JUNE 2020

A Newsletter From



# **SAVINGS START HERE**

Heating and cooling is the largest energy expense in the average U.S. home, accounting for about 48 percent of energy bills. No matter what kind of heating and cooling system you have, you can save money and increase your comfort by properly maintaining your equipment.

Remember, an energy-efficient system will have an even greater impact on your energy bills if you combine it with a **whole-house energy efficiency approach**. By combining appropriate heating and cooling techniques with insulation and air sealing, you can save money and increase comfort.

Many improvements can be made by rolling up your sleeves and tackling the problem areas yourself. You can also schedule an energy audit with one of our trained experts who will use special diagnostic tools to pinpoint hidden air leaks in your home.

Like any machine, your heating and cooling system will operate better when it's properly maintained. Seasonal maintenance keeps your equipment running safely and efficiently, saving you money in the long run. **The best time for maintenance is right before extreme temperatures hit.** 

**Clean or change the air filter.** If you only make one tune-up – this should be it. A dirty filter will slow down air flow and make the system work harder to keep you warm or cool — wasting energy. A clean filter will also prevent dust and dirt from building up in the system — leading to expensive maintenance and/or early system failure. You should wash your reusable filter or replace your disposable once per month.

**Clear the area around the outdoor unit.** Keep vegetation at least two feet away from the unit so it is free to pull in air. This includes raking up leaves in the fall.

**Schedule a check-up.** Just as a tune-up for your car can improve your gas mileage, a yearly tune-up of your heating and cooling system can improve efficiency and comfort. Some parts of a thorough annual check-up require disassembling the unit, so call a service technician for a quick, professional check-up. The technician will:

•Clear the drain. A clogged drain can waste nearly as much energy as a dirty filter because your unit has to work harder to send out less air.

•Clean the outdoor and indoor units. The technician will clean the fan blades to keep the outdoor condenser fan running efficiently. Removing dust and other buildup from the indoor evaporator coil will maintain the unit's ability to cool the heat moving through it in summer.

**Consider an upgrade.** If your unit is more than 10 years old, you may benefit from replacing it with a new energy-efficient heat pump. Today's heating and cooling systems use up to 40 percent less energy then those made just 10 years ago. If possible, install your new unit in the shade, which can allow it to run 10 percent more efficiently in the summer.



Coweta -Fayette EMC is an equal opportunity provider and employer /M/F/Y/D



A LOOK INSIDE THIS ISSUE: Maintain your hvac system - 1 Scholarship Winners - 2

### CONGRATULATIONS, 2020 COWETA-FAYETTE TRUST TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!



La'Shandis Brown Southern Crescent Technical College



**Chelsea McBrayer** Southern Crescent Technical College



**Megan Simpson** West Georgia Technical College



**Cassandra Chapman** Southern Crescent Technical College



**Cathy Privett** West Georgia Technical College



Michael Thompson, Jr. Southern Crescent Technical College

## **Summer Rates In Effect**

#### **Residential**

Summer (June 1 - October 31) Service Charge \$20.00/mo. First 750 kWh/mo 7.80¢/kWh Over 750 kWh/mo. 10.65¢/kWh

**Electric Water Heater Credit** 

(June 1 - October 31) \$2.00/mo. (One EWH credit per household)

#### Residential Load Management Annual Credit

\$10.00 credit applied to the member's bill in October for allowing the EMC to cycle the air conditioner and/or water heater during the months of June - September.



**OPERATION** 

**Rhonda Dunn** West Georgia Technical College



Hannah Rowan Southern Crescent Technical College



**Jennifer Wilson** West Georgia Technical College



The President's Message Chris Stephens CEO

With all the bad news we have had lately, I'm extremely happy to share some good news.

Because of your generosity through the Operation Round Up program, this year 25 area students are receiving \$32,000 in scholarships to use toward continuing their education. We are happy to feature the winners of the Coweta-Fayette Trust Technical Scholarships this month and will feature the winners of the Melissa Segars Scholarships in July.

We'll also celebrate each winner individually on our Facebook page (https:// www.facebook.com/CowetaFayetteEMC). Feel free to like and share a congratulatory message as you see them in your news feeds. You'll also find a complete list of winners on our website. We couldn't recognize many of these students at their traditional honors ceremony due to COVID-19, so we want to celebrate their accomplishments in as many ways as possible.

I'm proud to be a part of an organization, who at its' core, believes in giving back to the community. Investing in our youth is one way we can invest in the future of our area. That's part of what makes Coweta-Fayette EMC different than other utilities.

I know it's an exciting time for many area families because l've got a graduate at my house too. While it hasn't been a traditional graduation season, I know this group of emerging leaders have big things in store for them. I hope many of them will stay or eventually return to our communities to invest their time and skills to continue making this the best place to live. Many of this group of young adults will be the future of CFEMC. Not only will they become our members, but some will become employees too. As CEO, that excites me to know the cooperative business model will continue to grow and thrive for years to come.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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