



There's a new meter in town - learn more about it!

P1



Find out about scholarships and if your AC is ready to cool.

P3



Learn about federal tax credits available to you!

P4



The Sawnee Highliner

Coming Soon: A Smarter Electric Meter

For over 70 years, Sawnee EMC has been dedicated to providing members with highly reliable electric service throughout a wide range of conditions and at competitive retail rates. To further this commitment, Sawnee EMC will soon begin the deployment of a state-of-the-art, two way, meter reading system that uses a series of towers and collectors to monitor and read Sawnee's electric meters. This innovative new system is referred to as "Advanced Metering Infrastructure" or "AMI".

AMI technology is currently one of the most advanced meter reading systems of its kind in the electric utility industry. The AMI system functions by utilizing an electronic watt-hour meter at your location that collects,

stores and sends near "real time" energy usage data through a specialized communication network connected to a central computer system located at Sawnee's headquarters.

Once received, the information is integrated for billing purposes, outage management, engineering analysis and power theft prevention. Sawnee EMC staff anticipates that the energy data will be readily available for review by Sawnee members through a secure web site in late 2009. As envisioned, Sawnee EMC members will have access to the daily, and in some cases hourly, energy data for their account, as well as additional information.

The new AMI system will replace the current meter reading approach which

requires that a person visit each of Sawnee's approximately 150,000 meter locations each month and manually place a reading into a handheld device. This new AMI system will save money and it will take vehicles off the roads as well as eliminate the human errors inherent with the existing approach.

The AMI project is scheduled to begin installation in July 2009 and is estimated to reach completion in late 2012. Sawnee EMC members can find additional information and details regarding the AMI system online at www.sawnee.com/ami or by contacting the Customer Call Center at 770-887-2363 or via email at customerservice@sawnee.com.

2009 Director Nominating Committees Appointed

Effective June 4, 2009, the Board of Directors appointed nine (9) members of Sawnee EMC to serve on one (1) of the three (3) Director Nominating Committees for the districts in which the term of the incumbent director expires in September 2009. It is the function of these committees to consider candidate(s) for the office of director for District 1, Birmingham; District 4, Dougherty; and District 6, Matt as outlined in the Corporation's Bylaws.

If you are a member of District 1, District 4 or District 6, director candidate information packets are available from the office of the President and Chief Executive Officer of Sawnee EMC or online at www.sawnee.com.

Petitions from the potential candidates must be submitted to Sawnee EMC no later than 5:00 p.m. on the thirty-fifth (35th) day prior to the applicable district meeting which is Tuesday, July 28, 2009 for District 1, Birmingham; Wednesday, July 29, 2009 for District 4, Dougherty; and Thursday, July 30, 2009 for District 6, Matt. Following are the names of those members appointed to serve on these Committees. Interested parties should contact the members of the Committee for the district in which they reside if they wish for the Committee to consider them as a candidate for a director position:

District 1 – Birmingham

Mr. John F. Johnson
514 Haley Farm Road
Canton, GA 30115-6176
Phone No. (770)479-3611

Mr. Jack Pitts
268 Brittany Drive
Canton, GA 30115-9618
Phone No. (770)479-4644

Mr. W. A. Pressley
2541 Lower Union Hill Road
Canton, GA 30115-8446
Phone No. (770)475-6757

District 4 – Dougherty

Ms. Edna J. Mize
263 Woodland Circle
Dawsonville, GA 30534-7245
Phone No. (706)216-6313

Mr. Dan S. Anderson
560 Oak Forest Drive
Dawsonville, GA 30534-8922
Phone No. (706)265-9016

Mr. Robert L. Willis
5975 Dawsonville Hwy.
Gainesville, GA 30506-3891
Phone No. (770)887-7922

District 6 – Matt

Ms. Fay Gravitt
4765 McCoy Drive
Cumming, GA 30040-3853
Phone No. (770)887-6163

Mr. Earl Holbrook
5060 Spot Road
Cumming, GA 30040-7839
Phone No. (770)887-2512

Mr. Kenneth Ingram
6610 Little Pond Trail
Cumming, GA 30028-8575
Phone No. (770)887-6104

The Nominating Committees will meet at Sawnee EMC Headquarters Building, Cumming, Georgia as follows:

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| District 1 – Birmingham | Tuesday, July 21, 2009 | 10:00 a.m. |
| District 4 – Dougherty | Tuesday, July 21, 2009 | 2:00 p.m. |
| District 6 – Matt | Wednesday, July 22, 2009 | 10:00 a.m. |

If you have a question about the director election process or this notice, feel free to contact the Office of the President and CEO of Sawnee EMC at (770) 887-2363. Thank you.

