. Soften the effect of those rays.** Close curtains and lower blinds on the sunny side of your home. To avoid blocking the view, consider adding an outdoor awning or applying reflective window film.
- 4. Make sure off is really off.** Each of the appliances and electronic devices you have around your home use energy – and generate heat – as long as they are attached to a power source. Plug nearby gadgets into a single power strip that can be turned off with one switch.
- 5. Feel the breeze.** When you are home, use ceiling fans to create a “wind chill” effect. Combining fans with air conditioning allows you to set your thermostat higher, yet feel cooler.



Questions? Contact Sawnee EMC’s Energy Services Department at 770-887-2363 or via email at [marketing@sawnee.com](mailto:marketing@sawnee.com).

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### QUOTABLE QUOTE

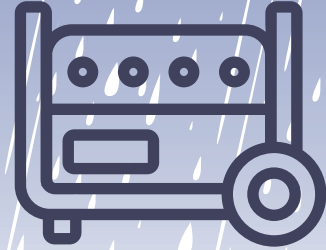
**Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time. "**

**— Thomas A. Edison**

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

# A QUICK GUIDE TO GENERATORS

With proper use and maintenance, generators can provide great convenience during a power outage. Before you purchase a generator, determine your backup power needs by selecting the right sized unit. Make a list of essential appliances and devices you'll want to power during an outage, then total the required wattage. Here are a few suggestions to consider:



## RECOMMENDED IF YOU

## SUGGESTED UNIT SIZE

**Rarely** lose power.

### Recreational Inverter

**Up to 2,000 watts**

Lightweight, about 60 pounds

Quiet, easy to store

Power: fridge and a few smaller items (i.e. lamp, phone charger)

### Midsized Inverter

**Up to 3,500 watts**

Weights up to 150 pounds

Power: fridge, laptop, five to ten lights, phone charger, and possibly a small window/room AC unit

**Occasionally** lose power.  
Transfer switch required.

### Portable Generators and Large Inverters

**Up to 7,500 watts**

Weights about 300 pounds

Power: fridge, gas furnace, 10K BTU air conditioner, dishwasher, multiple lights, TV, laptop and more

Ability to connect to home's breaker panel if proper disconnects and safety items are in place

**Frequently** lose power.  
Transfer switch required.

### Home Standby

**Up to 20,000 watts**

Must be permanently installed; starts automatically during outage with automatic transfer switch

Power: nearly all home appliances and electronics (simultaneously)  
Can run indefinitely on natural gas or propane

## SAFETY FIRST!

- Let the staff of Sawnee EMC know if you purchase a generator that you plan to connect to an electric panel.
- Improperly installed generators can create back feed, which is dangerous to our crews and the community.  
**Before using the generator, disconnect the normal source of power coming into your home/business.**
- Never operate a generator indoors or in an enclosed space.
- If using extension cords with a generator, make sure the cords are rated for the electrical load placed on them.
- Don't forget to disconnect the generator when home power has been restored.
- Please note safety requirements may differ based on the type of generator you purchase. Thoroughly read the operator's manual and know how to shut off the generator quickly.

*Source: Consumer Reports*

# Sawnee EMC Introduces New Solar Renewable Energy Credit (SREC) Program

The energy needs of Sawnee EMC's members continue to evolve. Today, many businesses, and even residential members, are interested in renewable energy, and Sawnee EMC is excited to offer a "new" program for members with renewable energy goals. Sawnee EMC's Solar Renewable Energy Credit (SREC) Program allows participating members to achieve their renewable energy goals **without** having to install solar panels or other renewable energy systems at their location.

Sawnee EMC's SREC program represents the environmental attributes of **energy generated** by the many utility scale solar projects from which Sawnee buys power. While buying a SREC is **not** equivalent to buying renewable electricity, it does represent and include 100% of the clean energy attributes of that electricity.

This program will allow Sawnee EMC to retire renewable energy credits (RECs) on behalf of eligible members from utility scale solar assets which are solar generation projects located in Georgia. While the program may be viewed as more useful to commercial members, eligible residential members may enroll too.

For commercial accounts, the Sawnee EMC SREC program allows for flexibility, where a business may have multiple locations or lack the infrastructure to install solar panels. Sawnee EMC's SREC program has been designed to help members meet certain renewable energy goals, depending on what their objectives happen to be.

Sawnee EMC's SREC program operates on a voluntary, month by month, basis with no contract. While available, members may purchase SRECs equal to either 50% or 100% of their monthly energy usage for one (1) penny (\$0.01) per kWh. Participating members will continue to be billed under their normal retail rate schedule, and an additional line item will be added to reflect the SRECs they wish to receive. Certain rules and regulations apply so please visit our website at [sawnee.com/solar](http://sawnee.com/solar) for additional information.

Interested members are encouraged to call a member of Sawnee EMC's Marketing Team at 770-887-2363 or via email at [marketing@sawnee.com](mailto:marketing@sawnee.com).



## KEY NOTES

- SRECs are in addition to standard billing on an electric account.
- SRECs are agreed upon by the member and Sawnee EMC and the charges are added to the billing statement as an additional line item.
- Certain restrictions apply.

# Stay COOL While Cooking This Summer



The heat and humidity of another Georgia summer has been with us for a while, but there are ways for you to stay cool without breaking the bank. Try saving energy with these five (5) simple tips when cooking this summer.

- Cook outdoors to reduce the heat in the house and the additional load on your air conditioner. Remember, your AC is typically the largest user of electricity during the summer.

- Toaster ovens, slow cookers and air fryers get the job done, while using less energy than conventional stove tops or ovens, especially when preparing smaller meals.
- By cooking in glass or ceramic ovenware, you can turn the temperature down by 25 degrees and cook in the same amount of time as you would with metal pots or pans.
- Avoid thawing food in the microwave. It is more energy efficient to thaw in the refrigerator. It helps the refrigerator stay cool and is safer than thawing food on the countertop or in the sink.
- When cooking on the stove, always use a lid whenever possible. It reduces cooking time and the amount of steam that is released inside the house.

Looking for more information on how you can save energy this summer? Visit Sawnee's Energy Solutions Center online at [sawnee.com](http://sawnee.com). This site is full of helpful energy-saving tips and information. For additional questions, contact a member of our Energy Services Department at (770) 887-2363 or via email at [marketing@sawnee.com](mailto:marketing@sawnee.com).

## Here's WATTS Cookin' Strawberry Snow

### Ingredients:

<i>1 lb. ripe strawberries, washed and hulled</i>	<i>½ cup of sugar</i>
<i>2 egg whites</i>	<i>1 small container of cool whip or ½ cup double (heavy) cream, whipped</i>

### Instructions:

Push the strawberries through a sieve (strainer) or puree in a food processor fitted with the double-edged steel blade. Combine the strawberry puree, egg whites, and sugar, then beat vigorously until stiff and glossy; this is easily done in an electric mixer. Using a rubber spatula or large metal spoon, fold cool whip or whipped cream into the strawberry mixture. Makes 6 servings. This dessert is very light on a summer night.



👉 Thanks to Ana Marie Coleman for the recipe! Do you have a recipe to share with us? If we print it, we'll credit your account \$5.00. Send your favorite recipe to [marketing@sawnee.com](mailto:marketing@sawnee.com).