



GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CURRENTLY SPEAKING

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

BY THE COMMUNITY, FOR THE COMMUNITY

October is National Co-op Month.



Brian Hill
GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

When you think of October, certain things naturally come to mind, like pumpkins, Halloween, and beautiful fall foliage. But October is notable for another reason — it's National Co-op Month! This is the time of year when cooperatives across the country, including Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, celebrate who we are and more importantly, the members we serve.

Cooperatives are different than other types of businesses. When the market declines to offer a product or service or does so at a very high price, co-ops intervene to fill the need.

Similar to how Guernsey-Muskingum Electric was built by members who came together to bring electricity to our community, cooperatives are conveners for the common good. Your electric co-op exists to provide safe, reliable, and affordable energy to you, the members of the co-op. Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of the members we serve.

As a co-op, we are well-suited to meet the needs of the community because we are locally governed. Guernsey-Muskingum Electric's leadership team and employees live right here in the community. Our board of directors, who help set long-term priorities for the co-op, live locally on co-op lines. These board members have been elected to the position by neighbors like you.

We know our members (that's you!) have a valuable perspective. That's why we are continually seeking your input. Whether through community events, our social media channels, or the annual meeting, we want to hear from you.

Our close connection to the community ensures we get a firsthand perspective on local priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments, such as high-speed broadband, community solar programs, equipment and technology upgrades, and electric vehicle programs.

Another feature that sets our co-op apart from a traditional utility is one of our core principles, "Concern for Community." We partner with local organizations like the OSU Extension, Rotary Club, and Ruritans for programs such as Lamps to Camp, Free Tree Program, Citizenship Contest and more. We participate in Youth Tour, where we take our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C., for a week-long immersion to experience democracy in action.

Ultimately, the larger community benefits from these programs because of you and your neighbors. You empower the co-op through your membership and through your participation in and support of these programs.

We hope you will think of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric as more than your energy provider. We're also a local business that supports this community and powers economic development and prosperity for the people.

We will continue to learn from our members about their priorities so that we can better serve you — because your electric co-op was built by the community, for the community.





GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CURRENTLY SPEAKING

ASK YOUR
ENERGY
ADVISOR



Ray Crock

What's new with electric vehicles?

Electric vehicles (EVs) are on the rise in the United States, and they're providing a new driving experience for many Americans. The benefits are clear from

the expansion of the EV market, including less air pollution in congested areas, less carbon emissions, decreased maintenance costs, and less oil consumption.

EV sales have climbed in the U.S. since they first came onto the market. In 2011, there were only around 17,000 EVs sold, compared to the 361,000 EVs sold in 2018. Cumulatively since 2011, nearly 1.2 million EVs have been sold, and that number continues to grow.

Tesla has dominated the EV market in the U.S., making up about more than half of the total EV sales in 2018. The first luxury EV was manufactured by Tesla, setting the stage for style and performance. Although Tesla dominates in sales, there are many other popular models available, and the competitiveness among them is increasing. Back in 2011, there were only two options: the Nissan Leaf EV and the Chevy Volt Plug-In EV. But in 2018, there were eight models that made up 80 percent of total plug-in EV sales. This includes many major manufacturers, like General Motors, Ford, Toyota, and BMW.

One reason that the EV market has been doing so well is that the total cost of ownership of newer EV models is becoming much closer to that of gas-powered

vehicles. Since maintenance costs for EVs are lower than gas-powered vehicles and the price to charge an EV is cheaper than filling a full tank of gas, people are spending less money on EVs over the course of the car's lifetime than they would on gas-powered vehicles.

With the growth of EV sales comes a growing need to charge those vehicles. There are three main types of charging levels: Level 1, Level 2, and DC Fast charging. Level 1 and Level 2 are mainly for residential charging, while DC Fast chargers are made for a "gas station" experience.

