



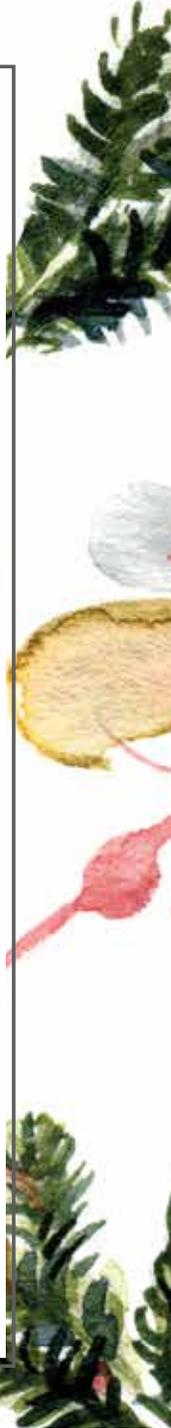
SPOT
LIGHT

— — —

JOEMC Member Newsletter December 2018



A Touchstone Energy® Partner 



KEEPING YOU SAFE

'Tis the Season for Safety and Savings!

It's the most wonderful time of the year! This month, twinkling lights, shimmering trees and festive decorations bring cheer to our homes and communities. By following these tips, you can ensure that your holidays aren't just happy, but they're also energy-efficient and safe.

- Consider using LED lights to decorate instead of incandescent bulbs. Not only will these lights use less energy and last longer than larger bulbs, but they're also safer around children because they don't get hot like traditional lights.
- Set holiday lights on automatic timers to minimize the time lights stay on overnight and during the day.
- Use your kitchen appliances efficiently. Try running your dishwasher with full loads and opting for the "air-dry" setting. Try baking multiple dishes in the oven at the same time, and use a crock-pot rather than electric ovens when you can. All of these small adjustments can make a difference in reducing your energy bill this winter.



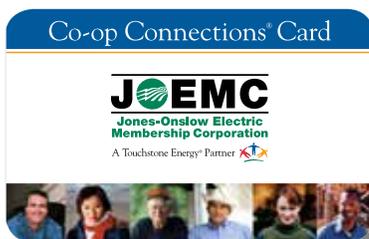
- Before putting up holiday decorations, check all lights for frayed wires, damaged sockets, or cracked insulation.
- Don't over-load electrical outlets.
- Make sure outdoor cords, plugs and sockets are weatherproof. Never let a cord run through a puddle, even if it says it's weatherproof.
- Only buy lights that contain the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) label to ensure they meet adequate safety requirements.
- Don't leave a lit Christmas tree unattended and always turn off tree lights before going to bed.
- For more information about how to stay safe and energy-efficient all year round, visit us at joemc.com. ▼

SAVEMONEY

Shop **LOCAL** for the Holidays!

Use your Co-op Connections Card for savings throughout the month at local and national businesses. Whether you're searching for a unique gift to give that special someone, going out to eat or booking a hotel room, your Co-op Connections Card will help you save.

To learn more about the Co-op Connections Program and the discounts you can get, go to joemc.com and look under the "Community" tab for "The Cooperative".



Holiday Gift Ideas That Make an Impact

Interested in going green with your gift giving this year? Or not sure what to get for that hard-to-buy-for person on your list? Here are some holiday gift ideas that will keep on giving by helping them save energy and money throughout the year:

— **Smart Thermostats:** These Wi-Fi enabled thermostats help you reduce your heating and cooling costs by automatically adjusting the temperature by a few degrees at certain times. They also offer the convenience of controlling your thermostat anytime from your smartphone or computer.

— **ENERGY STAR Appliances:** If a new home appliance is on your holiday wish list, consider asking Santa for one with the ENERGY STAR label. Today's refrigerators and dishwashers use less energy than older models. By purchasing appliances that have earned the Energy Star certification you may also qualify for a bill credit

from JOEMC. To find out which appliances qualify, go to joemc.com and look under "Energy Center" tab for "Energy Efficiency Resources".

— **ENERGY STAR Electronics:** Looking for a new television, computer or gaming console? Take a look at models with the ENERGY STAR label, with efficiencies like sleep modes and idle and on and off timers. These money saving devices save you money by using much less energy.

— **Surge Protection:** Giving new electronics as a holiday gift? Make sure to protect that sensitive equipment

with surge protection. It's the best way to give peace of mind that household appliances and electronics are safe. JOEMC sells some of the best surge protection equipment on the market... contact our office to find out more.

