

# THE SAWNEE HIGHLINER

Volume 45 • Issue 9

## Join Us for Sawnee EMC's 87th Annual Meeting of Members



Please make plans to attend the 2025 Sawnee EMC Annual Meeting of Members on **Saturday, October 4, 2025** on Sawnee EMC's Corporate Campus located at **543 Atlanta Road in Cumming**. Drive-through registration will begin at approximately 8:00 am and will conclude at 11:00 am. Additionally, the in person business session will be convened at approximately 11:00 am. If you wish to stay for the business session, please let a staff member know when you register to receive parking instructions. All Sawnee EMC members who complete the drive-through registration process will be entered into a drawing for prizes and winners will be notified on Monday, October 6th. Please note, members **do not** have to be present at the business session to be eligible to win a prize.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's Sawnee EMC Annual Meeting. You can learn more at [sawnee.coop/annual-meeting](http://sawnee.coop/annual-meeting). Please contact our Customer Call Center at 770-887-2363, text 678-999-8124, email at [customerservice@sawnee.coop](mailto:customerservice@sawnee.coop) or chat at [sawnee.coop](http://sawnee.coop) if you have any questions.

### 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

**The man who does not read  
has no advantage over the  
man who cannot read."**

— Mark Twain

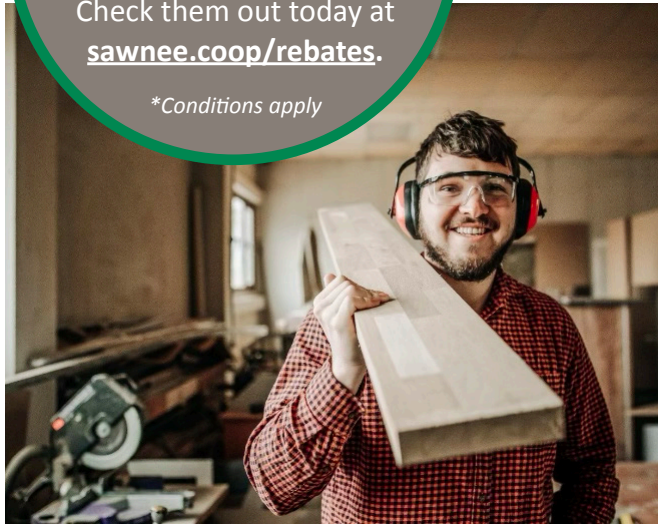
*This institution is an equal opportunity  
provider and employer.*

# Planning a Home Renovation? Enhance Your Energy Efficiency!

## **Rebates Can Help!**

Sawnee EMC offers several rebates\* for members who make energy efficient upgrades to their homes in 2025. Check them out today at [sawnee.coop/rebates](https://www.sawnee.coop/rebates).

*\*Conditions apply*



Are you planning a home renovation this year? If so, it is a fantastic opportunity to create a new home energy management plan. By choosing the right lighting, energy-efficient appliances, and energy-smart building materials, you can improve and sustain energy efficiency in your home for years to come and enjoy overall project satisfaction.

If you're renovating the kitchen, consider purchasing Energy Star rated appliances. For those finishing a basement, an energy-efficient heat pump can help reduce future energy costs by adding conditioned square footage to your home's building envelope. If you're thinking about adding a swimming pool, a variable speed pool pump can significantly reduce energy usage and lower long-term operating costs.

Sawnee EMC is here to help. Before starting a major home renovation project, contact one of our highly trained and professional Energy Services Representatives to discuss options that will help you lower your energy and allow you to enjoy your home for years to come.

To schedule your "free" in home energy evaluation please call Sawnee EMC's Customer Service Center at 770-887-2363 or text us at 678-999-8124. You may also submit your request via email to [customerservice@sawnee.coop](mailto:customerservice@sawnee.coop).



**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).

# Are Smart Thermostats a Smart Choice for Your Home?

Digital thermostats have become the standard for residential HVAC systems. As we continue to automate our homes and lifestyles, wi-fi connected “smart” thermostats have continued to gain in popularity. When used properly smart thermostats can be a great energy efficiency asset. Smart thermostats offer an array of options and information, and sometimes the amount of information can be overwhelming. Be sure to look for the features listed below if you are considering a smart thermostat purchase.



## 1. HVAC Usage History

Find out if the smart thermostat will record your times of operation. If so, this can be a great way to help you determine if your HVAC system is operating efficiently or running too much.

## 2. Humidity Sensors

Built in humidity sensors can help maintain ideal humidity to optimize energy consumption.

## 3. Scheduling Options

With many smart thermostats you may be able to set a more detailed schedule, with timing increments such as learning and geo-fencing schedules.

## 4. Maintenance Reminders

Smart thermostats can help you keep up to date with maintenance and general care of your HVAC system by sending you emails or text messages when system maintenance is needed.

## 5. Demand Management Opportunities

Several thermostat platforms have programs available to allow you to partner with your energy utility and participate in demand management programs, such as the Smart Savers program offered by Sawnee EMC. Learn more at [sawnee.coop/smartsavers](http://sawnee.coop/smartsavers).

Regardless of the type thermostat that you select for your home or business, our Energy Services team is here to answer any questions you may have. Contact us at 770-887-2363 or via email at [marketing@sawnee.coop](mailto:marketing@sawnee.coop).

# Starting or Stopping Residential Service? It's Now as Easy as 1-2-3!

Are you needing to connect or disconnect residential electrical service with Sawnee EMC or perhaps you are transferring residential locations within our service area? Your request is just a click away! We've made this process even simpler, and now your request can be completed in just three (3) easy online steps!

At Sawnee EMC, we strive to find ways and design services that meet your needs. Now, with online accessibility, you can manage your residential service requests through a secure website at a time that meets your busy schedule.

The next time you need to start or stop service, visit [sawnee.coop](http://sawnee.coop) to make your online request. Additionally, all service request details, such as connection dates, deposits and fees are transparent and available to you...just like when you speak to one of our Customer Call Center staff by telephone.

Remember, the next time you need to start or stop service, you can make your request in three (3) quick steps online!

Questions? Contact us at 770-887-2363 or chat online at [sawnee.coop](http://sawnee.coop).

## Need Natural Gas Service Too?

As an enhanced Sawnee EMC member benefit, you may also establish service with Sawnee EMC's preferred natural gas marketer, True Natural Gas, at the time of your Sawnee EMC service connection request!



*Sawnee EMC is not a certified natural gas marketer in the state of Georgia, but actively promotes the natural gas services of True Natural Gas,*

*the certified natural gas marketer, as a value-added service to its members.*

## Here's WATTS Cookin' Cowboy Caviar

### Ingredients:

2 sweet peppers diced  
2 Jalapeños, seeded and diced fine  
1/2 large red onion diced  
1/2 pint cherry tomatoes chopped  
1 15 oz can navy beans  
1 15 oz can black beans  
1 15 oz can kernel corn  
A bunch of finely chopped cilantro  
Mix all together

### Dressing (whisk together)

1/3 cup garlic olive oil  
1/4 cup rice wine vinegar  
2 tbsp spicy brown mustard  
2 tbsp minced garlic  
1 tsp sugar  
1 tsp kosher or sea salt  
1/2 tsp ground cumin  
1/2 tsp black pepper  
Zest and juice of 2 limes



Add dressing to ingredients and mix.

👉 Thanks to David Simmons 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).