



## Thunderstorm Safety Tips

Afternoon thunderstorms in the south are a common natural phenomenon that can pose significant risks to safety and property. It's crucial to be prepared and know how to protect yourself when thunderstorms threaten. The following safety tips will help you stay safe during a thunderstorm.

### STAY INFORMED



Listen to local news, your weather app, or NOAA Weather Radio for emergency updates.

These sources will provide timely information about approaching storms and any necessary actions you should take. Watch for signs of a storm, like lightning flashes or increasing wind.

### SEEK SHELTER



If a severe thunderstorm warning is issued, take shelter in a substantial building or in a vehicle with the windows closed. It is important to find a safe location to wait out the storm.

### LIGHTNING SAFETY

If you can hear thunder, you are close



enough to be in danger from lightning. The National Weather Service recommends staying inside for at least 30 minutes after the last thunderclap to ensure the storm has safely passed.

### AVOID ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT



During a thunderstorm, avoid using electrical equipment. Additionally, close windows and close outside doors securely to protect against strong winds and lightning.

### REPORTING POWER OUTAGES



In the event of a power outage, you can report it by texting "OUT" to 855-938-3412 (must be enrolled in SmartHub), via the Sawnee EMC app, online at [sawnee.coop/report-outage](http://sawnee.coop/report-outage), or by calling the Customer Call Center at 770-887-2363.

By following these thunderstorm safety tips, you can significantly reduce the risk of injury and damage during these natural events. Always prioritize your safety and be prepared to act when a storm approaches.

### CONTACT US

#### Web Address & Email:

[www.sawnee.coop](http://www.sawnee.coop)  
[customerservice@sawnee.coop](mailto:customerservice@sawnee.coop)

#### 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

**A friend is someone who knows all about you and still loves you."**

**— Elbert Hubbard**

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

# Appointment of Sawnee EMC's 2025 Director Nominating Committees

Effective June 6, 2025, the Sawnee Board of Directors has appointed nine (9) members to serve on the three (3) Committees on Nominations ("Committee") for the directorate districts in which the term of the incumbent director is expiring. It is the function of each Committee to consider candidate(s) for the office of director for District #2 (Chestatee); District #7 (Italy); and District #9 (Webb), as outlined in the Corporation's Bylaws.

To the right are the names of the Sawnee EMC members appointed to serve on each of the three (3) Committees. Sawnee members interested in being considered as a candidate for the office of director in 2025 should contact members of the Committee for the district in which they reside.

The Committees will meet at the Sawnee EMC Headquarters in Cumming, GA; as outlined below:

<u>Directorate District</u>	<u>Committee Meeting Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
District #2 (Chestatee)	July 23, 2025 (Wednesday)	10:00 a.m.
District #7 (Italy)	July 23, 2025 (Wednesday)	2:00 p.m.
District #9 (Webb)	July 24, 2025 (Thursday)	10:00 a.m.

If you are a Sawnee EMC member located in one of these three (3) directorate districts and you have an interest in seeking the office of director in 2025, you are encouraged to review the director candidate information available online at [sawnee.coop/elections](http://sawnee.coop/elections) or request a director candidate information packet from the office of the President and CEO, as outlined below.

Qualified members, who wish to seek the office of director outside of the Committee process, may do so by utilizing the petition process. Petitions from potential candidates must be submitted to Sawnee EMC no later than thirty-five (35) days prior to each directorate district meeting. These deadlines are as follows:

<u>Directorate District</u>	<u>Petition Deadline Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
District #2 (Chestatee)	July 29, 2025 (Tuesday)	5:00 p.m.
District #7 (Italy)	July 30, 2025 (Wednesday)	5:00 p.m.
District #9 (Webb)	July 31, 2025 (Thursday)	5:00 p.m.

*Note: A petition form is available upon request via U.S. Mail, or online at [sawnee.coop/elections](http://sawnee.coop/elections).*

Please contact Ms. Kristi Sheriff, Executive Assistant to the President and CEO, at [kristi.sheriff@sawnee.coop](mailto:kristi.sheriff@sawnee.coop) if you have any questions or if you need additional information.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### District #2 – (Chestatee):

- Mr. Harvey Black  
8915 Old Terry Ford Rd.  
Gainesville, GA 30506  
(770) 654-1323
- Mr. Chris Cranford  
8005 Old Keith Bridge Rd.  
Gainesville, GA 30506  
(678) 409-9226
- Mrs. Paula Landers  
8060 Waldrip Rd.  
Gainesville, GA 30506  
(404) 405-5191