For charging outside of the home, DC Fast chargers can fully charge an EV in 15 to 45 minutes. For longer drives and road trips, these chargers ensure that your car has enough juice to last the whole journey. However, DC Fast charging infrastructure is not growing as quickly as EV sales are, which presents an issue for drivers who do not live conveniently close to them.

There is a strong expectation for EV sales to continue to grow. Although the charging infrastructure is not evenly distributed throughout the country, there will be a strong need to continue developing it to reach a wider audience.

Many electric cooperatives are positioned to start developing charging infrastructure to address this need. The growth of the EV market and charging infrastructure across the U.S. will be the future of our nation's roadways.

Here at Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, we are striving to stay ahead of our members' needs. We are now offering a \$250 rebate per charging port on Level 2 slow chargers connected to member homes and businesses. We also have access to ChargePoint charging systems through one of our suppliers. Call our member services department, and we will do our best to answer your questions and help you get set up for your electric vehicle.

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(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Stealing Electricity and Meter Tampering Are Crimes

Since August 1978, a revised Ohio law has been in effect covering theft of utility service and tampering with utility equipment. The statute provides that a person does not have to be seen tampering with a meter to be held responsible for such action. Prior to the revision in the law, it was difficult to prosecute a person for meter tampering unless the action was witnessed.

In addition, in prosecution for a user's reconnecting a device that was disconnected by a utility, such activity now is considered prima facie evidence that the user intended to defraud the utility.

The law defines theft of a utility service as a first-degree misdemeanor if the value of the stolen electricity, plus any utility equipment repair, is less than \$150. It's a fourth-degree felony if the value is more than \$150 or if the offender was previously convicted of the charge. Tampering convictions carry similar penalties.

Tampering is defined as "to interfere with, damage, or bypass a utility meter, conduit, or attachment with intent to impede the correct registration of a meter or the proper function of a conduit or attachments."

Conviction can bring from six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine to five years in jail and a \$2,500 fine.

Meter tampering costs all of us. It costs the cooperative, and it costs you. And it's downright dangerous. If you witness someone tampering with an electric meter, contact your cooperative office. Stealing electricity is a crime, and anyone caught violating the law will be prosecuted.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Heating requires more energy than any other system in your home, typically making up about 42% of your energy bill. With proper equipment maintenance and upgrades like additional insulation and air sealing, you can save about 30% on your energy bill.

Source: energy.gov

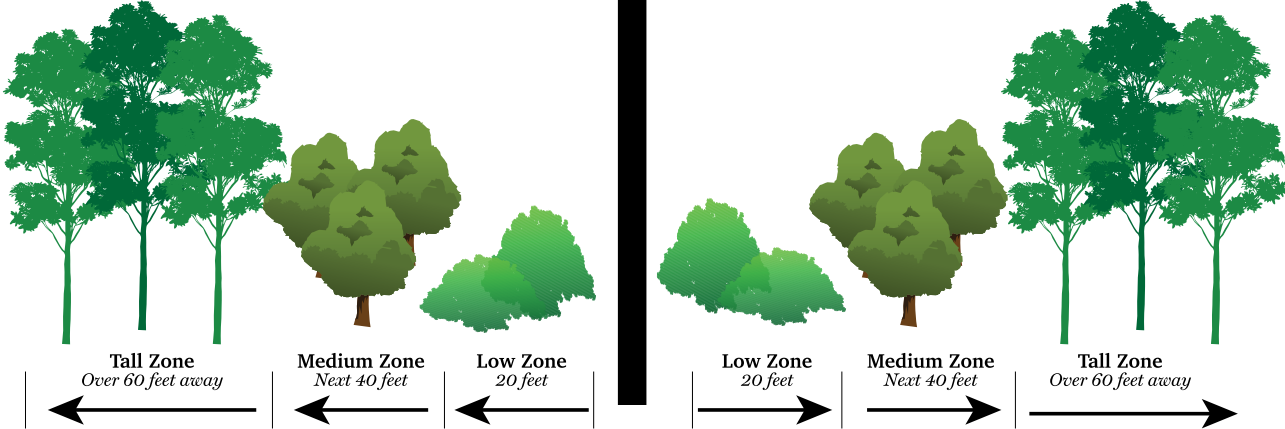




GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CURRENTLY SPEAKING

Tree-planting guide:

