

THE SAWNEE HIGHLINER

Volume 42 • Issue 2

Sawnee EMC Announces \$7.8 Million Retirement of Patronage Capital

Sawnee EMC will soon be refunding approximately \$7.8 million to over 120,250 active and former Sawnee members through a general retirement of patronage capital. This patronage capital retirement is for all customers who received electric service from Sawnee EMC at any time during 2003 or 2004.

As outlined in Sawnee's Bylaws, patronage capital is an allocation of the revenue received in excess of operating costs and expenses each year; those funds are then assigned to each member of record for that particular year.

Active Sawnee EMC members, who received service at any time during 2003 or 2004, will receive their portion of this patronage capital retirement in the form of a "credit" on their March 2022 electric bill. Active members will soon receive a letter, which provides details about this general retirement, including the amount of their refund, as well as a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs).

Former members who no longer have an active Sawnee EMC account, and

have a valid address on file, will be mailed a check to their last known address on or around April 5, 2022. It is important that former Sawnee EMC members notify Sawnee of their new mailing address when they discontinue electric service. This helps to ensure that these members receive future patronage capital retirements.

In addition to the general retirement of patronage capital, it is important to remember that Sawnee EMC also retires patronage capital to the estates of deceased members. Many thousands of dollars are claimed each year by families of former members who are now deceased. If you know of someone who has passed away, and they were once a Sawnee EMC member, please remind the executor of their estate to contact our Customer Service Center at (770) 887-2363, by text at (678) 999-8124, or via email at customerservice@sawnee.com to learn about claiming their patronage capital funds.

Sawnee EMC is committed to supporting the principles that make

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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. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Phone: (770) 887-2363

Fax: (770) 234-6722

Text: (678) 999-8124

TDD: (770) 781-4271



QUOTABLE QUOTE

**'Tis better to have loved
and lost than never to
have loved at all."**

— Alfred Lord Tennyson

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

ANNOUNCING 2022 Residential ENERGY REBATES



Please note...

The rebates contained herein only apply for work completed in 2022. Please be sure to visit sawnee.com/rebates for additional information and limitations on 2022 energy related rebates and incentives.

Anytime is a good time to get more energy efficient, but it is even better when a Sawnee EMC rebate can help offset some of the cost. Below is information about the energy rebate programs available to residential accounts for 2022.

- **Insulation Upgrade:** Increase your attic insulation to an R-49 level or greater and receive ½ of the cost, up to \$200. The home must be at least five (5) years old.
- **Second Refrigerator / Freezer Turn In:** Replace your second refrigerator or freezer, which must be working and at least 10 years old, with an Energy Star model and receive a rebate of \$30, plus free removal of the old unit. This rebate does not apply to the replacement of the main kitchen refrigerator.
- **Electric Hybrid Water Heater:** Replace an existing standard water heater with a heat pump water heater and receive a \$100 rebate.
- **New HVAC Unit:** Replace an existing HVAC unit with a new 17 SEER unit. Please note, the "yellow" ENERGY GUIDE label located on the outdoor unit must clearly state 17 SEER or greater. Recipients must also agree to participate in one of Sawnee's Load Management programs to receive the rebate of \$50 per ton.
- **Duct Sealing:** Receive a rebate of ½ of the cost, up to \$100, for sealing all accessible ductwork with mastic.

- **HVAC Tune Up:** Receive a rebate of ½ of the cost, up to \$20, for each outside HVAC unit, when you have a "tune up" performed by a licensed HVAC technician. **Tune ups for "gas furnaces only" do not qualify.**
- **Variable Speed Pool Pump:** Replace a conventional swimming pool pump with a variable speed pump and receive ½ of the cost, up to \$100 per pump.
- **Radiant Barrier Roof Decking:** Receive a rebate for ½ of total cost, up to \$100, for the installation of a barrier roof sheathing to a home newly constructed in 2022. Rebate does not apply to "roll out" or "paint on" radiant barrier.
- **Level 2 Charger Rebate:** Receive a one-time \$250 rebate for installing a Level 2 electric vehicle charger. Must participate in one of Sawnee EMC's Time of Use rates for the required one (1) year minimum period.

Are you a commercial member? If so, please be sure to visit us online at sawnee.com for a list of rebates that your business may be eligible for. Questions? Contact a member of Sawnee EMC's Energy Services staff at 770-887-2363 or via email at energy_services@sawnee.com if you have any questions about rebate eligibility.

Note: Certain limitations and restrictions apply. Please visit sawnee.com/rebates for full details.

