



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



JOEMC Member Newsletter November 2020



A Season of Gratitude

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, JOEMC is thankful for you, our members.

During a year of unforeseen challenges, all of us worked together in many different ways to exhibit the spirit of cooperation and concern for the community, two of the core principles that guide us and set us apart from other types of utilities and businesses.

We've made numerous adjustments to programs and operations to maintain business continuity while staying focused on the bigger mission of helping our members during this turbulent time.

We're also grateful for the commitment you have shown to

the future of our co-op by attending past annual meetings.

As a community-led cooperative, our mission is to build a brighter future for the people, businesses, and communities we serve. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you, and we couldn't achieve our mission without your support. ♦



**Our offices will be closed
November 26 & 27.**



Avoid Surprises with Budget Billing

Extreme weather can cause your heating system to work overtime during the winter. This can increase your bill when you aren't expecting it. But with our Budget Billing option, you won't need to worry about surprises.

Budget Billing allows you to spread your costs out equally throughout the year. You pay the same amount each month for 11 months. The account is "evened up" on the 12th month, with a final payment billed or a credit applied. And this service comes with **NO FEES** and **NO CHARGES**.

With Budget Billing, you'll be saying "NO" to surprises and "YES" to stress-free budgeting and peace of mind.

Learn more at joemc.com under Customer Service/Billing & Payment Options. ♦

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Four Ways to Save Energy in the Kitchen

By slightly adjusting a few of your habits in the kitchen, you'll be well on your way to energy savings this season!

Ah, the kitchen. It's undeniably one of the most-loved rooms in our home, especially during the holidays. It's where we gather with family and friends for our favorite meals and memories. But like most of us, you probably aren't thinking about saving energy when you're planning that perfect dish. Here are four ways you can save energy in the kitchen with minimal effort.



1 WHEN POSSIBLE, COOK WITH SMALLER APPLIANCES. Using smaller kitchen appliances, like slow cookers, toaster ovens, and convection ovens are more energy-efficient than using your large stove or oven. According to the Department of Energy, a toaster or convection oven uses one-third to one-half as much energy as a full-sized oven.

2 UNPLUG APPLIANCES THAT DRAW PHANTOM ENERGY LOAD. Halloween may be over, but it's possible you have energy vampires in your kitchen – these are the appliances that draw energy even when they're not in use, like coffee makers, microwaves, and toaster ovens. The Department of Energy has

estimated that one home's energy vampires left plugged in year-round can add up to \$100-\$200 in wasted energy costs. Unplug them when they're not in use, or, better yet, use a power strip for convenient control.

3 HELP LARGE APPLIANCES WORK LESS. There are small ways you can help your larger kitchen appliances run more efficiently. For example, keep rangetop burners clean from spills and fallen foods so they'll reflect heat better. When it's time to put leftovers in the refrigerator, make sure the food is covered and allow it to cool down first. That way, the fridge doesn't have to work harder to cool warm food.

4 USE YOUR DISHWASHER EFFICIENTLY. Only run full loads, and avoid using the "rinse hold" function on your machine for just a few dirty dishes; it uses 3-7 gallons of hot water. You can also save energy by letting your dishes air dry. If your dishwasher doesn't have an automatic air-dry switch, turn it off after the final rinse and prop the door open so the dishes will dry faster.

Bonus tip:

The best way to save energy is not to use it. Try a tasty, no-bake dessert recipe for your next holiday celebration. Your sweet tooth (and energy bill) will thank you! ♦

KEEPING YOU SAFE

Employees Easy To Identify

Here's an important home safety tip to remember...

If someone comes to your door who says they are an employee of Jones-Onslow, be alert. For your protection, all cooperative employees carry photo identification badges and will present them upon request.

Our outside crews wear uniforms to be easily identified, and our energy services representatives and other employees wear "JOEMC" polo shirts or dress shirts. All employees drive company vehicles that are clearly marked with our logo.

If you are unsure of any personnel's identity on your property, call us at (910) 353-1940 or (800) 682-1515. Also, be aware that Jones-Onslow employs contract crews for specific jobs. Their vehicles are clearly marked with signage that indicates they are working for Jones-Onslow. ♦



ENERGY EFFICIENCY Tip of the Month

Keep cold air out to save energy. Seal air leaks around pipes and any gaps around chimneys and unfinished spaces behind cupboards and closets.

source: energystar.gov

COMMUNITYIMPACT

Students Lead the Way at Electric Cooperative Youth Tour

What do 1,800 high school students, our nation's capital, and electric cooperatives have in common? The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, of course! JOEMC is looking for the next generation of leaders to lead the way at next year's Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., from June 20-26.