What to plant where



Tall Zone	Medium Zone	Low Zone—Utility Easement Area	
Tall or large trees with maximum height of over 60 feet.	Plant medium trees with a maximum height of 30–60 feet.	(Under wires)—It is better not to plant in this area. If you do, plant shrubs only or small, low-growing ornamental trees with a maximum height of 15 feet.	GMEC will maintain 20 feet in any direction around and anything above energized primary conductors on a five-year cycle.

Karaoke “Country Style” winners

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative Inc. sponsored the Karaoke “Country Style” contest on opening day at the 173rd Muskingum County Fair. This year’s winners were Lucky Valentine, Jocce Janicki, and Kim Brandfass. Each winner received a \$50 gift card, and all participants received a sandwich and drink coupon to use at the fair. Dr. Laura Schumann and Kenny Wade were our judges for the evening, and sound was provided by Sandy Groves.





Official notice of intention to reallocate patronage capital

The following is a listing of former members of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative Inc. who received service from the cooperative in prior years. Attempts were made to mail capital credits checks to these former members in 2015. These capital credits checks have remained unclaimed for at least four years.

The cooperative's Code of Regulations provides that capital credits payments which remain unclaimed for four years shall, after

proper notice is given, be reallocated to the current margins of the cooperative. After such reallocation, these unclaimed payments will no longer be available for payment to the former members listed.

If you have any information on any of the names published in this listing, please call the cooperative's office at one of the numbers listed below. Thank you for your help in locating our former members.

New Concord
740-826-7661

Toll-free
800-521-9879

A T & T, Store #Oh2480
Ackerman Matthew J
Aerial Communications
Affolter Duane
Airport Inn LLC
Alexander C
Allen Silvia M
Alrahan Investment Inc
Ameritech Cellular Serv
Anderson Jack
Anderson Joseph
Angle Timothy J
Angles Harold G
Annon Walter
Arick Vincent E
Aron Marion G
Arrow Oilfield Services
Ashton Delbert L
August Mark A
Bailey Mary B
Baker Terry B
Baldwin Thomas
Ballenger Robert
Barbour David P
Barker Rodney
Barker Trenda L
Barnes James W
Barrone Jeff
Beardmore Sherile
Bears Robert M
Beckett Ernest J
Bennett Jerry
Bennett Teresa D
Berea Oil & Gas Corp
Berean Baptist Church
Berry Dori F
Berry M J

Bice Dale W
Bird Helen J
Bise George P
Black Deborah
Black Jack L
Bloom Shelly J
Boggs Ernest Sr
Bollinger Rex A
Bollinger Ruth
Bonifield Heather
Bonner Shawn A
Booth Clarence
Bowers James A
Bowman Barbara J
Boyle Dennis
Boyle Norma R
Brand Jerry
Braskie Jim R
Brooks B C
Brown Charles W
Brown Graham D
Brown Harold S
Brown James
Brown Jonathan T
Brown Keith F
Brown Sharon K
Brown W L
Brownfield James
Buckey Patricia
Burn & Elikan
Burwell Janet E
Byler Samuel
Cain William T
Calderone Evelyn
Caldwell Julie A
Callander & Kimbrel Inc
Calvert Steven

Cameron Douglas J
Campe Matt
Canfield Rick A
Caprita John B
Carless Resources Inc
Carper F W
Carr Donnie R
Carroll Rolland M
Carter Lela
Casey M L
Casey Mary
Casteel Robert D
Cavendish Petro Of Ohio
Celmer Thomas
Central Ohio Coal Co
Chambers Darrol
Check Ellen J
Chorey Donna M
Chris Oil Co
Christa Oil Co
Church Todd
Clark Joan E
Clark Lyle W
Clark Wade H
Clarke Frank B
Cochran Sally
Cohen Tessa
Coil Charles M
Cole Glen
Collopy Bernard
Columbia Naturl Resourc
Colwell Donald
Comisford Carolyn S
Concord Sq Ltd-Sewage-S
Conroy Robert W
Consol Resc Of America
Cooper Jason H