PATRONAGE CAPITAL
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the electric cooperative business model a success. Over the previous five (5) years, Sawnee EMC has retired over \$56.1 million to active and former members through retirements of patronage capital.

If you have any questions about this patronage capital retirement, please contact our Customer Service at (770) 887-2363 or via email at customerservice@sawnee.com.

For more information, a list of FAQ's or to watch our short informational video visit sawnee.com/patcap.

At a Glance

FIVE WAYS TO SAVE ENERGY WHEN WORKING FROM HOME

Today, many of us are working from home more than ever before; and more time spent at home, means more energy is used throughout the day. Here are five (5) easy ways to save energy when working from home.



1. **Use a smart power strip.** Plugging in your most-used devices, like computers, monitors and routers, to a smart power strip ensures these devices aren't drawing power when they're not in use.
2. **Unplug your least-used equipment.** If your home office includes equipment such as printers and scanners, you're probably not using these electronics every day. Unplug your least-used electronics and devices, since many of these draw energy even when they're not in use.
3. **Choose ENERGY STAR® office equipment.** If you're looking to purchase new equipment for your home office workspace, look for the ENERGY STAR® label to ensure you're getting energy efficient features.
4. **Flip the switch and use natural light instead.** It's chilly out there, so take advantage of additional warmth from the sun. When you're working during the day, open blinds, curtains and other window coverings to let natural light in.
5. **Lower the thermostat.** Home heating makes up a significant portion of your energy bill. Turn the thermostat down a couple degrees during the day to reduce energy use and save money. The Department of Energy recommends setting the thermostat to 68 degrees or cooler.

Working from home doesn't have to take a toll on your monthly electric bills. These practical tips can help everyone reduce their home's energy use. Questions? Contact Sawnee EMC's Energy Services Team at 770-887-2363 or energy_services@sawnee.com if you have questions about saving energy at home.

How PATRONAGE CAPITAL Works

1

Sawnee EMC has a record of how much electricity you use and are billed for each year.

2

At the end of the year, Sawnee EMC looks at the cost to maintain and deliver reliable electric service to determine if there are excess revenues.

3

The Cooperative allocates the excess revenues as Patronage Capital to members.

4

If financial conditions allow, the Board of Directors will return patronage capital using a Board approved method.

5

Sawnee EMC places a Patronage Capital credit on the billing statement for active members and sends a check to inactive members.



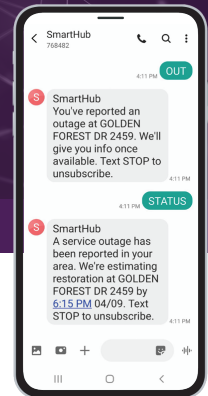
TEXT SAWNEE EMC YOUR OUTAGE

SMART MANAGEMENT. SMART LIFE. SMARTHUB.

Reporting outages and getting updates has never been easier. You can now communicate with us via text during outages.

- Use your registered SmartHub account to get started.
- To report an outage, text **OUT** to 768482.
- To get outage updates, text **STATUS** to 768482.

Need help setting up your SmartHub account? Contact our Customer Call Center at 770-887-2363, text 678-999-8124, or chat at sawnee.com.



Register for SmartHub at sawnee.com

Online or in the App, you have the power to customize text and email notifications about outages, billing, service orders and more! Set up the notifications you need in Smarthub at Notifications > Manage Notifications.



Here's WATTS Cookin' Creamy Italian Bean Soup

Ingredients:

1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 onion, chopped
1 stalk celery, chopped
1 clove garlic, minced

2 (16 oz.) cans white kidney beans,
rinsed and drained
1 (14 oz.) can chicken broth
¼ teaspoon ground black pepper
½ teaspoon dried thyme

2 cups water
1 bunch fresh spinach,
rinsed and thinly sliced
1 tablespoon lemon juice

Instructions:

In a large saucepan, heat oil. Cook onion and celery in oil for 5 - 8 minutes, or until tender. Add garlic, and cook for 30 seconds, continually stirring. Stir in beans, chicken broth, pepper, thyme and 2 cups water. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, and then simmer for 15 minutes. With slotted spoon, remove 2 cups of the bean and vegetable mixture from soup and set aside. In blender at low speed, blend remaining soup in small batches until smooth, (it helps to remove the center piece of the blender lid to allow steam to escape.) Once blended pour soup back into stock pot and stir in reserved beans. Bring to a boil, occasionally stirring. Stir in spinach and cook 1 minute or until spinach is wilted. Stir in lemon juice and remove from heat and serve with fresh grated Parmesan cheese on top.

👉 Thanks to Dale Graham 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.