



## Sawnee Foundation Accepting Applications for 2022 Youth Scholarship Program

In the spring of 2022, the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation will be awarding scholarships to students residing in Sawnee's service area. High school seniors, including public, private and home-schooled students, whose parents or legal guardians are active Sawnee EMC members, are eligible to apply.

Full scholarship details as well as the application are available on the Foundation's website at [sawnee.com/scholarships](http://sawnee.com/scholarships). Students may also visit their high school guidance office for an application. Completed applications

must be received by 5:00 p.m. on February 14, 2022 to be considered.

Over the past 16 years, the Sawnee Foundation scholarship program has benefited more than 230 local students and awarded over \$950,000 in scholarships. The funds used for the scholarship program are derived from abandoned patronage capital and does not come from the Cooperative's rate revenue.

For additional questions on this program, please contact Cindy Badgett, Director of External Affairs, at 678-455-1399 or via email at [cindy.badgett@sawnee.com](mailto:cindy.badgett@sawnee.com).

### CONTACT US

#### Web Address & Email:

[www.sawnee.com](http://www.sawnee.com)

[customerservice@sawnee.com](mailto: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

It takes a lot of courage to show your dreams to someone else. "

— Erma Bombeck

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





# Thinking about SOLAR?

There is a lot of talk about solar power these days. Perhaps you have seen an ad in the newspaper, on billboards, social media, or even had a salesperson knock on your door. Regardless of the approach, the messaging seems to be the same - **“Go Solar and Reduce Your Power Bill.”** The decision to add a solar array is different for everyone, and Sawnee EMC's Energy Services staff can help you navigate its impact if you are considering it for your home or business.

Sawnee EMC has a net metering policy in place for solar arrays that are installed using safe and sound practices as listed in our net metering application. As your trusted energy advisor, one of our goals is to provide support and assistance for members who choose to install solar. One piece of advice our staff offers is to carefully review any solar proposals, use caution, ask questions and if it sounds too good to be true... inquire further.

If one of your solar goals is the return on your investment, do your research before your solar consultation. Carefully review proposals before signing any contracts and always get multiple quotes, as costs can vary greatly between companies. You can also check with the Georgia Solar Energy Association ([gasolar.org](http://gasolar.org)) for tips on selecting a contractor and to learn more about the average price for installations.

When reviewing your solar proposal, there are certain items to look for. Your proposal should contain a monthly kilowatt-hour (kWh) output listed. Make sure to compare this monthly kWh output to your actual Sawnee EMC energy bill. Before you sign a contract, be sure you are not agreeing to certain items, like loan payments, that may exceed what you were originally paying monthly for electricity.

Be sure any value assessments or payback calculations adequately project future energy costs of electricity when using Sawnee EMC's future rates as a comparison. Be wary of any proposals predicting 3% or more annual rate increases. Although we can't fully predict energy costs in the future, Sawnee EMC's past history has proven that electricity costs have been relatively consistent over the past several years.

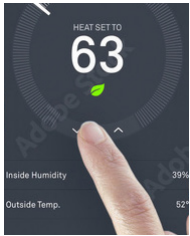
Beware of proposals that use the term “free” or sales representatives claiming their company has partnered with Sawnee EMC. We do not have any solar contractors partnered with us, at this time.

Always carefully consider all portions of solar proposals. This consideration can help you meet realistic expectations with a new solar array, whereas hasty decisions and misinformation may leave you disappointed.

Sawnee EMC is here to help. For more information regarding solar or Sawnee EMC's net metering process, please contact a member of our Energy Services Department at 770-887-2363, via email at [energy\\_services@sawnee.com](mailto:energy_services@sawnee.com) or learn more online at [sawnee.com/solar](http://sawnee.com/solar).

# FALL ENERGY SAVING TIPS

Autumn brings with it a new set of chores, from raking leaves to winterizing all your outdoor items. It is also the time of year when most of us fire up our furnaces for the first time in many months. If you have energy efficiency on your mind this fall, use these tips to make sure you're set up to save.