Corp Michael
Cortener B J
Coughenour Elizabeth
Cover Glenn E
Cox Cecelia A
Cullison Herbert
Cunningham Traci R
Curtis Jeffrey D
Custer Paul Jr
Dailey Willie
Daley James I
Dalton Rich A
Dalton Richard
Daniels Billy E
Davis Catherine
Davis Charles
Davis Harold
Davis James W
Davis Phillip S
Davis Robert
Davis Rodney
Dawson Joan
Deal Glen M
Dehart Max
Delong Merry
Derringer Robert G
Dicken Karen
Dickinson Lisa L
Dietrich Michael G
Dingey Nancy J
Dixon R M
Dobbins James W
Dobson Susan
Dodd James C
Dodd Robert
Dodge Shelly
Dominos Pizza

Donrey Outdoor Adver Co
Doty John T
Downard James D
Dreblow Lewis M
Driggs Rodney
Drushal Donna C
Dunlap Helen V
Dunlap Roy M
Dunlap Steven M
Dunn Duane A
Durbin Dennis
Durbin Thomas L
Dutcher Melvin
Duvall Lee
Dyer Erik C
Dynamic Drilling Inc
Eastern States Oil & Ga
Eastin David
Eckelberry Wilmer
Eddy Cloyd W
Edwards Marsha
Eibel Jolinda
Eikenberry Alice M
Elkins C M
Ellerman Bros
Ellis Mitchell
Ellwood Greg A
Eman Thomas
Energy Contractors Inc
Englert Paula A
Engstrom Barton J
Enterprise Gas & Oil
Erwine James
Evans Emmett G
Faller Neal
Faust Lonnie
Filkill Jeffery D Sr



GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

CURRENTLY SPEAKING

Flimore Donald	Harmon Janet E	Johnson Vaughn V	Little Keith E	Milligan Warren
Findley Oil Co	Harney Kevin	Johnson William R	Long Randall K	Mills Earl
Fisher Theodore C Jr	Harney William E	Jones Charles W Jr	Loudermilk Roy	Milner Ray G
Flowers Gordon A	Harp Michael A	Jones K F	Lucas Dennis R	Miracle V C
Flowers James	Harper William L	Jones N J	Ludco Inc	Mirdik John R
Flowers Jan L	Harriman Ester M	Jones Regina K	Lynn Rollan J	Mission Gas
Foland Wilma M	Harris Mark N	Joseph Brian E	Malvern Group Inc	Mitchell David
Ford Harry D	Harris Robert	Joy John	Mangold R J	Mitchell Shaun C
Ford Michael L	Hassell Mike	Kaufmann Mary	Maple Mark D	Mizer Dan Sr
Fortune Gas & Oil Co	Hay Sarah W	Keirns Jim	Marcum Kelly J	Monosky Samantha K
Foster Alyssa M	Hayes Marilyn A	Kenney David	Marlatt Margaret E	Montgomery F
Foster Dayle	Haynes Jeremy	Kenney T R	Marple Daniel L	Moody Peggy L
Frambes Beverly K	Heagen Randall L	Kerns Daniel L	Marshall William L	Moon David I
Frame Evelyn J	Hearld Denise L	Kerwood Janet	Massey Claude Jr	Moore Gary
Frame M	Heaton Philip	Keyes Robert J	Massey Trudy	Moore Jack H
Franks Malynda K	Heazlit Donald J	Kidd Mark A	Matechik Thomas J	Moore Jerry L
Friley Ruth A	Hebb Shirley	Kimble Roy	Matheney J R	Moore Julia J
Fudge Larry	Hecker Deloris	King John E	Mathews Flora	Moore Kimberly A
Fusner Richard W	Hefner Ronald	King Ralph	Mathias Charles E	Moore Michael P
G.w.f. Corp	Helter Frank	King Roger E Jr	Mathias Geneva E	Morehead James
Gaines Lillian E	Henary George	King Yvonne	Mattison Eric	Morgan Charles
Gaither Mary V	Henry Mike L	King Limestone	Matvey Joseph J	Morgan William G
Garrison Coston	Henthorne Melvin C	Kingston Oil Corp	Maxwell William	Morris Jonathan
Garrison James	Henthorne Rodger	Kinsey Kathy	Mccaustland Michael P	Moser Zachary G
Gaspro Energy Inc	Hidden Springs Farm Com	Klie Timothy F	Mcclain Ralph L	Mowry Brian
Gause James L	Hill Barry D	Kline Carl G	Mcclean William D	Muffet Donald
Geer Ralph R	Hinkle Randall S	Klingensmith Philip D Jr	Mcconnell Terry	Muhr Richard
Gem Energy Corp	Hochstetler Eli A	Knight A W	Mccormick Amanda J	Mumma Paul
George Clarence C Jr	Hockenberry Benjamin H	Knighton Robert	Mccormick Josh M	Musk Valley Fish Assn
Gertner Catharine M	Hoffer Albert E	Knowlton W B Jr	Mccune Donald	Muskingum Mining Inc
Gibson Ronald J	Holdsworth Wayne L	Knowlton's Industries	Mcdonald William T	Natland Energy
Giffen James L	Holt Ronald	Kramer Robert	Mcdowell James P	Neff Mark S
Giffin Delbert L	Hoon Margaret	Kundrith Craig	Mcelfresh Jacelyn D	Newton John B
Glasgow Mary H	Hopkins Annette C	Kurtz John J	Mcendree Glen R	Noble Oil Corp
Glass George K	Hoskinson Doris	L & S Oil & Gas	Mcfin Oil Co	Noe Mark E
Glaub Todd A	House Harold D	Lafollette Pam	Mcguire Steve J	Nunley Steve
Grady J	Householder Delora A	Lagle David	Mchenry Don	Nuttco Oil & Gas Inc
Graham Gary L	Howell John D	Landers Timothy C	Mckahan L	Nutter Herman
Gray David K	Hrinko Helen M	Landprovest Inc	Mckenzie-Smith Assoc	Ohio Bell Telephone Co
Gray Vernie	Huff Timothy B Jr	Landrum James W	Mckenzie-Smith Assoc	Ohio Inns, Inc
Greathouse Debra	Huhn Jesse	Lane Rhonda	Mckim Jean E	Ohio Lucky X Gun Club
Green Alisha A	Hurley Kathy	Lantz Mike J	Mclain Samuel	Ohio Partners Oil Co
Green Avery W	Huston Curtis	Larrick Arthur	Mcnell Mike	Osage Oil & Gas
Green Joseph H	Hutchison Toni L	Lashley C E	Mcpherson Donald	Osborn Brenda
Green Tea Room	Hutchison William A	Lashley Dale A	Mcvicker Martha A	Pallet Recycling
Greenhill Larry	Hutson Arnold H	Lattea Emma M	Meadows Gregory K	Palmer P
Griffin Hugh F	Iden Charles M	Lavelle Edward F	Mell Douglas L	Parry David
Grimmett Sherry A	Ihinger Carolyn	Lawler Kevin L	Melton Paul	Patrick Thomas E
Grossenbaugh Carl E	Jackson Delma	Lawler William	Meta Chemical Co Inc	Patterson Phillip M
Grove Robert	Jackson Elaine	Leach Cheryl L	Metz Charalet	Peabody Coal Co
Grubb David R	Jackson Wilbur E	Leader Development Corp	Miami Valley Contractor	Peabody Coal Co
Gum Scott A	Jacobs Jerry L	Ledenican Patrick	Midwest Exploration Inc	Peeper E J
Gunn Cathleen D	Jacobs Terry	Lehocz Donald	Mildazis M D	Pemco Gas Inc
Gustafson Ralph A	James Gregory	Lemmon Joseph W	Milestone Comm Of Ohio	Peoples Michael R
Hahn Earl	James T Johnson, Trust	Lenhart Karen R	Miller Edwin L	Peoples William D
Hall Herbert	Jarrell Daniel	Leonard Bret A	Miller Jason D	Perry Ruth E
Hall Mervin G	Jay's Unocal 76	Leonard Willey B	Miller Kenneth D	Peterson David K
Hall Vicki	Jefferis T J Jr	Lewis Alfred	Miller Michael L	Peyton Michelle
Hamill Robert	Jeffers Debra	Ley Edward	Miller Richard	Phillips Curtis A
Hammons Constance L	Johnson Betty J	Lichtner Terri	Miller Roy J	Phillips James E
Hannahs Betty	Johnson Brenda L	Lindamood Pauline	Miller Russell J Jr	Pitts Larry J
Hansen Edwin G	Johnson Doreen E	Little Denise	Miller Susan M	Poff Timothy M
Harber Jennifer L	Johnson Gary	Little Brian	Miller Vickie	Poirier Robert F

