

Currently Speaking

**Guernsey-Muskingum
Electric Cooperative, Inc.**
17 S. Liberty St.
New Concord, Ohio 43762
740-826-7661 — 800-521-9879
www.gmenergy.com

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Electric Rates Farm and Home Service rate schedule R-1*

Service Availability Charge
\$18/month
First 500 kWh/month
@ 12.769¢/kWh
Over 500 kWh/month
@ 10.645¢/kWh

Seasonal Residential Service annual rate schedule S-1*

Service Availability Charge
\$216/year
First 800 kWh/year
@ 20.769¢/kWh
Over 800 to 6,000 kWh/year
@ 11.645¢/kWh
Over 6,000 kWh/year
@ 10.645¢/kWh

(Your minimum annual charge will be \$216 per year for service between March 1, 2014, and Feb. 28, 2015.)

Commercial Service rate schedule C-1*

Service Availability Charge
\$18/month
First 1,500 kWh/month
@ 12.769¢/kWh
Over 1,500 kWh/month
@ 10.645¢/kWh

*Rider T —

Kilowatt-Hour Tax applies to all rate schedules and must be added to the rates shown.
First 2,000 kWh/month .465¢/kWh
Next 13,000 kWh/month .419¢/kWh
Over 15,000 kWh/month .363¢/kWh

A holiday 'hangover'

from all that delicious food ... and pie!

I LOVE THE HOLIDAYS! Rooms filled with laughter and voices echoing with memories of family and friends. A special energy seems to flow, and it gives us hope and renews our spirits. But I must be honest: I really love the holidays for another reason, too — THE FOOD! I am what my mother once referred to as a “good eater.” That should not be interpreted as a person who eats the correct portions or healthy types of food. No, quite the contrary. A good eater is someone who appreciates the meal, not for its elegance or presentation, but for its aromas and flavors. A good eater consumes large quantities and always licks the plate clean.



Jerry Kackley,
General Manager/CEO

I have been blessed to be surrounded by some of the best country chefs. My mother could throw a dozen pies together faster than some folks could boil water. Each pie was perfect in its appearance, with her patented thumb-pressed edges and a decorative wheat pattern on top. A work of art that would rival Michelangelo's greatest sculptures! And the taste ... Well, let's just say I know what the food in Heaven must be like. My grandmother could make the meringue stand a foot tall on her lemon pies, which were always in demand on Sunday afternoons.

While my mother and grandmother are now serving up feasts for the angels, I am blessed to have other wonderful cooks to fill the void. My mother-in-law and wife are food artists as well. I swear that either one of them can create a delicious meal from a few scraps of meat, bread and gravy. And their pumpkin or coconut cream pies, wow! I married well!

But Thanksgiving and Christmas are a real struggle for us good eaters. There are just too many country delicacies to choose from. Turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, dressing, corn, beans ... and pie. Oh, that pie. How can any normal human being select only a few of these treats? No, a good eater understands that sampling just a few dishes would be wrong, an insult to those who prepared the meal. And so, I eat ... and I eat ... and I eat, and I show proper appreciation to these special cooks. In the end, my plate is licked clean, and I marvel at my culinary success. Each year I promise myself that I will not over-indulge and, without fail, each year I break that promise willingly. And I suffer through my “holiday hangover” with a grin on my face, waiting for my stomach to settle so I can do it all over again. God Bless. ☺



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Fight the *winter chills* with energy efficiency



Ray Crock,
Energy Advisor

WHEN THE TEMPERATURE DROPS, electric bills can go in the opposite direction, thanks to heating systems that work overtime. Heating and cooling can make up nearly half of your electricity costs, so instead of waiting until after a high bill hits your mailbox, be proactive. There are things you can do now to help ensure you are managing your energy use and spending less.

- Wrap exposed pipes and water heaters that are in unconditioned spaces.
- Make sure to change your furnace's air filter once a month.
- Keep drapes closed at night

and keep those that don't get direct sunlight closed during the day, too.

- Keep the fireplace damper closed when it is not in use.
- Caulk around the fireplace hearth, and caulk or weather strip around doors and windows.
- Rather than turning up the thermostat when you feel cold, dress warmly and keep extra blankets on hand.

How weather affects your bill

Using the tips above can certainly help you manage

your energy use, but your bill may still be higher than normal in winter months. Why?