While in D.C., participants will have a chance to meet with North Carolina's elected officials and discuss the important issues back home, learn about the cooperative business model, visit historic monuments, memorials, and a variety of Smithsonian museums. Without a doubt, Youth Tour has grown into an invaluable program that gives young leaders an experience that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

Youth Tour delegates will be selected based on the completion of an



application and a short essay. More information to come soon!

For the latest details, *follow us on social media*, or contact JOEMC's Public Relations Coordinator Paula Redick at predick@joemc.com, or visit joemc.com/cooperative/community-programs/youth-tour. ♦



NC Electric Cooperatives
Youth Tour

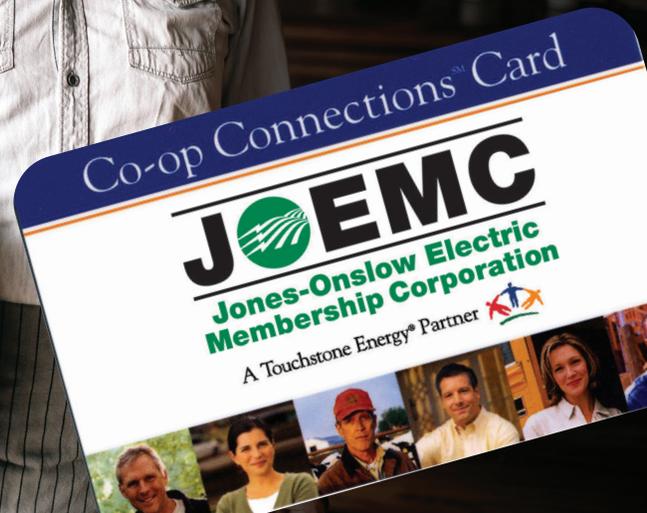
November 28 is Small Business Saturday

We support our local communities when we support local businesses! And you can save money when shopping locally at participating **Co-op Connections businesses**. Show your Co-op Connections card or use the **mobile app** from your smartphone and **SAVE!** To learn more go to joemc.com, click on YOUR COOPERATIVE/ COMMUNITY PROGRAMS.

10% OFF*

your purchase

*OFFERS VARY. SEE JOEMC.COM FOR PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES AND OFFERS.



KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Giving Back to Our Community



If you've read this newsletter or seen any of our social media over the past few years, you've probably noticed a theme we often promote, our concern for the community. This is one of the core principles that sets cooperatives apart from other types of utilities and businesses. We've always taken this mission and responsibility to heart. It's who we are as a co-op.

Over the past few months, like so many of you, we've risen to meet new challenges and strengthen our community's safety net, particularly for those who are most vulnerable. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we've made numerous adjustments to programs and operations to maintain business continuity while staying focused on the bigger mission of helping our consumer-members during this turbulent time.

With the holidays fast approaching, these recent events have made me pause and think about the role we play in our community. While our purpose is to provide safe and reliable energy to you, the members we serve, we have a greater mission—to be a catalyst for good.

You're probably aware that we support various community-help organizations like the United Way, The Filling Station (Jones County), and civic and philanthropic groups whose missions are to make life better for our neighbors. Or our Youth Tour program, where we take our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C. for a week-long immersion to experience democracy in action.

We also have a strong commitment to safety—not just for our employees but also for our community. We visit schools to teach children of all ages how to stay safe around electricity, and we hold safety demonstrations at community meetings and other gatherings.

JOEMC invests in the community's economic development through an active role in our local Chamber of Commerce and business development committees. And we've been fortunate to partner with our county governments to provide economic development/community development funds for businesses coming to our area, as well as fire and rescue equipment.

You'll also see our employees serving on local boards, coaching youth sports, and volunteering at charitable events. Because when you work at a co-op, you understand how important a strong community is—after all, without you, the co-op wouldn't exist.

We know that our core job is to keep the lights on, but our passion is our community. It is our passion because we live and work here too and we want to make it a better place for everyone.

If there's anything we can do to help you—whether providing energy-saving advice to help lower your monthly bill or discuss payment plan options during these difficult times—please reach out to us.

Concern for community is the heart and soul of who we are. And no matter what the future brings, you can count on your electric co-op to care about you.

Jeffery T. Clark | CEO



Everything Bubble Bread

Ingredients:

- 1 can (16 ounces) large biscuits, any kind
- 1 stick butter, melted
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ½ teaspoon onion powder
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 container (5 ounces) blue cheese crumbles, divided
- 2 tablespoons 'Everything Bagel' mix (look in spices section)

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Cut biscuits into quarters. Add powders and rosemary to melted butter.
- Dip biscuit pieces into seasoned butter and place into baking dish, sides touching. Scatter with half the blue cheese crumbles and drizzle with any remaining butter. Sprinkle with bagel mix and bake 12–15 minutes until cooked and browned.
- Turn off oven and scatter with remaining cheese. Remove from oven once cheese starts melting and serve immediately.

RECIPE COURTESY OF CAROLINACOUNTRY.COM

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