Pollock Tommie B	Roberts Harlan	Slaughter Michael W	Thomas Janet L	Ward Walter M Jr
Porter Francis E	Roberts Timothy	Slone Curtis	Thomas Ruth I	Ware Roger M
Porter Robert L	Roberts William E	Smalley Jeffrey S	Thomas Scott	Warne William R
Porter Stephen	Robidoux Susanne	Smith Jodie L	Thompson Anita M	Wassam Donald R
Powell Timothy	Robinson George A	Smith Kevin T	Tice Larry	Watters Jerry C
Powers Josh T	Rodgers & Rosen	Smith Matthew T	Tiger Oil Co	Wear Robert S
Presler Kurt M	Roger C Dupke Oil Co In	Smith Richard A	Tilton Richard L	Webster Alfred
Price Paul R	Rogoski John	Smith Richard E	Tippel Susan A	Weekley Kevin
Priebe Dean	Roll Martha J	Snedden Don	Tipple Ralph N	Well Care Services Inc
Pro-Alarms Systems Ltd	Roll Nina R	Snyder George	Todd James G	Wellman Robert C
Prouty Marion	Romans Robert	Sopko William E	Tolewitz Leonard N	Wells Ralph G
Pruitt Hershell R	Rose Stewart Mmd	Sorensen Kelly A	Toops Veronica A	Wells Ray
Pyle Gary	Rosintowski James	Sorensen Peter H	Torkos Gina P	Wentex International
R P J Energy Fund Mgmt	Ross John P	Souder Sharon	Travis Robert G	Wentsler David A
Raach Kathleen M	Rudolph Gene	Sowers Norma J	Treat William D	Werner James M
Raber James L	Russell George W	Sprinkle William C	Tri-Ad Corporation	Western Co Of America
Raber John	Rutter Larry	Stallion Oil & Gas Inc	Tri-Grai Inc	Wharton Mark F
Randall Jack	S H Parks & Assoc Inc	Stalnaker James	Triax Southeast Assoc L	Wheeler Raymond L
Rarick Patti A	Sabol Larry A Jr	Stanfill Melanie D	Trout Phillip E	White William L
Rath E A	Salsbury Mark A	Staten Larry	Trubisky Nick	Whitehead Ronda S
Rebecca Robert F Jr	Salters Hazel E	Stein Gary A	Trushel Ray	Whitlow Tammy L
Reed Ina M	Sapp Glenn	Stephens James V	Tucker Charles F	Wickham Verna L
Reed Mark	Saunders William L	Sterling Michael A	Turcott-Brink Judith K	Wilkins William I Jr
Reed Rodney A	Scarberry Jesse	Stevens Bryon W	Tysinger R J	Wilkinson Robert E
Reep David	Schlosser Larry D	Stevens Thomas H	United States Cellular	Williams J
Reese Anne L	Schmidt Rachel E	Stewart La Donna	Usa Waste Services Inc	Williams Laura M
Reese Robert E	Schmidt William E	Stewart Richard E	Van Dyke Theda E	Williams Linda L
Reese Ruth S	Schumacher Peter	Stiltner Gregory	Vandyne James Jr	Williams William E
Rehl Robert	Sciance Michael A	Stocker & Sitrer Inc	Vanvickie Eddie E	Wilson Douglas
Reinhart Charlotte R	Seevers James	Stotts Lisa K	Varwig John C	Wilson Duane
Rennard John B	Segrest Energy Gas & Oi	Stotts Michael D	Vasko William C	Wilson Marlene
Repasky Alexander	Seneca Marina	Stowers James P Sr	Vaughn Thomas Jr	Wilson Robert
Rice Debbie K	Sexton Richard M	Strandberg Patricia	Verizon	Wilson William
Rice Thomas E	Shaner Richard O	Stutler Roy L	Vest Edmond	Winland Katherine M
Richards Don	Sheline Gary Dii	Sunnafrank Joyce G	Vickers Heather D	Winland Steven C
Richards Norman E	Shoenfelt Stuart	Swope Ronald E	Viets Timothy	Winn Earl B
Richardson Douglas	Shooter Roger J	Tatar Frank	Wade Shirley D	Wolfe James T
Richmond Lance	Shreve Donald	Taylor Alice M	Wagner Joseph E	Woodman William
Riddle Keith E	Shull Lee	Taylor Mitchell C	Wallace David R	Woods Jay
Ridgeway Raymond E	Sidner Ann	Taylor Peggy A	Waller Michael	Wooley Darren J
Riggle Terry	Sidwell Bros	Tci Cablevision Of Ohio	Walters Debra V	Wright George
Rinehart Greg R	Sigrist Francis J	Teter Jodi L	Ward Esther	Yoder Valentine U
Rittenhouse Charles	Simmons Dorothy A	Texas East Trans Corp	Ward Fredric R	Zimmerman Laura
Robbins Donald L	Sites C	Thomas Gene R	Ward Kenric	

