

THE SAWNEE HIGHLINER

Volume 40 • Issue 5

Easy Steps to Greater ENERGY EFFICIENCY



Do you want to save electricity? According to the Department of Energy, a “typical American family” spends nearly \$2,000 per year on their home's energy bills. However, some of that money is wasted with inefficient HVAC systems, through leaky windows and doors, poor ductwork or old appliances. Luckily, there are several relatively easy ways to save energy without a substantial commitment of time or money.

WHERE TO START

Improving the envelope of your living space is a good place to start. Sunlight, seasonal temperature changes and



wind vibrations can loosen up even a tight home, increasing air leakage.

Doors and windows may not close tightly, and duct work can spring leaks, wasting cooled or heated air. By placing weather stripping and caulk around windows and doors, you can keep cool air inside during warm

months. Sealing gaps around piping, dryer vents, fans and outlets also help to seal the envelope and creates greater efficiency. Apply weather stripping around overlooked spaces like your attic hatch or pull-down stairs.

Replacing incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs can make a big difference in your home's energy efficiency and is one of the fastest ways to cut your energy bill. According to the Department of Energy, by replacing your home's five most frequently used light bulbs with models that have earned the ENERGY STAR rating, you can save \$75 each year.

MAINTAIN YOUR HVAC SYSTEM

Given that a large portion of your monthly energy bill goes toward heating and cooling your home, it makes sense to ensure your home's HVAC system is performing at an optimal level. Checking, changing or cleaning your



Continued on next page

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

TDD: (770) 781-4271



QUOTABLE QUOTE

**The secret of
getting ahead is
getting started."**

— Mark Twain

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

2020 Committee on Nominations for the BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sawnee EMC is an electric cooperative governed by its Bylaws, its Charter, Georgia law, and the service rules and regulations established by the Board of Directors. The Bylaws specify that certain activities be reserved only for Cooperative members; the election of representatives to serve on the Cooperative's Board of Directors is one such activity.

The Committee on Nominations ("Committee"), which serves a vital role in the affairs of the Corporation, will soon be appointed by the Board of Directors. This Committee will receive input from the membership and determine, as provided for in the Bylaws of the Corporation, the name(s) that shall be placed before the membership, from those members who have met the necessary criteria, to seek the office of Director in the district(s) with expiring term(s).

The Bylaws, in Article 4, Sections 4.02, 4.04, 4.05, and 4.09, outline the director election process, specifically as it relates to the Committee on Nominations and provides for a separate process, outside of the Committee, known as the "Petition Process." Information on the Petition Process may be found in Article 4, Section 4.09 of the Bylaws.

For 2020, Sawnee EMC has three (3) directorate districts which have director terms that are expiring, and they are:

- District #3 (Cumming);
- District #5 (Ducktown); and
- District #8 (Ocee)

Sawnee EMC has developed a website to provide members with information about director election activities and district meetings. Interested members should visit www.sawnee.com/elections to review the items relative to this year's activities.

If you have additional questions about the 2020 Committee on Nominations or the upcoming 2020 director election process, please feel free to contact the Office of the President and Chief Executive Officer by calling 770-887-2363, ext. 7387, or via email at kristi.sheriff@sawnee.com.

Greater Efficiency,

continued from page 1

filter extends the life of your HVAC system and saves you money.

Air filters prevent dust and allergens from clogging your HVAC system. A simple task like changing the filters on your HVAC system makes your unit run more efficiently, keeping your house cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter.

Internet-connected thermostats can learn your schedule and adjust automatically

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR ENERGY SAVINGS

Look at your programmable thermostat. When was the last time you checked to make sure it was programmed for the current season and family schedule? This is



one of the best energy-saving tools at your fingertips. It enables you to fine tune the temperature during particular

hours of the day. Many models allow you to differentiate between weekday and weekend schedules, and internet-connected thermostats can learn your schedule and adjust automatically. Most models come with an override option so you can make manual adjustments without losing overall programming.

Remember, there are easy steps you can take now to improve the energy efficiency of your home. To learn about additional ways to save, contact Sawnee EMC's Energy Services professionals at 770-887-2363 or marketing@sawnee.com.

