

THE SAWNEE HIGHLINER

Volume 42 • Issue 5

Be Aware of Scams

Scammers are known to target utility customers by pretending to be a representative of the company.

Sawnee EMC will never demand immediate payment over the phone or through email. If you receive any request that seems suspicious, before acting, always contact Sawnee EMC directly at 770-887-2363.

What We Do

Sawnee uses multiple ways to communicate with members when they have a past due bill.

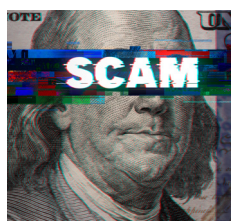
- Provide a secure phone number (770-887-2363) to make payments 24/7.
- Make courtesy calls to members who may be subject to disconnection. These calls do not demand immediate payment.
- Offer online payment options through Sawnee EMC's app and website.
- Provide direct assistance via a Customer Service Representative who can provide information securely about your account.

What We Don't Do

Scammers are known to use tactics that will cause potential victims to act fast. Sawnee EMC will never...

- Send people to your house or business to collect payment.
- Threaten disconnection if a payment isn't made immediately via money transfer, prepaid debit cards or other methods, such as cryptocurrency.
- Demand payment to a third-party website that is not affiliated with sawnee.com.
- Require you to make a payment from a link sent in a text message.
- Send emails urging immediate payment for past due balances.
- Ask for your social security number, date of birth or financial information in an unsolicited call, email or text.

If you have a question or concern about your Sawnee EMC account, always contact our staff directly to ensure you do not fall victim to a scam play.



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

**Never rest on your laurels.
 Nothing wilts faster than a
 laurel sat upon.**

— Mary Kay Ash

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

2022 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 (Board). The Bylaws specify certain activities are reserved for Cooperative **members only**. One of these activities is the election of Directors to the serve on the Cooperative Board.

The 2022 Committee on Nominations (Committee), which serves a vital role in the affairs of the Corporation, will soon be appointed by the Board. This Committee will receive input from the membership and determine, as provided for in the Bylaws, the name(s) to be placed before the membership, from those members who have met the necessary criteria, to seek the office of Director in the districts with expiring terms.

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. The

Bylaws also provide for a separate process, outside of the Committee, known as the “Petition Process” and information on this process may be found in Article 4, Section 4.09 of the Bylaws.

For 2022, Sawnee EMC has three (3) directorate districts with expiring terms, and they are:

- District #2 (Chestatee)
- District #7 (Italy)
- District #9 (Webb)

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

If you have additional questions about the 2022 Committee on Nominations or the upcoming 2022 Director election process, please 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**.

Understanding What Affects Your Sawnee EMC Electric Bill

Have you ever looked at your Sawnee EMC electric bill and thought, “I haven’t done anything differently, so why is my bill fluctuating?” It’s a common question we hear from members and we’re here to try to help you better understand what factors affect your bill.

While being mindful of your daily energy use is a great way to manage your bill, it’s not the only factor that impacts how much you pay each month. The following things all play a part in why your bill varies:



CHANGING WEATHER

Perhaps the biggest reason for shifts in your bill is the changing weather since heating and cooling makes up the majority of your energy usage. Even if you keep your thermostat on a consistent setting, your HVAC system still must run longer to maintain a comfortable temperature when it’s extremely hot or cold outside.

In the middle of summer and winter, when the weather extremes last for days or weeks at a time, this can cause your electric bill to rise more than usual.



AGE OF YOUR HOME

Similar to appliances, the older your home is, the less likely it is to be energy efficient. Older homes tend to have less insulation which makes your HVAC system run longer to regulate the temperature. Similarly, older homes usually have less energy efficient windows and doors which means the outside air affects the temperature of your home more easily.

There are small changes you can make to your home to improve its efficiency. For example, you might caulk gaps around doors and windows, so the outside air doesn’t come inside and change your HVAC filters monthly to allow for better airflow.



APPLIANCE EFFICIENCY

New appliances like refrigerators, washers and dryers, and water heaters are made to be energy efficient, so they cost less money to operate. If you have older appliances in your home, they are likely using more energy and contributing to a higher monthly bill.

Try out our appliance calculator by visiting sawnee.com > [Energy Solutions](#) > [What Uses Watts](#) to see how much it costs to run your current appliances so you can determine if it’s worth it to upgrade to more energy efficient models.

Looking for more energy-efficiency tips? Visit us online at sawnee.com/energy.

Notice of 2021 Sawnee EMC 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 annually back to the 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.

For fiscal year 2021, each member of record is hereby notified that they have received a Patronage Capital assignment equaling **10.2700%** of the amount they were billed for electric service during 2021. Additionally, those members have also received an allocation from other cooperatives that furnished electric energy and ancillary services to Sawnee EMC in 2021 equaling **0.6081%** of the amount they were billed during 2021. Both assignments equal a total assignment of **10.8781%** of a member’s billed electric service.

Each member may calculate the amount of assigned 2021 Patronage Capital by multiplying the total amount billed for electric service in 2021, by the factors shown herein. A sample calculation is shown below.

2021 Patronage Capital Assignment <i>Note: Actual assignment could vary slightly due to rounding and other factors</i>	Amount Billed for Electric Service in 2021				
	Sources	Percentage	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500
	Member’s Total Assignment	10.8781%	\$54.39	\$108.78	\$163.17

If you have any questions about the 2021 Patronage Capital assignment or this notice, please contact our Customer Call Center at (770) 887-2363, text 678-999-8124, email customerservice@sawnee.com or chat at [sawnee.com](https://www.sawnee.com).

Here’s WATTS Cookin’ Easy Peach Cobbler

Ingredients:

4 cups peaches, sliced
(about 6 peaches)

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup flour

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup milk

1 cup sugar

2 tsp. baking powder

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter, melted

Instructions:

In a bowl, combine peaches and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar and let stand 15 minutes or until syrup forms. Stir together remaining $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of sugar, flour, baking powder and milk. Pour butter in a 11x17 baking dish and add milk mixture. Spoon peach mixture on top and bake at 350 degrees for 55 minutes.



👉 Thanks to Darlene Gordon 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.