- The weather makes a big impact on electric bills, accounting for nearly half of your bill.
- Even those with the most efficient HVAC systems will see more use in extreme weather.
- When extreme cold temperatures hit, our heaters work overtime.
- For example, even if you set your thermostat to our recommended 68 degrees in the winter, when it is 19 degrees outside, your system has to work hard to make up that 49-degree difference.
- Your heater works harder and cycles on and off more often, making your use much higher. That means your bill will be much higher.
- Remember, there is value in comfort. For us to be comfortable in our homes, our heaters are going to work harder, but it may be worth the additional cost to you.

Additional tips

- Call Guernsey-Muskingum Electric and see what kinds of options might be right for you, such as budget billing plans, a home energy audit or rebates for certain appliance installations .
- Speak to one of our energy efficiency experts. They can help you understand how weather and your electricity-use patterns affect your bill. ☺

Is your name and location/ account number here?

If it is, call your cooperative's office and receive a **FREE** home change-out to compact fluorescent lightbulbs. (Limit 12 bulbs.) Thanks for reading the GMEC "local pages" of *Country Living* magazine.

- #28-0074-40-01 Bonita Knicely
- #43-0175-01-02 Bryan D Dennis
- #50-0361-01-04 Richard A Snively Sr
- #68-0009-30-22 Jessica Forshey
- #85-0008-21-01 Cheryl A Schmidt
- #90-0002-20-08 Hildreth E Keener

2015 calendars available now!

A limited number of Guernsey-Muskingum calendars are available at our office in New Concord. Be sure to pick yours up today!



HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS:

Interested in a life-changing leadership experience ... in Washington, D.C.?

June 12-18, 2015

What is Youth Tour?



The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour is an annual leadership program coordinated by Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, and its statewide service organization, Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc. It's a weeklong, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., that gives exceptional high school students the opportunity to meet with their Congressional leaders at the U.S. Capitol, make new friends from across the country and see many of the famous Washington sights.

Electric cooperatives from 43 states will send about 1,600 students this year for the annual tour. *Will you be one of them?*

For more information and to apply, visit www.gmenergy.com or call 800-521-9879.

Applications are due March 6. All students will be interviewed on March 18.

It pays to buy **QUALITY!**

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric offers TWO ways to save on your next water heater purchase:

1) Rebates for water heaters purchased at GMEC

Prices include:

FREE delivery • **FREE** pressure-relief valve • **FREE** radio-controlled switch
FREE maintenance (except cleaning), including parts and labor

50 gallon: 22 3/4-inch diameter by 51-inch height (weight = 230 lbs.)

\$600 average wholesale price
\$500 co-op cost
\$175 member rebate
\$325 member cost*

80 gallon: 26-inch diameter by 58-inch height (weight = 325 lbs.)

\$700 average wholesale price
\$575 co-op cost
\$200 member rebate
\$375 member cost*

Installation available for an approximate charge of \$120.

*Prices do not include taxes.

2) Rebates for water heaters purchased elsewhere

\$100 cash back for:

- 50 gallon or larger
- 7-year warranty or longer

\$50 cash back for

- 40 gallon
- 7-year warranty or longer



TO QUALIFY FOR ALL REBATES, MEMBERS MUST ALLOW THE FREE INSTALLATION OF A RADIO-CONTROLLED SWITCH. CALL GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM FOR MORE DETAILS AT 740-826-7661 OR 1-800-521-9879.

High School **SENIORS:**

**Are your parents
members of
Guernsey-Muskingum
Electric Cooperative?**

**You could win a college, vocational or
technical school scholarship up to**

\$4,400

- Available in both boys' and girls' divisions
- First-place GMEC scholarship: \$1,000
- First-place statewide Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives scholarship: \$3,400
- Runners-up in each division also will receive scholarships (\$800, \$500 and \$400)
- Applications due **Feb. 6** to GMEC office

To get applications for these scholarships, see your guidance counselor, call Heather Baker at 740-826-7661 or 800-521-9879, or visit gmenergy.com!

Applications for both awards are due Feb. 6.

Touchstone Energy[®] Achievement Scholarship

Did you overcome unique and significant personal challenges on your way to excellence?



Win a **\$2,500** college scholarship!

- **\$500 and \$300 scholarships from GMEC**
- **\$2,000 scholarship from Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives**
- **Application deadline: Feb. 6**