

## Let the GIVING SEASON **Last All Year Long...**

With the month of December upon us, many people are busy with holiday parties and other activities; however, it is the time of year when we feel thankfulness in the air and want to reach out to others who may be in need. This is where the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation's Operation Round Up program comes in.

It only costs about 50 cents per month, yet all the spare change collected by the Sawnee Foundation's Operation Round Up Program has made it possible to put \$2.9 million of charitable contributions back into our communities over the last decade.

By rounding up your electric bill to the next highest dollar each month, you can help a local charity stock their food pantry, provide prescription medicine for the elderly, or you could even help purchase items for foster children in your area. The possibilities are endless.

Please take the time this month to either sign up for Operation Round Up on a reoccurring monthly basis or consider making a one-time donation on your December electric bill. You can go online to www.sawnee.com/oru to sign up or contact our Customer Call Center at

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### **CONTACT US**

Web Address & Email: www.sawnee.com customerservice@sawnee.com

**Business Office Hours:** Mon. - Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Physical Address:** 543 Atlanta Highway Cumming, GA 30040

**Customer Call Center:** Mon. - Fri. 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Sat. 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Phone: (770) 887-2363 Fax: (678) 947-3368 Text: (678) 999-8124











### **QUOTABLE QUOTE**

We owe a lot to Thomas Edison - if it wasn't for him. we'd be watching television by candlelight."

- Milton Berle

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### Do It Yourself Home Energy Audit

Investing in energy efficiency may sound like it requires a lot of time and money, but it doesn't have to. There are smaller steps you can take to make your home more energy efficient and save energy. As an added bonus... many energy efficiency investments also make your home more comfortable!

Below is a list of six (6) simple measures you can take to conduct your own home energy audit.



Unplug or turn off unused appliances and electronics. One of the simplest things you can do is shut off electronics, lights, chargers, and fans when they are not being used.

Change out old light bulbs. Light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs are the way to go. These bulbs can last 20-30 times longer than incandescent lights, while saving up to 75 percent on energy (they are also more efficient than compact fluorescent lamps, or CFLs).

Replace HVAC air filters. A clean filter also allows your HVAC system to run smoother and more efficient because it does not have to work as hard to push air out. Most air filters should be changed every 1 – 3 months.

Set your thermostat to "Auto" and keep an eye on temperatures. Setting your thermostat

fan to "Auto" will ensure that it is running only when it is supposed to and only when the system is heating or cooling. During the winter months, Sawnee EMC recommends keeping your thermostat set at 68 degrees.

Wash clothes and dishes when loads are full.
Use your laundry and dishwasher only when the loads are full. Use cold water for general clothes washing. When dishwashing, try air drying instead of heat drying.

Look for appliances with the Energy Star label. When ready to purchase new appliances or electronics, look for the Energy Star label. Items with the Energy Star label have gone through testing to ensure they perform as expected and reduce energy consumption.

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Make your home more ergy efficient and save energy

These simple actions improve your home's energy efficiency, increase savings and enhance comfort. What they all have in common is their ability to increase comfort while saving you energy and money. What's not to like? Please contact a member of our Energy Services Department at 770-886-2363 or via email at marketing@ sawnee.com if you have any questions.



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770-887-2363. Please know that 100% of the money that is rounded up will go directly to the people that need it most, right here locally.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this worthy program and lastly for being a member of Sawnee EMC.

Happy holidays and blessings to you and yours!

## Lineworker Scholarships NOW AVAILABLE

The journey to become an electrical lineworker can be a little easier with a scholarship from the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation. The Brian Johnson Memorial Scholarship was established in 2015 to honor the legacy of one of Sawnee EMC's employees who lost his life in the line of duty.

Interested recipients must be accepted in the Electrical Lineworker Certificate Program at North Georgia Technical College, located in Clarkesville, GA and are encouraged to contact the school for admission information.

To apply for the scholarship, students will need to complete an essay as part of the application process. Application packets can be obtained through Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation or the financial staff at North Georgia Technical College.

The Electrical Lineworker Certificate Program at North Georgia Technical College can be completed in one minimester term. The program prepares students to enter the electric utility



industry with a broad understanding of the skills, safe work practices and occupational skills needed to perform linework.

If you have any questions or need any additional information regarding the Brian Johnson Memorial Scholarship, please contact Cindy Badgett at 770-887-2363 or via email at cindy.badgett@sawnee.com.

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# **BE SAFE** This Holiday Season

If you decorate for the holidays, please remember these electrical safety tips:

- Only use lights and electrical decorations that are certified by an independent testing laboratory such as "UL"
- When decorating outdoors, only use lights that are approved for outdoor use
- Consider switching to LED decorations, which create much less heat and use less energy
- Look for frayed or cracked wires, which may cause electrical shock or fire
- Never nail or staple light strings or extension cords to exterior surfaces
- Do not overload extension cords they can overheat
- Keep all outdoor extension cords and light strings clear of standing water



- Do not allow children or pets to play with electrical decorations
- Turn off all electrical decorations before leaving home or going to bed and be sure to use a timer to control the operating time and energy cost.

Have fun and enjoy this holiday season... just remember to always be safe!

### Here's WATTS Cookin' Chocolate Cake

#### **Ingredients:**

1 box of German Chocolate or Swiss Chocolate cake mix

1 can evaporated milk 1 cup pecans, chopped 1 ½ sticks of butter, melted 1 (12 oz.) bag chocolate chips 1 (14 oz.) bag Kraft caramels



#### Instructions:

Mix cake mix, 1/3 cup of the evaporated milk, pecans and butter. Bake one half of this batter in an ungreased  $9 \times 13$  pan at 350 degrees for 7 minutes. Spread chocolate chips on top of cake. Melt caramels with 1/3 cup of evaporated milk. Pour caramel mixture on top of chocolate chips. Pour remaining cake batter on top of caramel. Bake for 25 minutes at 350 degrees. Cool before cutting.

Thanks to Lucie Flory 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.

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