— **Electric Vehicles:** At the top of Santa's list are electric vehicles (EVs)! As

a "hot item" in the auto world, EVs are not only environmentally friendly, they provide long-term savings, which make them a great gift for you and the planet. To learn more about electric vehicles go to joemc.com and click on "Energy Center" and then "Renewable Energy". ▼



12 Days of Energy Efficiency

1. Deck your tree out with LED Lights. They use 70% less energy than traditional bulbs.
2. Close your fireplace damper when a fire is not burning.
3. Hire a trained professional to inspect your home's heating system.
4. Turn down your thermostat when hosting holiday parties. The extra visitors and cooking will warm your home.
5. Install a programmable thermostat for a new year of energy savings.
6. Use a timer to turn off holiday lights during the night while you are sleeping.
7. Look for the Energy Star label when buying energy efficient electronics and appliances.
8. Caulk or weatherstrip to seal air leaks around doors and windows.
9. Open curtains or blinds during the day to allow sunlight to heat your home; close them at night.
10. Rechargeable batteries and chargers save energy and they make great stocking stuffers.
11. Use the oven light to check your dishes rather than opening the oven door.
12. Enlist a professional to conduct an energy audit of your home.



To find additional tips visit joemc.com. ►

Time is Flying By

Welcome to December, positive confirmation that 2018 is just about over. I don't know about you, but



this year has flown by, although that feeling is simply perception. Time is really constant as there are always 24 hours in a day, 60 minutes in an hour, and 60 seconds in a minute.

So, if time is constant, why the perception that time is “flying” by? There are many viewpoints on

this phenomenon, but simply speaking this perception is caused by high levels of “busyness” accompanied by excessive stress not allowing one to live in the moment. In other words, our lives have become so busy we are not taking time to enjoy the “trip” of life as we have become overwhelmed with the journey.

My advice to you (and it's advice I should remember myself) is to take some time to smell the roses along the way and enjoy those who love us and those whom we love.

'Tis the Season for Scammers: Unfortunately, in today's world, scams are inevitable and it seems like this time of year they come out of the woodwork attempting to take advantage of busy people. Scammers can threaten you with everything from legal action involving the IRS to turning off power to your home.

Utility scams often involve an individual or group posing as an employee of your electric cooperative. The scammer may use threatening language in order to frighten you into offering your credit card or bank account information. Don't fall victim to these types of scams. Understand the threats posed and your best course of action:

- If someone calls your home or cell phone demanding you pay your electric bill immediately, gather as much information as you can from that individual, hang-up the phone and contact the local authorities. JOEMC will never ask you to offer up personal financial information over the phone. If you have any doubts about your electric bill, contact our office either in person, or over the phone at (910) 353-1940 or (800) 682-1515.

- If someone comes to your home claiming to be an employee of JOEMC that needs to collect money or inspect parts of your property, call us to verify they are, in fact, an employee. If they are not, call local authorities for assistance and do not let the individual into your home.

Merry Christmas! There is no way I could close without wishing you a very Merry Christmas! My hope is that you and your family will have a safe, joyous, and healthy holiday season. May it be a time filled with family, friends, peace, and reflection on the many blessings of your life. From our family here at JOEMC, enjoy this time of the year.

Jeffery T. Clark | CEO

JOEMC offices will be CLOSED: Tuesday, January 1—New Year's Day & Monday, January 21—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



Pork Roast with Sauerkraut and Kielbasa

Ingredients:

- 1 (2 pound) boneless pork loin roast
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 sprigs fresh thyme leaves
- salt and pepper to taste
- 4 pounds sauerkraut
- 1 pound kielbasa, cut into 3-inch pieces

Directions:

Preheat the oven broiler. Place the roast in a roasting pan, brush with olive oil, sprinkle with thyme leaves, and season with salt and pepper. Place under the broiler for 10 minutes, until lightly browned in several places. Place 2 pounds sauerkraut in a slow cooker. Arrange kielbasa pieces around the edges of the slow cooker pot, and place the roast in the center. Cover with remaining sauerkraut. Cover slow cooker, and cook roast 6 hours on high.

MAIN OFFICE

259 Western Boulevard
Jacksonville | N.C. 28546

DISTRICT OFFICE

1225 Highway 210
Sneads Ferry | N.C. 28460

local: (910) 353-1940

toll free: (800) 682-1515

power outage: (910) 353-7117

(800) 681-4146

www.joemc.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District One: Cecil Hargett, Secretary/Treasurer
Douglas Parker
Dale Powell

District Two: Iris Horne
Brandon Howard
John Pierce, Chairman

District Three: Robert Daughety
Michael Chad Meadows
Thomas Waller, Vice Chairman

Member-at-Large: Nelson Burgess

Chief Executive Officer: Jeffery T. Clark

SPOTLIGHT is published monthly by Jones-Onslow EMC for its members. Direct correspondences to: Jones-Onslow EMC, ATTN: Newsletter Editor, 259 Western Boulevard, Jacksonville, N.C. 28546.

JOEMC
Jones-Onslow Electric
Membership Corporation
A Touchstone Energy® Partner