



A Touchstone Energy® Partner 

SPOT LIGHT

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JOEMC Member Newsletter July 2019



Summer Energy Efficiency: *Myth vs. Fact*

Myth #1: When I'm not home, keeping my air conditioner at a lower temperature throughout the day means it doesn't have to run harder to cool my home when I return.

FACT: To save energy, set your thermostat to a higher temperature during the day, and lower it when you return home.

Myth #2: Closing vents on my central air conditioning system will boost efficiency.

FACT: Closing vents can cause the compressor to cycle too frequently and the heat pump to overload. You'll also use more energy.

Myth #3: Turning appliances off eliminates their energy use.

FACT: While turning your appliances off will help cut their energy use, electricity is still drawn from appliances that are left plugged in. This process is referred to as a "phantom" load. Consider plugging your appliances and electronic equipment into a smart power strip that requires a single switch to power all of them on and off and a single adapter to unplug them all.

Myth #4: Ceiling fans can help cool a room.

FACT: Ceiling fans simply circulate air throughout a room to make your skin feel cooler. Fans do not cool the air, they just cool people. Using a ceiling fan may allow you to raise that thermostat, but leaving one running in an unoccupied room will simply waste energy.

Myth #5: Bigger is always better when it comes to cooling equipment.

FACT: Too often, cooling equipment isn't sized properly and leads to higher electric bills. A unit that's too large for your home will not cool evenly and might produce higher humidity indoors.



JULY TIP OF THE MONTH

Here's a cool tip for your fridge! Cover liquids and wrap foods stored in your refrigerator. Uncovered foods release moisture, causing the compressor to work harder. Visit joemc.com for more energy efficiency tips.

Source energy.gov

Paying Your Electric Bill – Easy and Convenient as Ever...

Paying your electric bill is easy and convenient with JOEMC's Remote Payment Kiosks located right in your neighborhood.

Using our kiosks are free AND the payment posts to your account immediately, just as if you had driven to our office to pay it. In fact, we now have a drive-thru kiosk at our Jacksonville Office.

You can pay in cash but the kiosks also accept checks or Visa, MasterCard or Discover Card. Simply scan your bill (or type in your account number) and follow the instructions on the screen. It's fast and convenient!

For a list of all our remote payment kiosk locations, you can go to joemc.com and look under Member Account > Payment Options, call our office or email us at joemc@joemc.com. ▼



Drive-thru 24/7 payment kiosk location is at our main office on 259 Western Boulevard, Jacksonville.

DID YOU KNOW

Signing Up for Automatic Draft Means ONE LESS THING TO REMEMBER!

One less worry. One less stamp. One less errand.

Take advantage of our FREE Automatic Draft service and your monthly electric bill will be securely drafted from your checking account or your credit or debit card.

You'll still receive a statement by mail or email each month and the amount will be drafted on the payment due date that you choose.

Get the enrollment form at joemc.com and look under Member Account and Payment Options, or call the office at (910) 353-1940 or (800) 682-1515 for more details. ►



Scholarships Awarded to Local Students



Annually, JOEMC funds scholarships for twenty-eight outstanding students in our communities. Twenty-four were graduating high school seniors, and four were community college students.

Students that attended high school in Onslow County were selected in conjunction with the school system and its Sponsors For Academic Talent (S.A.T.) Program and received their scholarships at the May S.A.T. Banquet. Other recipients were chosen by the individual school's staff.

The \$1,000 scholarships will assist the youth as they continue with their academic endeavors.

The cooperative is proud of these and all the fine students in our area schools and communities. Congratulations to all of you! ►

SAT SCHOLARS

Dixon: Mallory Nicole Jenkins
Collin Fisher Hinnant

Jacksonville: Cecelia Valeska Holson
Jordan Scott Fischler

Northside: Kaitlin Grace Peck
Stephanie Del Fierro Sotto

Richlands: Cassidy Lynn Jacoby
Thurman Ray Ramsey

Southwest: Hannah Christine Baldwin
Jakari Mikel Coles

Swansboro: Heidi Lynn Stewart
Connor James Beham

White Oak: Billie Simone Tidwell
Benjamin Park McClary

JOEMC RECIPIENTS

East Duplin: Rachel E. Brown
Molli A. Sholar

Lejeune: Natalia Gonzalez
Matthew Howard

Topsail: Caroline Szakasits
Kalli Licata

South Lenoir: Gavin Wade Sexton
Christopher Robert Tyndall

Jones Senior: Mary Hannah Stewart
Nirali Patel

CCCC: Peyton Shepard
Mariana Orrego-Serna

LCC: Tanner Batchelor
Angelina Parrott

Defining Degree Days

Weather can have a major impact on energy bills, and when the outdoor temperatures become extreme, your heating and cooling equipment works harder to keep your home comfortable.