Welcome Austin Prouty

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc. welcomes new employee Austin Prouty. Austin was hired in August as an apprentice lineman. He is a graduate of Tri-Valley High School and he brings fourteen years of work experience from Kokosing Materials. Austin and his wife, Jacquie, reside near Adamsville with their two children, Cohen and Natalie.

Welcome to the cooperative crew, Austin!





Is your home assistant draining energy?

Have you ever wanted to turn off the lights, listen to the news, or order food by simply using your voice? That is the power a home assistant can provide. These handy products have made their way into many homes across the country since the first smart speaker became available in late 2014. By the end of 2018, there were 66.4 million users of smart home assistants or smart home speakers in the U.S.

One in four Americans now owns a smart speaker, and 40% of those people have more than one smart speaker in their homes. The most popular smart speaker is the Amazon Echo, although Google Home products are selling at a rapid rate and even taking over some of the market share from Amazon. Other brands of smart speakers include Apple's HomePod, the Sonos One, and the JBL Link 10, although none of them are nearly as popular as the Amazon or Google products.

These smart speakers can truly act as assistants, whether by helping you set reminders, establishing routine commands, or informing you of today's top stories. They include additional functions, like helping you order products online or playing music — they can even tell you a joke! The Google Home starts at about \$129, and the Amazon Echo starts at about \$180. However, there are smaller, more basic versions of each. The Amazon Echo Dot starts at \$25, and the Google Home Mini starts at \$49.