## MAINTAINING YOUR FURNACE

- Check your air filter regularly; clean or replace it at least every other month. A clogged filter forces your HVAC system to work harder, which wastes energy.
- In the heating mode, experts recommend you set the thermostat to 68 degrees.
- Check for leaky air ducts. With your system running, use your hand to feel along the length of accessible ductwork. If you find a leak, seal it with mastic or duct tape.



## SEALING AND INSULATING

- Locate and seal air leaks around your home. You probably already know where your home's drafty areas are, but even hidden drafts can hurt your energy efficiency. You can seal these gaps with caulk or spray foam.
- Inspect weather stripping and replace it as needed. The rubber gaskets around your doors and windows are great at blocking drafts, but only when the weather stripping is in good condition. If it's dry, cracked or damaged, it's time to replace it. Self-adhesive strips are available at most home centers and are easy to install.
- Add attic insulation if your existing insulation is insufficient. This is one of the most important thermal

barriers in your home. Sawnee's Energy Services Experts recommend an insulation value of R-49 in the attic.

- Consider installing foam gaskets behind light switches and outlet covers, especially if these areas feel drafty. They may be weak spots in your wall insulation.



## KEEPING WARM

- Run your ceiling fans clockwise and at low speeds during heating season. This will redistribute the warmest air in the room, allowing you to set the thermostat a little lower without sacrificing comfort.
- Open the shades on sun-facing windows during the day to get free solar heat, but close them after dark to add a little extra insulation. Heavy drapes work best.
- Dress in warm clothes around the house. If you feel cold, try throwing on one more layer before turning up the thermostat.
- Make sure your HVAC vents aren't blocked by furniture, drapes or other obstructions. To help them direct warm air into the center of the room, you can buy easy-to-install vent deflectors.

Questions? Contact a member of our Energy Services Department at 770-887-2363 or via email at [marketing@sawnee.com](mailto:marketing@sawnee.com).



**Thank you for helping us rank Best in Residential Customer Satisfaction among Cooperatives, 2 out of 3 Years.**

For J.D. Power 2020 award information, visit [jdpower.com/awards](http://jdpower.com/awards)



# October is National Co-op Month

October is National Cooperative Month. Sawnee EMC – and co-ops across the nation – are celebrating the benefits and special values that cooperatives bring to their members and communities.

While co-ops operate in many industries and sectors of the economy, seven (7) cooperative principles set us apart from other businesses: voluntary and open membership; democratic member control; member's economic participation; autonomy and independence; education, training and information; cooperation among cooperatives; and concern for community.

Electric co-ops provide power across a large portion of our state, from the mountains to the ocean; with 41 electric cooperatives serving over 4.4 million Georgians. Sawnee is the 9th largest of more than approximately 900 electric cooperatives in the U.S., and 3rd largest in Georgia.



**Reliability.  
Responsiveness.  
Convenience.**  
Focused on what matters  
most to our community.



## Here's WATTS Cookin' 20-Minute Shrimp Fajitas Sheet Pan Dinner



### Ingredients:

1 ½ pounds uncooked medium  
shrimp, peeled and deveined  
1 yellow, red and orange bell  
pepper, thinly sliced  
1 small red onion, thinly sliced

1 ½ Tbs olive oil  
2 tsp. chili powder  
1 tsp. salt and ground black pepper  
½ tsp. each garlic powder, onion  
powder, ground cumin, paprika

1 medium lime, juiced, or as needed  
12 (6 inch) flour tortillas, warmed  
1 avocado, sliced, or to taste  
¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro

### Instructions:

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees F. Spray a rimmed baking sheet with nonstick cooking spray. Combine shrimp, bell peppers, red onion, olive oil, chili powder, salt, black pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, cumin, and paprika in a large bowl; toss to combine. Spread mixture on the prepared pan evenly. Cook in the preheated oven until shrimp are bright pink and firm, about 8 minutes. Turn on the oven's broiler and cook for an additional 2 minutes. Squeeze lime juice over mixture. Build fajitas on tortillas with avocado slices and cilantro.

👉 Thanks to Gina Hott 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](mailto:marketing@sawnee.com).