

POWERLINES

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As your member-owned electric cooperative, CFEMC isn't like other utilities. We don't profit when you use more electricity — in fact, we want to help you use less of what we sell. So here are some ways to stay cool and save during the dog days of summer:

1. Chill with Your Thermostat

Set your thermostat to 78°F when you're home and bump it up a few degrees when you're away. Every degree counts when it comes to savings!

2. Keep It Shady

Close blinds and curtains during the day to block out heat. Better yet, plant shade trees or install awnings to naturally cool your home.

3. Give Appliances a Break

Skip the oven and use a microwave, toaster oven, or grill instead. Wash full loads of laundry in cold water and let clothes air dry when possible.

4. Use Fans Wisely

Ceiling fans can make you feel cooler — just remember to turn them off when you leave the room. Fans cool people, not spaces!

5. Unplug the Energy Vampires

Electronics and chargers draw power even when they're off. Unplug them or use a power strip to cut off their snack supply.

6. Switch to LED Lighting

LED bulbs use 75 percent less energy and produce less heat than traditional ones — a bright idea all year long!

7. Seal and Insulate

A little caulk and weather stripping go a long way in keeping cool air in and hot air out. Your AC will thank you!

8. Check Your Filters

Replace HVAC filters monthly to keep your system running efficiently.

9. Time Your Chores

Run your dishwasher, laundry, and other large appliances during early morning or late evening hours when it's cooler outside.

10. Watch "Watts Matter" for More Tips!

Our ongoing YouTube series, Watts Matter, is full of practical, bite-sized tips to help you save energy (and money!) all year round. Check it out and hit subscribe!

Remember: As your electric cooperative, we work for you — the member. We're here to help you stay comfortable, save money, and make smart energy choices. After all, saving energy is a win for you and our co-op community!



Subscribe, watch & start saving!
New summer savings content available!



Listen for efficiency tips and
summer rate info!

Keeping the Lights On and Costs Down: Why Smart Energy Policy Matters Here at Home



Chris Stephens
CEO

At Coweta-Fayette EMC, our promise to you is simple: to keep your lights on and your electric bills affordable. But keeping that promise is becoming more complex as energy demand across the country, and right here in our local communities, continues to grow.

You've likely seen new housing developments, schools, and businesses popping up across Coweta and Fayette counties. Add in the growing presence of data centers and

large-scale manufacturing in our region and across Georgia, and the result is a rising electricity demand, unlike anything we've seen in decades. Nationally, electricity use is expected to increase by more than 18 percent over the next 10 years.

While we're in a good position to meet those needs currently, we need an energy policy that gives us the ability to build and maintain infrastructure that's built for growth and resilience. That's why we're keeping a close eye on national decisions that impact our ability to serve you reliably and affordably.

The Good News: A Step Toward Reliability

Recently, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced it would reconsider several proposed rules that could have made it harder for utilities like ours to deliver reliable and affordable power. These include regulations that would have forced the premature retirement of always-available generation resources, like natural gas and coal, before proven alternatives are ready to fill the gap.

We're encouraged by this shift. It signals that decision-makers are listening to concerns from electric cooperatives, including ours, who are saying reliability must come first. You shouldn't

have to worry about blackouts or price spikes because of rules that sound good on paper but don't work in the real world.

Why Infrastructure Matters

To keep pace with growth and ensure we can respond quickly after storms or outages, we also need to invest in power lines, substations, and grid technology. That's why we're advocating for common-sense permitting reforms that allow us to build and maintain infrastructure faster and more affordably, especially in growing areas like ours.

Supporting Rural Georgia

It's important the federal programs that help us secure low-interest loans or compete for grants to improve reliability remain in place. These programs help co-ops like Coweta-Fayette EMC modernize their infrastructure, harden their systems, and prepare for future challenges, including cybersecurity threats.

We're working closely with our elected officials to ensure that these programs remain funded, allowing us to continue bringing the benefits of innovation to our local members without passing on unnecessary costs.

Why It All Matters to You

These energy debates in Washington aren't just policy, they're personal. They affect how we power our homes, schools, farms, and businesses here in Coweta and Fayette counties. They determine whether your bill stays affordable or spikes because of unstable markets or misguided mandates.

We'll continue bringing your voice to the table, pushing for policies that work today and for generations to come. And as always, we remain committed to providing you with safe, reliable, and affordable electricity because we live here, too.

Stay safe during summer storms

Summer brings sunshine, barbecues—and powerful thunderstorms. At CFEMC, safety is always our priority, and we want to help you stay safe when storms roll in.

Lightning is dangerous and unpredictable. If you hear thunder, head indoors immediately. Stay away from windows, and avoid using wired electronics or plumbing until the storm passes.

Downed power lines are another serious hazard. Never approach or touch a downed line—even if it looks inactive. Always assume it's energized and dangerous. Report it to us right away.

Prepare ahead. Consider installing surge protectors and assembling an emergency kit with flashlights, batteries, and water. Keep our outage number (770-502-0226) handy and follow us on social media for updates.

As your member-owned electric cooperative, we're committed to keeping you informed and safe—no matter the weather.

Remember: When thunder roars, go indoors—and stay alert.



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