Did you know the energy experts at JOEMC use degree days to anticipate heating and cooling needs for you, our consumer-members?

Never heard of a degree day? Don't worry, you're not alone. Let's take a look at what degree days are and why they're important for electric utilities.

Degree days measure how cold or warm a location is by comparing the average of the high and low (mean) of the outdoor temperatures recorded in that location to the standard U.S. temperature, which is 65 F. The assumption is that we don't need heating or cooling to be comfortable when this is the outdoor temperature.

So, the more extreme the outdoor temperatures, the higher the number of degree days. And the higher the number of degree days, the higher the amount of energy used for space heating and cooling. Summer is in full swing, so let's look at cooling degree days.

Cooling degree days are a measurement of how hot the temperature was on a given day or during a period of days. With summer temperatures rising, you'll likely require more cooling for your home or business, which results in more cooling degree days. Variations in electric bills often follow closely with degree days, which is why electric utilities use this data to anticipate future energy demand. ▼

U.S. COOLING DEGREE DAYS

Cooling degree days measure how hot the outdoor temperature was on a given day or during a period of days. The map below shows measurements of U.S. cooling degree days in 2018 by census region. Extreme outdoor temperatures bring a higher number of degree days, which results in higher energy use.



KEEPING YOU SAFE

Protect Your High-Tech Life

After a long day, you check out Facebook or Instagram and look up a recipe online for dinner. After dinner, the family sits down to watch a television show on the DVR or Netflix, and your son does homework on the computer. One power surge, however, could make that all go away.

Electronics that are sensitive to variations in power voltage have become an increasingly large presence in modern life. That's why surge protection is so important.

A power surge, or transient voltage, is an increase in voltage significantly above the standard level. If the voltage is high enough, it can turn your electronics into high-tech paperweights. Also,

voltage variations over time can cause your electronics to fail prematurely.

What causes power surges? One cause is lightning. If it strikes near a power line, that line can send the energy into your house's electrical system.

With Jones-Onslow EMC's PowerGuard surge suppression equipment, your electronics are shielded against damage due to lightning or power



surges. JOEMC offers whole-house protection (installed at your meter base outside your home) for major appliances as well as in-home plug-in units that protect your electronics.

For more information or to learn more about PowerGuard equipment, call us today at (910) 353-1940 or (800) 682-1515 or go to joemc.com. ►

Stay Back and Stay Safe

Working with electricity can be a dangerous job, especially for lineworkers. In fact, USA Today lists line repairers and installers among the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. That's why at JOEMC, safety is our number one priority. This is not empty talk. Over time we have created a culture of putting our crews' safety and that of the community above all else.



Our mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, our consumer-members. Yes, we strive to deliver affordable and reliable electricity to you, but equally important, we want our employees to return

home safely to their loved ones. This requires ongoing focus, dedication, vigilance – and your help!

Distractions can be deadly. While we appreciate your kindness and interest in the work of our crews, we ask that you stay back and let them focus on their task at hand. Even routine work has the potential to be dangerous and it takes their full attention and that of their colleagues who are also responsible for the team's safety. Distractions can have deadly consequences. If a lineworker is on or near your property during a power outage, for vegetation management or for routine maintenance, please allow them ample room to work. These small accommodations help protect our crews—and you.

If you have a dog, try to keep it indoors while lineworkers are on or near your property. While most dogs are friendly, some are defensive of their territory and can't distinguish between a burglar and a utility worker. Our crews work best without a pet "supervising" the job.

