

THE SAWNEE HIGHLINER

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Sawnee EMC Announces \$8.3 Million Retirement of Patronage Capital

Sawnee EMC will soon be refunding approximately \$8.3 million to nearly 120,000 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 2006.

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 2006, will receive their portion of this patronage capital retirement in the form of a "credit" on their March 2024 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 1, 2024. 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 their 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



CONTACT US

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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.

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Phone: (770) 887-2363

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Text: (678) 999-8124

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QUOTABLE QUOTE

**It is during our darkest
moments that we must
focus to see the light."**

— Aristotle

Continued on next page

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

Retirement of Patronage Capital

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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 the electric cooperative business model a success. Over the previous five (5) years, Sawnee EMC has retired approximately \$54 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.

BEST BETS FOR Winter Savings

Energy consumption spikes during winter months as we spend more time indoors and heating systems work overtime. You can help reduce demand and strain on the electric grid by conserving during peak energy times. Reducing energy use will also help lower your energy bills.

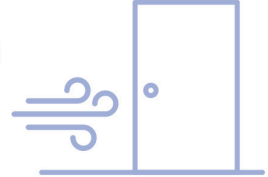
UNPLUG WHEN POSSIBLE



Turn off unnecessary lights and electronics when you aren't using them.

ELIMINATE DRAFTS AND AIR LEAKS

Seal air leaks and drafts around windows and exterior doors.



USE APPLIANCES WHEN ENERGY DEMAND IS LOWER

Run large appliances like clothes washers, dryers and dishwashers early in the morning or before you go to bed.



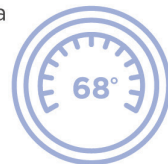
MAINTAIN HEATING EQUIPMENT



Maintain your heating system by replacing dirty, clogged filters and scheduling an annual inspection for necessary maintenance.

LOWER THE THERMOSTAT

Home heating accounts for a large portion of energy consumption. Adjust your thermostat to the lowest comfortable setting (68 degrees or lower).



Source: NRECA

Announcing 2024 Residential ENERGY REBATES

Anytime is a good time to get more energy efficient, but it is even better when a Sawnee EMC rebate can help pay for it. Below is information about the energy rebate programs available to residential accounts for 2024.

Please note...

The rebates contained herein only apply for work completed in 2024. Please be sure to visit [sawnee.com/rebates](https://www.sawnee.com/rebates) for additional information and limitations on 2024 energy related rebates and incentives.

- **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.
- **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/16.2 SEER2 unit. 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 HVAC 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" do not qualify.*
- **VARIABLE SPEED POOL PUMP:** Replace a conventional single speed swimming pool pump with a variable speed pump and receive ½ of the cost, up to \$100 per pump.
- **LEVEL 2 CHARGER REBATE:** Receive a one-time

\$200 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.

- **SMART THERMOSTAT:** Receive a one time \$25 rebate, per smart thermostat. Recipients must also agree to participate in one of Sawnee's Load Management programs to receive the rebate.
- **LOAD MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS:**
 - **SMART SAVERS THERMOSTAT PROGRAM** – Receive an annual credit of \$30, per thermostat, for enrolling an eligible smart thermostat into the program at [sawnee.com/smartsavers](https://www.sawnee.com/smartsavers). Credit placed on account in \$10, per thermostat, amounts on July, August and September billing statements.
 - **LOAD MANAGEMENT SWITCH PROGRAM** – For each central HVAC load management switch installed, receive an annual credit of \$30, per switch. Credit placed on account in \$10, per switch, amounts on June, July and August billing statements. Sign up at [sawnee.com/switch](https://www.sawnee.com/switch).

Are you a Sawnee EMC commercial member? If so, please be sure to visit us online at [sawnee.com](https://www.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.

Purchasing an EV soon? Be sure to read up on current tax credits.



On January 1, 2024, the IRS released a "new" update regarding the criteria for electric vehicle tax credits and, if you are considered an EV in the new year, be sure that you educate yourself on "how" the tax credits work.

While fewer EVs are now eligible for tax credits; there is still good news. Now, instead of waiting for the tax credit when taxes are filed, an EV buyer can have the tax credit applied to the purchase price at the time they buy it.

Learn more about available EV tax credits at fuelconomy.gov/feg/tax2023.shtml.

Here's WATTS Cookin' Trim and Terrific Chili

Ingredients:

1 onion, chopped
1 small green pepper, chopped
1 carrot, finely chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped
1 pound extra lean ground turkey breast

1 (14.5 oz) can diced tomatoes
3 Roma tomatoes, seeded and chopped
1 ½ cups low sodium tomato/vegetable juice (such as V8 or Trader Joe's brand)
2 teaspoons chili powder
½ teaspoon ground cumin



½ teaspoon leaf oregano
¼ teaspoon pepper
1 (15.5 oz) can red kidney beans, rinsed and drained
1 (15.5 oz) can black beans, rinsed and drained

Instructions:

Cook onion, green pepper, carrot, garlic, jalapeno and turkey in Dutch oven over medium heat, stirring frequently until turkey is cooked and vegetables are tender; drain. Stir in diced tomatoes, chopped fresh tomatoes, vegetable juice and seasonings. Cover reduce heat to low and cook 30 minutes. Stir in beans and cook 10 minutes. Ladle into bowls and top with grated cheese.

👉 Thanks to Katie Harrold 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.