Notice of 2019 Patronage Capital Assignment

As a non-profit electric cooperative, all monies in excess of operating expenses, which Sawnee EMC receives from furnishing electric energy and ancillary services to its patrons, are assigned at year's end back to those patrons who provided it. These amounts are referred to as "Patronage Capital" and are used as equity. The funds are invested in the assets of the Corporation – which includes poles, wire, transformers and other necessities to operate the Cooperative.

Each member of record is hereby notified that for fiscal year 2019, ending December 31, 2019, they have received from Sawnee EMC operations, a Patronage Capital assignment equaling **9.3596%** of the amount they were billed for electric service during 2019. Additionally, those members have also received an allocation from other cooperatives that furnished electric energy and ancillary services to Sawnee in 2019 equaling **0.4357%** of the amount they were billed during 2019. Both assignments equal a total assignment of **9.7953%** of a member's billed electric service.

Each member may calculate the amount of assigned 2019 Patronage Capital by multiplying the total amount billed for electric service in 2019, by the factors shown herein. A sample calculation is shown to the right.

2019 PATRONAGE CAPITAL ASSIGNMENT (SAMPLE)

Sources	Percentage	Amount Billed for Electric Service in 2019		
		\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500
Member's Total Assignment	9.7953 %	\$48.98	\$97.96	\$146.93

Please note, actual assignment could vary slightly due to rounding and other factors. Additionally, a portion of this assignment was refunded as a "Special General Retirement" in April 2020.

If you have any questions about the 2019 Patronage Capital assignment or this notice, please contact our Customer Call Center at (770) 887-2363 or via email at customerservice@sawnee.com.

5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Always call 8-1-1 first, because you never know what's below. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:

Source: call811.com

1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before you start.



2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for a response to your request. Affected utilities will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.



3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded by comparing the markers to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

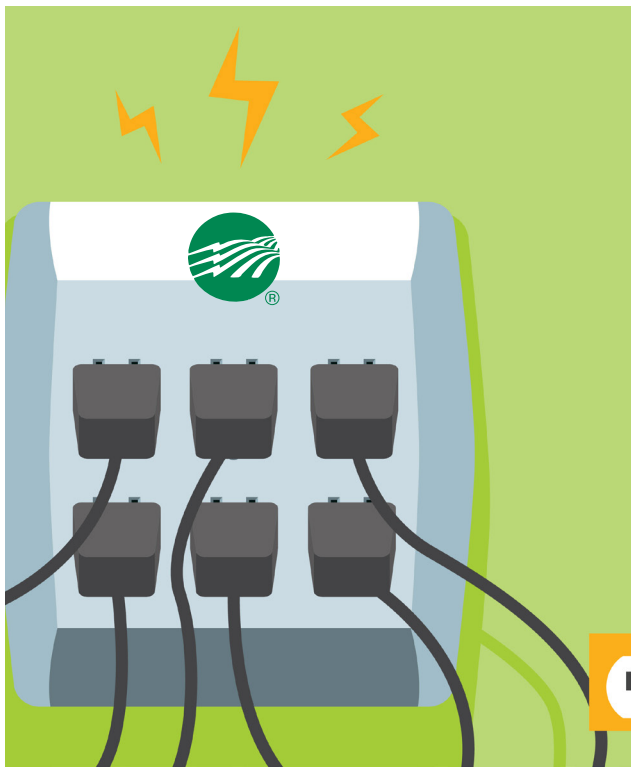
Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. They are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project.





Sawnee EMC wants you to know the warning signs of overloaded outlets



- Flickering/blinking lights
- Warm or discolored wall plates
- Burning odor from receptacles
- Mild shock or tingle from appliances, receptacles or switches
- Frequently tripped circuit breakers

**May is National
Electrical Safety Month**



plug into safety

Here's WATTS Cookin'

Texas Breakfast Casserole

Ingredients:

1 (12 oz.) can crescent rolls

1 lb. sausage, cooked and drained

1 lb. fresh mushrooms, sliced

6 eggs, beaten

1 can cream of onion soup

3 cups Monterey Jack cheese, grated

Instructions:

Line 13 x 9 inch baking dish with crescent rolls, sealing perforations. Cover with sausage, mushrooms, and half of the cheese. Mix eggs with soup and pour over casserole. Sprinkle remaining cheese on top. Chill overnight. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour.



👉 Thanks to Dana Loring 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.