

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, 2015, and Feb. 28, 2016.)

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

Seeing and hearing the *blessings of spring*

AS I WRITE THIS IN MAY, the snow has melted and spring has returned to Southeast Ohio! I must confess that autumn is my favorite time of year, but spring is a close second. The once-drab hillsides are now glowing bright green, and flowers bloom with all the vibrant colors of the spectrum mixed in brilliant combinations. As I watch newborn calves and lambs dancing awkwardly through the pastures, I am reminded that life is full of cycles. There are highs and lows, endings and new beginnings. The harshness of winter has taken a toll on our minds and our bodies, but spring brings with it a renewed hope—a revitalization of our souls. I am humbled and inspired by the creative talent of God.

While the colors of spring seem to make it a “visual” season, I would argue that the sounds of spring are even more amazing. I have developed a habit of walking early in the morning on Saturdays and Sundays, and I am amazed at the beautiful sounds I hear as the world awakens. The birds seem to be rehearsing and joining in an almost spiritual chorus. Their voices echo through the air. At night, the insects take over. I am astonished that such tiny creatures have so much musical power and versatility. Each choir member has a distinct sound that blends beautifully and effortlessly with the others, creating a perfect melody.

My wish for you this spring and summer is that you will find peace and joy in your life. That you will take the time to appreciate the world you live in and the life you have been given. Look at the beauty that surrounds you and listen to the sounds of nature. Release the doubt and concern...embrace the hope and the possibilities.

Because this article will be published in July, I must add one final comment. May God bless all the men and women who serve or have served in our Armed Forces. May He protect their families while they are absent and provide comfort to the mothers, fathers, wives, husbands, sons, daughters and other relatives of the brave souls who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Let us take a moment on this Fourth of July to say, “Thank you!”

God bless. ☸



Jerry Kackley,
General Manager/CEO

Holiday office hours

On **Friday, July 3**, the Guernsey-Muskingum office will be closed, but the **drive-through window** will be **open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

There will be **no open hours** on **Saturday, July 4**, so our employees may enjoy Independence Day. We wish you a safe and happy holiday!



Common questions about the electric vehicle, *answered*

The electric vehicle market is evolving and maturing. Although the concept of electrically powered vehicles was pioneered over a century ago, only recently have they become a viable choice for many Americans.

In 2014, more than 120,000 electric vehicles (EVs) were bought in the U.S., breaking the previous record of fewer than 100,000 in 2013. People are buying EVs in greater numbers, but many still have questions about range, charging time and fuel-savings.

One of the greatest fears of EV ownership is running out of power on the road with no charging station in sight. EVs are particularly susceptible to this because most have less range than a comparable gasoline-powered vehicle, and there are far fewer public charging stations than gas stations. But the numbers suggest that this shouldn't be a problem for most trips. The average single trip distance is 6 miles, and even for rural areas with longer drives, 95 percent of all trips are less than 50 miles. New EVs have ranges typically between 70 and 120 miles, and some even have ranges up to 300 miles.

Some consumers fear that the time to recharge an EV is excessive. Filling up a car with gas only takes a few minutes, while fully charging an EV battery can take 10 hours or longer, depending on the car and the charging method. But all passenger EVs can be charged at home using a standard outlet. Simply park the car at the end of the day, and the next morning, your car will be fueled up and ready to go.

If 10 hours is too long to wait, there are special charging stations that will charge the EV in just a couple of hours — but these involve additional cost and possibly an upgrade to your home's electrical system. Consumers opting for this method should try to set

their timer to charge the car late at night. Electric motors are more efficient than traditional internal combustion engines, making them cheaper on a fuel-per-mile cost basis. How much you will save on fuel with an EV depends on just how efficient it is and the cost of electricity compared to the cost of gas. EVs typically get between 2 to 4 miles per kWh, and the average retail electricity rate is 12 cents per kWh, which comes to a per-mile rate of

3 to 6 cents. Comparatively, an average gas-powered car can expect a per-mile fuel rate of 9 to 11 cents, but this number will vary dramatically based on the price of gas and the car's gas mileage. What does this mean for annual fuel savings? Right now, a Nissan Leaf (EV) will cost around \$350 a year for fuel, while a Nissan Versa (gasoline) will cost \$771.

Buying an EV is a decision that requires careful consideration. EVs are often more expensive up front, and the potential savings of an EV are largely dependent on the cost of gasoline, which is currently at a six-year low, and state and federal tax credits. Most EV owners report high satisfaction, and the high torque means you will have no problem beating that Mustang off the line.



Ray Crock,
Energy Advisor

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



By cleaning your air conditioner's air ducts, you can lower your energy consumption between 5 and 15 percent.