### District #7 – (Italy):

- Mrs. Angie Hansard  
2310 Old Alpharetta Rd.  
Cumming, GA 30041  
(404) 216-3274
- Ms. Margarie Southard  
2347 Peachtree Pkwy.  
Cumming, GA 30041  
(770) 378-6622
- Mr. Paul Thompson  
1001 Windhaven Dr.  
Alpharetta, GA 30005  
(770) 542-0883

### District #9 – (Webb):

- Mr. Gary Bracewell  
140 Jayne Ellen Way  
Alpharetta, GA 30009  
(678) 936-6864
- Mr. Bob Hundley  
325 Stable Ln.  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
(770) 442-1348
- Mr. Milos Kvasay  
3476 Flamingo Ln.  
Alpharetta, GA 30004  
(770) 912-4220

# Unlock Comfort and Savings

## *Weatherize Your Home for Year-Round Benefits*

If you're working on your summer to-dos, consider adding home weatherization to your list. Although we often think about weatherizing our homes during winter months when we're standing next to a chilly window or a drafty exterior door, weatherizing your home provides comfort and energy savings year-round, especially during the hot summer months when your air conditioner is working overtime.

According to [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov), a home with insufficient insulation and air leaks wastes more than 20% of the energy used to heat or cool the home—that's essentially throwing money out the door. Fortunately, most weatherization projects are easy to DIY and can be completed in a day.

### Simple Weatherization Strategies

The simplest and most cost-effective weatherization strategies include air sealing around windows and exterior doors.

#### Air Sealing Windows

If you have older windows, odds are you have air escaping through tiny cracks and gaps around the frame. Do a quick visual inspection. If you can see any daylight around the frame or the windows rattle easily, you likely have air leaks. Also, check for any small cracks around the frame that may not be visible with sunlight. If you suspect you have gaps and plan to apply new caulk, be sure to remove the old caulk and clean the area well before application.

#### Weatherstripping Exterior Doors

Another effective but simple weatherization project is installing weatherstripping around exterior doors. The most common types of weatherstripping options are V-channel, felt, and foam tape. To choose the best type for your home, consider temperature fluctuations and weather exposure. Most homeowners opt for felt or foam tape; both options are easy to install but will need to be replaced every couple of years, depending on wear and



tear. Weatherstripping should be installed around the top and sides of the door. If you see daylight around the bottom of an exterior door, consider installing a door sweep in addition to weatherstripping. Door sweeps are available in aluminum, plastic, vinyl, and felt options.

#### Adding Insulation

Another way to improve comfort in your home is by adding insulation. While this is a more costly project and may require professional help, it's an effective way to decrease heat flow, which impacts energy use in winter and summer months. Older homes may need additional insulation to either replace older materials or meet newer efficiency standards. Contact a member of Sawnee EMC's Energy Services team if you suspect your home's insulation levels are inadequate and have questions regarding them.

Weatherizing your home will unlock year-round comfort and savings on monthly energy costs. Questions? Please contact one of our Energy Services professionals at 770-887-2363 or via email at [energy\\_services@sawnee.coop](mailto:energy_services@sawnee.coop). We are glad to help!



**RATED #1**  
BY THE PEOPLE  
THAT MATTER MOST —  
OUR MEMBERS

**Best in Customer  
Satisfaction with  
Residential Electric Service  
among Cooperatives,  
2 out of 3 years.**

For J.D. Power 2024 award  
information, visit  
[jdpower.com/awards](https://jdpower.com/awards).

## SAWNEE EMC

### ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Take advantage of the warmer weather to reduce home energy use. Avoid using your oven and use an outdoor grill instead. Not only will cooking outdoors eliminate the energy used to power the oven or stove, but it will also avoid raising the temperature inside your home, reducing the need for additional air conditioning.

You can also avoid using the oven with tasty no-bake recipes. Get creative in the kitchen and explore new ways to save energy!

Source: [energy.gov](https://energy.gov)



## Here's WATTS Cookin'

### Black Bean Soup

#### Ingredients:

1 medium onion, chopped  
4 cloves garlic  
1 tbsp. ground cumin  
1/2 to 1 tsp. crushed red pepper

2 tbsp. olive oil

3 (16 oz.) cans black beans, undrained  
1 1/2 cups chicken broth  
3 cups salsa  
2 tbsp. lime juice

#### Instructions:

In large pot over medium heat, cook onion, garlic, cumin and pepper flakes in olive oil until onion is tender, remove from heat. In blender, purée 2 cans of beans with their liquid with chicken broth and add to pot. Stir in remaining beans, salsa and add lime juice. Heat mixture to a boil, reduce heat to low and simmer 30 minutes. Serve with crackers and top with sour cream.



👉 Thanks to Annette Gammage 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](mailto:marketing@sawnee.coop).