

SPOTLIGHT

JONES-ONSLow EMC—POWERING HOMES SINCE 1939



APRIL 2021

Thank a Lineworker on April 12

If you were asked to associate an image or a person with JOEMC, we bet you would picture a lineworker. Some of the most visible co-op employees, lineworkers, work tirelessly to ensure our community receives uninterrupted power 24/7.



"Lineworker" is listed as one of the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S. This is understandable as they perform detailed tasks near high-voltage power lines. Regardless of the time of day, having to brave stormy weather and other challenging conditions, lineworkers must climb 40 feet in the air, often carrying heavy equipment, to get the job done.

#ThankALineworker

Being a lineworker is not a glamorous or easy profession. It takes years of specialized training, ongoing education, dedication, and equally important, a sense of service and commitment. How else can you explain the willingness to leave your home's comfort to tackle a challenging job under hazardous conditions when most are sheltering comfortably at home? This dedication and sense of service to the community is what sets them apart. That's why we set aside the second Monday in April to celebrate and recognize the men and women who work around the clock to keep the lights on.

While lineworkers may be the most visible employees at Jones-Onslow EMC, it's important to note that there is a team of highly skilled professionals working behind the scenes. Engineers provide ongoing expertise and guidance on the operations side of the co-op. Member service representatives are always standing by to take your calls and questions. Our information technology (IT) experts are continuously monitoring our system to help safeguard sensitive data. And these are just a few of the folks who work together to ensure we can deliver the service and reliability you expect and deserve. Without them, our lineworkers wouldn't be able to "bring the light" to our community.

Our dedicated and beloved lineworkers are proud to represent Jones-Onslow EMC, and they deserve all the appreciation and accolades that come their way on Lineworker Appreciation Day. On April 12, and any time you see a lineworker, I hope you'll join us in thanking them for their exceptional service.

How to Treat Every Day Like Earth Day

As we prepare to celebrate Earth Day on April 22, we're reminded that our commitment to our planet is not something that comes just once a year.

As a cooperative, we're committed to doing our part to give back to the Earth by reducing our carbon dioxide emissions by 50% by 2030. Thanks to the efforts we're making today, we'll have net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.



Small steps every day can lead to significant results.

Let's Connect

When we say that we live in a “connected” world, most of us think about technology, like our smartphones and other devices and gadgets. But when you’re a member of an electric co-op (that’s you!), there’s so much more to being part of our connected co-op community.



We depend on you because you power our success, and when Jones-Onslow EMC does well, the community thrives because we’re all connected.

We greatly value our connection to you, the members we serve. That is why we would like to share a few ways to maximize the value you can get from JOEMC through various programs, products, and services that we offer our members.

- **Save money on your energy bill** through our free online audits and high usage alerts. When you download the JOEMC Mobile App, you can monitor and manage your home energy use, pay your bill, and access many other options that could save you money each month.
- **Follow Jones-Onslow EMC on social media** to stay up to date on power restoration, energy efficiency tips, unique programs, contests, and much more. You’ll also get valuable safety information, see photos of our crews in action, and other co-op news.

- **Sign up for Outage Text Alerts** to receive notices on outage and restoration information. Outage alerts include notifications to alert you when there is an outage at your location.
- **Keep your contact information current** to ensure that we can provide you with the highest level of service you expect and deserve. Updating your information can speed up the power restoration process during an outage by matching the phone number with your account location. Accurate information helps our outage management system predict the location and possible cause of an outage, making it easier for JOEMC to correct the problem.

We hope you will connect with us whenever and wherever you can—whether that means giving us a thumbs up on social media, participating in an online Customer Satisfaction Survey, providing feedback on a recent visit or call with our employees, or simply downloading our app.

Jones-Onslow EMC exists to serve our members, and when we’re better connected to you and our local community, we’re better prepared to answer the call. To learn more about your co-op and the various services and programs offered, visit joemc.com.

Jacksonville Lobby Reopened

The Jacksonville Office lobby reopened to the public on March 22, while the Sneads Ferry lobby will remain closed. Sneads Ferry customers can use the drive-thru window, kiosk, or online payment options to conduct business.

For customers visiting our Jacksonville office, please note that the lobby can only accommodate four people at a time. And don’t forget to wear your mask, follow the arrows when you enter, and sanitize your hands.

We look forward to serving you!



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Do You Know How Much Energy Your Home Uses?



Home energy use is different for everyone and hinges on several factors, including home size, the number of members in your household, where you live, and your choices.

Everything you do—from flipping a switch to upgrading your lighting—can add up to significant savings. Knowing where you use energy can help you prioritize your energy savings habits.