Source: energy.gov

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 6 bulbs.) Thanks for reading the GMEC "local pages" of *Country Living* magazine.

- #70-0008-02-02..... Danny W White
- #24-0336-45-05..... Cody B Hartman
- #28-0369-23-02..... Donna Blair
- #60-0568-45-01 Doug Bell
- #51-1111-02-03 John C Lewis II
- #53-0226-18-00 Robert J Douglass

Reserve your spot for Cardinal Plant Tour

If you are interested in touring the power plant that generates your electricity, please call Guernsey-Muskingum's member services department today at 1-800-521-9879.

You, a cooperative member, are one of the owners of Cardinal Station in Brilliant, Ohio, and this will be a chance to see it in operation.

Arrangements are being made for **Wednesday, Sept. 30**. A bus ride, tour and lunch will be provided.

Seats will be reserved for GMEC members who have not taken the tour in the past. ***Please call because seats are limited and will be filled on a first-call, first-served basis.***

Please be aware that if there would be a "high," or level orange, security warning issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the tour may be canceled. If you have any questions, please call your cooperative. We will be monitoring the situation.

Please, be our guests — but don't delay!



6th Annual

Farm Science Review Bus Trip

Wednesday, Sept. 23

Yes, I/we would like to join our co-op and ride in a Muskingum Coach Tour Bus to the Farm Science Review in London.

Seats will remain at \$25 each this year even with the increase in ticket prices and fuel cost.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____.
Please make check payable to GMEC.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE TRAFFIC — LEAVE THE DRIVING TO US!

Your ticket covers the bus trip to and from the review and your admission into the grounds. Bus departs Cambridge at 6 a.m. and Zanesville at 6:30 a.m.

Mail or return to:

**Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc.
17 S. Liberty St., New Concord, Ohio 43762**

I will board the bus at

CAMBRIDGE **ZANESVILLE**

For more information, call member services at
1-800-521-9879.

County fairs in our area

Harrison County.....	Cadiz	July 6-11
Perry County.....	New Lexington.....	July 20-25
Hartford Fair (Licking County).....	Croton	Aug. 9-15
Muskingum County.....	Zanesville	Aug. 16-22
Noble County.....	Caldwell	Aug. 31- Sept. 5
Morgan County.....	McConnelsville.....	Sept. 8-12
Guernsey County.....	Old Washington	Sept. 14-19
Tuscarawas County.....	Dover.....	Sept. 21-27
Coshocton County.....	Coshocton.....	Oct. 2-8

Fair dates can be found by logging onto www.ohiofairs.org.

County fairs are a family affair!

Stay safe during *and after* summer storms



BY LAURA COOK

No one knows electrical safety better than the experts who practice it every single day. Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative encourages you to practice safety with these reminders — for during and after a summer storm:

Avoid wires and water. When lightning strikes a home during a storm, the electrical charge can surge through pipes and utility wires. That means you can get zapped if you're touching water or any device that's plugged in, whether it's a landline phone or toaster.

Skip the makeshift shelter. During a storm, it's tempting to take cover under a picnic gazebo or golf cart, but in open-sided structures with no conductors to channel strikes, a bolt's path of least resistance to the ground could be you. On top of that, these structures raise your risk of a lightning strike because of their height. Keep moving toward suitable shelter.

Portable generators. Take special care with portable generators, which can provide a good source of power but, if improperly installed or operated, can become deadly. Do not connect generators directly to household wiring. Power from generators can backfeed along power lines and electrocute anyone

coming in contact with them, including co-op line-workers making repairs. It's best to hire a qualified, licensed electrician to install your generator and ensure that it meets local electrical codes.

Flooded areas. Stay away from downed power lines and avoid walking through flooded areas. Power lines could be submerged and still live with electricity. Report any downed lines you see to Guernsey-Muskingum Electric by calling 800-521-9879 immediately.

Electrical equipment. Never use electrical equipment that is wet — especially outdoor electrical equipment, which could be dangerous after a summer storm. Water can damage electrical equipment and parts, posing a shock or fire hazard.

Guernsey-Muskingum is a proud member of Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives. Along with 750 electric cooperatives nationwide, we have partnered with Touchstone Energy to put safety as our number one concern. For a checklist to assess safety hazards around your home or to take a quick safety quiz, go to www.togetherwesave.com/power-of-community/safety.

Summer Storm Safety Tip

Strong summer storms can create dangerous situations. Always avoid downed power lines — the wire could be live, which could be deadly for those nearby. Quickly report downed power lines to your electric cooperative.



Photo credit: FEMA