Sawnee Operation Round Up Foundation Youth Scholarship News

Since 2006, the Sawnee Operation Round Up Foundation has overseen a youth scholarship program designed to aid graduating seniors of Sawnee EMC members. This program awards scholarship funds using unclaimed patronage capital that otherwise would have been turned over to the State of Georgia. We are proud to announce that the following students received a \$3,000 scholarship for college this fall:

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Alyssa Abe | Dawson County High School |
| • Anna Babenko | West Forsyth High School |
| • Brittany Cremering | Forsyth Central High School |
| • Laura Goydich | Milton High School |
| • David Scully | Dawson County High School |
| • Erin Sharry | West Hall High School |
| • James Snyder | Milton High School |

These outstanding young people were selected from the over 40 applications submitted by graduating seniors from high schools throughout Sawnee's service area. Congratulations and best wishes to these exceptional young people as they begin their college career this fall!

For further information on the scholarship program, including photos of previous recipients, please visit us online at www.sawnee.com/community/scholarship.aspx.

Make Sure Your AC Can Take the Heat

It is always a good idea to have an HVAC professional evaluate your air conditioner each year, but there are also some things that you can do to make sure the unit can "keep up" with your cooling demands this summer. By following the tips below, your air conditioner (AC) should be ready for the hot summer days ahead.

•**Provide good air flow to outdoor cooling equipment.** Your AC depends on large quantities of flowing air to operate properly. Check to make sure the space around your unit is clear of bushes, grasses, leaves and other debris. Be sure to provide at least two (2) feet of clearance on all sides of the equipment.

•**Keep the condensing coils clean.** This is an important tip that often gets overlooked. Make sure the coils (i.e. the sides of your AC unit) are cleaned every year, either by you or a qualified HVAC professional. The cover, or top, of the AC must be removed in order to clean the coils.

•**Operate the AC wisely.** That means "keep an eye on the thermostat". We recommend keeping your thermostat at 78 degrees or higher during the summer months.

•**Change the filter regularly.** This tip applies during the cooling and heating seasons because clogged filters can restrict air flow through your system and substantially reduce its efficiency.

By following these tips, you can help to ensure that your AC operates efficiently this summer, and for many summers to come! Please contact a member of our Energy Services Department at (770) 887-2363 or via email at marketing@sawnee.com if you have any questions or need any additional energy saving information.





Quotable Quote

“Your attitude is the key. Keep up your enthusiasm and optimism through the tough times.”

Kay Yow

Contact Us

www.sawnee.com

Business Hours

Mon.-Fri. 8:00am-5:00pm

Call Center Hours

Mon.-Fri. 7:00am-9:00pm

Sat. 8:00am-5:00pm

Postal Address

P.O. Box 266
Cumming, GA 30028

Customer Call Center

(770) 887-2363

Fax (678) 947-3368

TDD (770) 781-4271

(800) 635-9131

Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 1174
Cumming, GA 30028

(678) 455-1539

Fax (678) 513-8106

cindy.badgett@sawnee.com



Is a Solar or Wind Power Project on Your Horizon?



If you're interested in either of these alternative sources of electricity at your home or business, now may be the time to act. Recently passed federal legislation allows for federal grants to be awarded for solar and wind projects.

This federal legislation now allows grants up to 35 percent of the total project cost, instead of offering tax credits for energy efficiency projects that must have been completed **before** receiving the money. There are project caps of \$100,000 to \$500,000, depending on the technology. Some of the grants are only to be used in commercial applications; however, grants for residential projects are also available. Complete information can be obtained from the Web sites listed below. In addition to the available grant, other federal grants for up to 30 percent of a project's cost are also available.



Think about it... if you're ready to 'try solar' or 'go with the wind', now is the time to get started; you may be able to combine these federal grants for up to 65 percent of the total cost of your project. This means you would only be paying for the remaining 35 percent of the cost for this new clean energy. Please keep in mind that these grants have a deadline as to when projects must be completed... so if you are ready to go green, get started today while the funds are still available.

Want to learn more about this and other federal grant programs? See the resources listed below:

www.doe.gov (Department of Energy)

www.seia.org/galleries (info on American Recovery and

Reinvestment Act of 2009), and www.energystar.gov (for a complete summary of energy efficiency tax credits available).

HERE'S WATTS COOKIN'

Easy Layered Mexican Dip

- 1 - 31 oz. can refried beans
- 1 - 16 oz. sour cream
- 1 - 16 oz. salsa
- Shredded cheddar cheese



Spread beans on bottom of a 13 x 9 inch pan. Next, spread sour cream evenly onto beans, followed by salsa. Spread cheese on top. Refrigerate until ready to serve with chips.

Thanks to Julie Amicucci. Send us your recipe - if we print it, we'll credit your account \$5.00.