



THE SAWNEE HIGHLINER

Volume 44 • Issue 7



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It's July in Georgia and that means it's hot outside. With the excitement of barbecues, pool parties, and family adventures, it can be easy to forget about the impact summer can have on energy bills. Even though temperatures may be sweltering outside, you can still save with smarter energy usage inside your home. We can help with some tips to make your summer sizzle without burning through your energy budget:

1. **Thermostat Optimization:** Experts recommend setting your thermostat at 78°F when you're at home. Raise it a few degrees when you're away to reduce cooling costs without sacrificing comfort. When you're in a room, turn ceiling fans on (instead of lowering the temperature setting on the thermostat) to stay at a comfortable temperature.
2. **Turn off Lights and Fans:** When you leave a room or when you are no longer being cooled by a fan...flip the switch and turn it "off." No sense in wasting that electricity when it is benefiting no one.
3. **Seal in the Cool:** Keep the heat outside where it belongs by sealing gaps around doors and windows. This simple step prevents the cool air from escaping and warm air from sneaking in.
4. **Grill and Chill:** Take the cooking outdoors and fire up the grill! Using your stove or oven can heat up your home; making your AC work harder.
5. **Keep out the Heat:** Close blinds or window coverings to prevent heat gain during the day.

Learn more through our Energy Solutions Center at sawnee.coop. Questions about your home's energy efficiency? Contact a member of our Energy Services team at 770-887-2363 or via email at marketing@sawnee.coop.

QUOTABLE QUOTE

In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

— Abraham Lincoln

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

We are Prepared for Summer Storms

Summer brings fun in the sun, but it can also bring occasional afternoon storms. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that the staff at Sawnee EMC is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage caused by wind, falling trees and lightning. We work year-round, to ensure that the power lines in our service territory stand a smaller risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, during storms, damage can occur to power lines and equipment. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible, in the shortest amount of time. We start by mobilizing line crews and other critical staff. The biggest problems are handled first, such as damage to transmission lines, which serve thousands of people. These problems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

Sawnee EMC's crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there, or if there could be an issue down the line. Next, crews check the facilities that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Crews then repair the damaged lines, restoring power to more people.

If you experience an outage at your home or business, chances are your electric meter has already notified Sawnee EMC. You can always let us know about an outage at your location at sawnee.coop or by using our free app available at sawnee.coop or by contacting our Customer Call Center at 770-887-2363.

We will do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. During these times you can rest assured that the staff of Sawnee EMC is doing everything possible to restore your electricity as safely, and quickly, as possible.



Sawnee EMC Receives ACSI Award

Sawnee EMC earned this award based on data modeled by the ACSI® in 2023. Award criteria are determined by the ACSI based on customers rating their satisfaction with Sawnee EMC in a survey independent of the syndicated ACSI Energy Utility Study. For more about the ACSI, visit www.theacsi.org/badges. ACSI and its logo are registered trademarks of the American Customer Satisfaction Index LLC.

Small Change Makes a BIG Difference

Whether it is a penny, a nickel or a dime, the act of Sawnee EMC members donating their change makes a big difference for the Sawnee Electric Foundation. The Foundation was established by Sawnee EMC in 2003 as an avenue to give back to our local communities.

Participating in the Operation Round Up program is optional for Sawnee EMC members; and the average annual contribution per member is about \$6. For example, if a participant's electric bill is \$98.76, it would be rounded up to \$99.00, and that "24 cents" would go into the Sawnee Electric Foundation and be donated to qualified local charities. Monthly donations can be as little as one cent or as much as \$1.00.

In the second quarter of 2024, the Sawnee Electric Foundation gifted \$64,093 to the following charitable organizations:

- Operation Appreciation, Inc.
- Skye Precious Kids, Inc.
- MUST Ministries, Inc.
- KARE for Kids, Inc.
- Bald Ridge Lodge, Inc.
- Blessings in a Backpack, Inc.
- The Place of Forsyth County, Inc.
- Safe Boating Lake Lanier, Inc.
- Special Olympics Georgia, Inc.
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Camp Kudzu, Inc.
- Bethany Place, Inc.

Additionally, the Foundation provided \$10,000 to the Gwinnett Tech Foundation to be used to implement scholarships for students attending their Alpharetta campus.

Participate in Operation Round Up and be part of making a difference in your community. Enroll today at [sawnee.coop/oru](https://www.sawnee.coop/oru) or contact a member of our Customer Call Center at 770-887-2363, text 678-999-8124 or chat online at [sawnee.coop](https://www.sawnee.coop).



Through the collective giving by thousands of Sawnee EMC member-owners, a significant amount can be raised each year. To date, more than **\$4.6 Million** has benefited area organizations and all contributions are tax deductible.

Grow Your Sawnee EMC Summer Energy Savings

With just a few simple actions, you can use less electricity and reap the rewards of energy savings. Simple items such as adjusting the thermostat, using ceiling fans, or turning off lights help to reduce your monthly energy usage. In fact, if you read Sawnee EMC's publications regularly or follow us on Facebook, you know there are a lot of things you can do at home to save energy and money.

The summer months often bring some of the highest energy bills of the year. But why? Cooling your home accounts for a large portion of your monthly energy use, and the hotter it gets, the harder (and longer) your air conditioner works to keep you cool.

Save money with these easy incentives:

- **REBATES** – Sawnee EMC offers several ways to help you save on the energy efficient upgrades you choose to make in your home. Many of our rebates can be claimed by simply filling out a form. Find a list of all our rebates at sawnee.coop/rebates.
- **HOME ENERGY ADVENTURE** – Use this online tool to learn how energy efficient you are and where you could

improve your home's energy efficiency and save money.

• TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR USE – Use

SmartHub to track your energy use. Review your daily and hourly energy usage so you know how much energy you are using before your billing statement arrives. Log in today at sawnee.coop.

- **WAYS TO PAY** – We have options for you. Contact us to learn about budget or prepaid billing programs.

We are your trusted energy provider and we are here to help you. There are no investors making profits here. Just knowledgeable people with local jobs, working for our neighbors to ensure there is electricity available when you need it. Contact us at [770-887-2363](tel:770-887-2363) and we can work with you to find more ways to save energy—and money.

One of the great things about being a part of Sawnee EMC is that we're locally owned by you, our members. That's why we've developed incentives and programs to help you keep the cost of your energy bills low.

Here's WATTS Cookin' Cherry Cheese Pie

Ingredients:

1 (6 oz.) graham cracker pie crust	¼ cup sugar
1 (8 oz.) cream cheese - softened	1 tsp. almond or vanilla extract
1 (8 oz.) cool whip	1 (20 oz.) can cherry pie filling

Instructions:

Mix cream cheese, cool whip, sugar and extract together. Beat well. Pour into graham cracker pie crust. Top off with the cherry pie filling. Refrigerate for 1 hour.



👉 Thanks to Lisa Thomas 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.coop.