

JOEMC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

SPOT
LIGHT

JOEMC Member Newsletter December 2020



*The magic of
Christmas is
alive in our
hearts.*

Our offices will be closed
December 24, 25 & 31
and January 1.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Stay on Santa's Nice List with These Energy Efficiency Tips

The holiday season is finally upon us, and Santa and his elves have been especially busy as they gear up for their biggest night of the year. Make sure you STAY on his nice list by following these energy efficient tips around the home:

1 Turn off the lights when you leave the room. Don't use more lights or lamps than you need.

2 Don't leave any electronics, including televisions and video game systems, turned on after you've finished using them.

3 Instead of turning up the heat, put on a sweatshirt or sweater. At night, use an extra blanket or comforter to stay warm.

4 When going outside, make sure to shut the door behind you to keep heat in. Keep windows down and locked. It's also a good idea to close the refrigerator door as quickly as possible, instead of standing in front of an open fridge while deciding what you want.

5 Keep doors inside the house open to let heat move freely through the house. ♦



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Maximize Your Budget with Energy Saving Solutions this Holiday Season

The holidays can be a busy and expensive time—between finding gifts, cooking meals and planning family activities—your schedule and your wallet can be stretched thin. The good news is that JOEMC offers ways to help you reduce energy use and save money during the holidays and year round.

Monitor Your Usage: Managing your energy consumption has never been easier. Simply log-in through the member portal or download our mobile app. You can track how much electricity you've used and determine if adjustments need to be made to save energy and lower your bill.

Usage Alerts: Again, all you have to do is log-in through the member portal or download our mobile app. Go to the NOTIFICATIONS tab and sign up to receive email alerts when your energy use has reached a certain level so there are no surprises when your bill arrives.

Online Energy Audit and Home Energy Calculators: Go to the ENERGY CENTER tab on our website, input some info to create a home profile, and our Energy Use Calculator will analyze your energy usage using your past bills and



provide specific ways for you to save money. And with our appliance calculators, you can find out how much that television, space heater or water heater costs to operate annually.

Visit joemc.com or call (910) 353-1940 for more information about how we can help you save during the holiday season and stay in control of your energy budget all year long.

KEEPING YOU SAFE



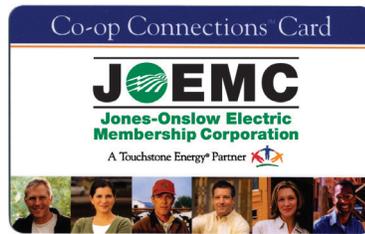
Holiday Pet Safety

Keep strands of sparkling lights out of reach of your pets. Cats and dogs may be tempted to chew on or play with decorative light strands, which could give them a potentially life-threatening electrical shock if the pet bites through the wire. The sparkly tree decorations and tinsel can also cause problems if ingested. ♦

SHOP LOCAL. SAVE MONEY.

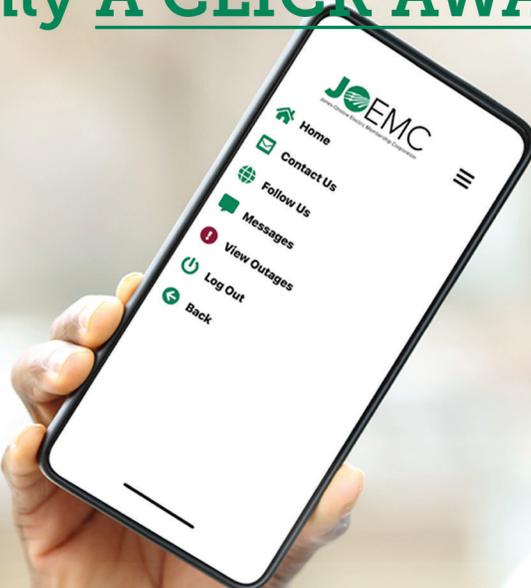
Use your **Co-op Connections Card** for savings throughout the year at local and national businesses. Whether you are searching for a unique gift to give that special someone, grabbing a bite to eat or booking a hotel room, your **Co-op Connections Card** will help you save.

To learn more about the **Co-op Connections Program** and the discounts offered, go to joemc.com and click the "YOUR COOPERATIVE" tab and look under "COMMUNITY PROGRAMS."



Heading out for the holidays?

We're only A CLICK AWAY!



HAVE EASY ACCESS TO YOUR ACCOUNT NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Volunteer to Make a Positive Impact

With the holiday season upon us and the New Year just around the corner, I can't help but reflect on the gratitude I feel for our community.



I think most will agree this has been a year like no other—certainly in my lifetime. And while we've seen our share of challenges, I am heartened by the ways in which we have all pulled together to make our community stronger.

Because we are a co-op, volunteerism and giving back are a part of who we are. Several of our line workers are volunteer firefighters and first responders, putting their lives at risk to help others. Many of our co-op employees coach youth sports, assist in school productions or serve on local boards of various civic groups and non-profits.

JOEMC offers employees flexibility in their schedules to accommodate these volunteer opportunities. We look at co-op volunteerism as an investment in our community by enabling our employees to donate their time and expertise to help groups that are doing so much for our community.

I look at volunteerism as the gift that keeps on giving. While it's difficult to quantify the impact that volunteers have, I do know they make a tremendous difference in our community and make our corner of the world a better place. Many organizations depend on volunteers to fulfill their mission. Volunteers fill in gaps and spread joy and compassion through their efforts. Even assisting with the smallest tasks can make a big impact in the lives of people, animals or an organization in need. Often a big commitment or special skills are not needed, just someone who cares.

I hope you'll consider volunteering. Give an organization or cause that you care about the gift of your compassion, time and talent. In addition to the organization and the community benefiting from your efforts, you will receive a gift as well. Not only will you enjoy the satisfaction of knowing you are helping a good cause, you will likely make new friends, expand your social network, strengthen existing skills or learn a new one.

Volunteering may provide additional dimension and purpose to your life. In the process, you will be a role model for your family because your commitment will offer a powerful lesson to your children. It will show them first-hand how one person can make a big difference and strengthen the community in which they live.

At the end of the day, the gift of volunteerism is a gift that will continue giving all year long. So, this holiday season, consider starting a new tradition—give the gift of time.

Jeffery T. Clark | CEO



spinach tortellini soup

Ingredients:

- 1 can condensed cheddar cheese soup
- 1 cup milk
- 1 can diced tomatoes with basil, garlic and oregano
- 2 cups chicken or vegetable broth
- 4 ounces cheese tortellini, prepared
- 2 ounces fresh spinach, stems removed and chopped
- ¼ teaspoon red pepper flakes
- ¼ teaspoon garlic powder

Directions:

Prepare tortellini as directed on package.

Heat condensed soup and milk in a large saucepan over medium heat, stirring occasionally until soup is dissolved, about 5 minutes. Add diced tomatoes, chicken broth, tortellini, spinach, red pepper and garlic. Continue to cook over medium heat until spinach has cooked down, about 10 minutes.

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