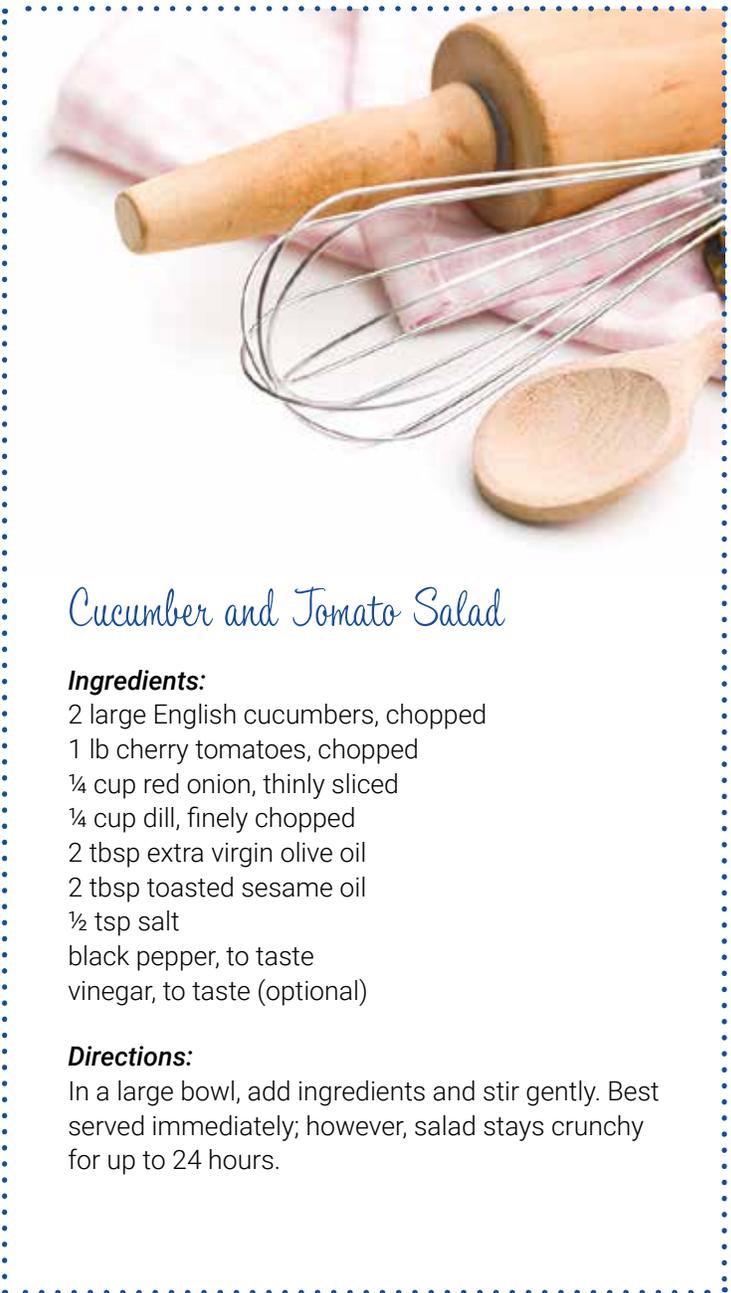
We recognize that for your family's safety you want to make sure only authorized workers are on or near your property. All JOEMC employees carry photo identification badges and will present them upon request. Our outside crews wear uniforms (light blue shirts and dark blue pants) and other personnel wear polo shirts with our logo. All employees drive company trucks or vehicles that are clearly marked with our name.

Jeffery T. Clark | CEO

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Jones-Onslow Electric Membership Corporation is an equal opportunity employer and strives to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws, regulations, rules, and orders regarding equal employment opportunities. In particular, the Corporation strives to comply with all applicable provisions of the Equal Pay Act of 1963, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990, and all amendments to these Acts. Furthermore, the Corporation is committed to helping ensure that no individual is discriminated against by the Corporation because of the individual's race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability.

Andrea Avery, SHRM-SCP, the Corporation's Vice President of Human Resources, is responsible for coordinating the Corporation's nondiscrimination efforts. Any individual who believes that he or she has been discriminated against by the Corporation may obtain additional information from, or may file a charge of discrimination with, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Any charge of discrimination, however, must be filed with the EEOC within one hundred and eighty (180) days after any alleged discrimination.



Cucumber and Tomato Salad

Ingredients:

2 large English cucumbers, chopped
1 lb cherry tomatoes, chopped
¼ cup red onion, thinly sliced
¼ cup dill, finely chopped
2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
2 tbsp toasted sesame oil
½ tsp salt
black pepper, to taste
vinegar, to taste (optional)

Directions:

In a large bowl, add ingredients and stir gently. Best served immediately; however, salad stays crunchy for up to 24 hours.

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