To learn more or use our Home Energy Calculators, go to the “ENERGY CENTER” at joemc.com.

SAFETY FIRST

Know What’s Below: Steps for Safe Digging

Spring is here, and there’s never been a better time to get outside and enjoy the fresh air. Perhaps you’re making plans for a new garden or a lawn makeover. However you’re planning to revamp your backyard oasis, remember to keep safety in mind for all projects—especially those that require digging near underground utility lines.

Most of us never think about the electric, gas, water, and other utility lines buried below the ground, but hitting one of these lines while digging is not the reminder you’ll want—trust us! Jones-Onslow EMC reminds all members who plan a digging project to **call 811** at least three business days before you start. Or you can submit a request online at www.nc811.org.

After you call 811 or submit your request online, all affected utilities will be notified of your intent to dig. It may take the utilities a few days to get to your request, so please be patient. The affected utilities will send someone out to mark the buried lines with paint or flags.

BEFORE YOU BREAK GROUND:

1. Confirm that all the utilities have responded to your request.
2. If you placed your request by phone, use the process explained by your 811 call center representative.
3. If you submitted your request online, refer to your 811 center ticket to confirm everything.

By taking this critical step before you break ground on your project, you can help protect not only yourself but our community. Disrupting an underground utility line can interrupt service, cause injuries, and cost money to repair, so remember to **call 811** first and know what’s below.



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.



GRILLED NAAN PIZZA

Prep Time: 5 mins

Cook Time: 10 mins

Servings 4 (½ pizza each)

Ingredients

2 Naan breads

½ cup barbecue sauce

1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
(or 8 oz fresh mozzarella, sliced)

1 cup Shredded Chicken

2 TBSP fresh herbs, such as
oregano or basil

Instructions

1. Preheat your grill to about 375 - 400F.
2. Assemble the pizzas by topping each naan bread with half the toppings, and carefully place on the grill.
3. Cover the grill, and cook for about 10 minutes at about 375-400 F (medium/low heat), or until the cheese melts and the naan bread is crispy.
4. Remove from the grill and garnish with the remaining fresh herbs. Serve immediately.

Delivering on Our Sustainability Goals



Jones-Onslow EMC
CEO Jeffery T. Clark

The word sustainability can take on different meanings depending upon context, but here at JOEMC, sustainability means delivering reliable, affordable, low-carbon electricity over an electric grid that is increasingly efficient, resilient, secure and capable of supporting the needs of our members and communities.

For decades, your needs have centered on reliable power delivered at the lowest possible cost. While those priorities still exist today, we also know our members' expectations related to clean energy are growing.

Our goal is to achieve all three—reliability, affordability, and sustainability—in a balanced approach that makes the most of the tremendous value electricity has to offer and ensures a brighter future for those we serve.

Our Brighter Future vision centers on two voluntary sustainability goals: a 50 percent reduction in carbon emissions from 2005 levels by 2030 and net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. We're pursuing these goals in several ways, including:

- **CONTINUED USE OF MULTIPLE POWER SOURCES.** The electricity we provide to you is generated from various power sources that each offer essential benefits. Nuclear energy, which is currently used to generate more than half our power, is a highly reliable, safe, and affordable electricity source and emissions-free, making it environmentally friendly. We also use natural gas because it's affordable and can be dispatched quickly when needed, making it a great complement to other power resources, like renewable energy. Concurrently,

we are strategically expanding our use of renewable energy.

- **INVESTMENTS IN TECHNOLOGY.** New technology, such as battery storage, will allow us to increase the utilization of renewable energy sources by making it possible to store energy when demand for it is low. The energy stored can then be used later when demand is high. Future technologies could include the more effective and efficient capture of carbon emissions from non-renewable sources and new ways to match local power needs with local power resources.
- **INNOVATIVE ENERGY SOLUTIONS AND PROGRAMS.** Many of the programs JOEMC offers, like Connect to Save, aim to make the electric grid more flexible and efficient by managing demand for power; this helps reduce carbon emissions and keeps costs down for everyone. Also, efforts to use electricity to power devices and processes formerly powered by fossil fuels – like automobiles and agricultural operations—will further cut carbon emissions and support our long-term carbon reduction goals.

To learn more about our work to build a brighter future, visit joemc.com.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Some manufacturers set water heater thermostats at 140 degrees, but most households usually only require them to be set at 120 degrees.

Consider lowering your water heater's temperature to save energy and slow mineral buildup in the heater and pipes.

Source:
www.energy.gov



www.joemc.com