As smart speakers become more prevalent, you may be wondering if these products impact your energy bills. Tests have been conducted to see how much power a smart speaker uses, including different modes of use, like when the assistant is on standby mode or listening to a command. Moderate-level actions like playing music at full volume have also been tested.

The Amazon Echo speaker uses 3 watts of electricity while on standby, and if it were left on standby mode for one

year, the total cost would only be about \$3.15. While moderately active (like telling a joke or playing music at a medium volume), the Amazon Echo uses 4 watts. At the highest power use (like playing music at full volume), the Amazon Echo still only uses 6.6 watts, which is just slightly more than double its standby use, and if used consistently at this level, it would cost \$6.93 for the year. For comparison, the Google Home uses slightly less energy than the Amazon Echo at 2 watts while in standby mode, saving you about \$1 a year in total energy costs.

As you can see, the cost of using smart speakers is minimal, and the difference in prices between available products and their abilities is still relatively small. There are plenty of reasons to buy a smart speaker, and the additional cost to your energy bill should not stop you from getting one.



The Amazon Echo Plus is one of the most popular smart speakers available on the market today. Photo credit: Amazon

CO-OP NEWS

Geothermal heating and cooling system — \$300 rebate

We have a \$300 rebate to help pay for the most efficient underground heating, cooling, and hot water system available today. To be eligible, the geothermal unit must be ENERGY STAR-rated and have a radio-controlled switch installed on the unit and on the electric water heater of at least 40-gallon capacity. Over 280 of our members are using geothermal.

Dual Fuel — \$300 rebate

If you install a new add-on electric heat pump with a fossil-fuel backup and have an electric water heater of at least 40-gallon capacity, you are eligible for a \$300 rebate. Radio-controlled switches must be installed on both the heat pump and water heater. Please call your cooperative for details. Over 890 members are using Dual Fuel.



Cool Returns — \$100 rebate

Are you having central air conditioning installed or a new electric heat pump with electric resistance heat backup? Allow your cooperative to install a radio-controlled switch and receive a \$100 rebate check. Over 170 members are using Cool Returns.

ENERGY STAR refrigerator/freezer rebate

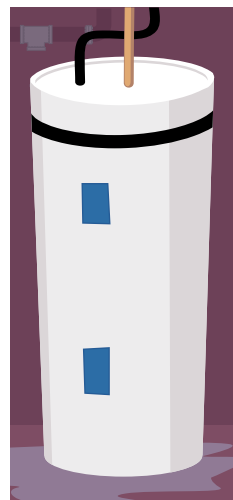
Did you buy a new ENERGY STAR refrigerator or freezer? We may have a \$100 rebate for you. Call member services for details.

Water heater with a hole

The 4-inch hole in the side of our tank is great for cleaning out sediment. This rebated tank is available for free delivery. We also have \$50 or \$100 checks to send you if you purchase a tank somewhere else. Give us a call for details.

Water heater installation available

If you purchase your water heater from GMEC, our member services technician, Tim Fisher, may be able to install your water heater for an additional charge. Give us a call for details.

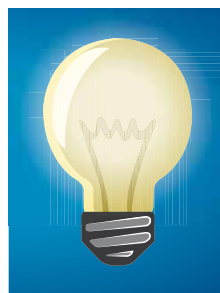


Radio-controlled switch

What a deal! If you don't already have a radio-controlled switch (RCS) for your electric water heater of at least 40-gallon capacity, please call, and Tim Fisher will install one at no charge. Over 5,600 GMEC members have an RCS on their water heaters. The switch entitles you to a discount and free maintenance (except cleaning), including parts and labor, on your electric water heater. Some exclusions apply; call us for details.

GenerLink

We want you to use your portable generator safely. Call the member services department at GMEC and ask about GenerLink. GenerLink eliminates the use of extension cords and other connections that can be dangerous to members and linemen. Over 200 members currently have a GenerLink installed at their homes.



Meter reading

You can enter your meter readings online at our website, www.gmenergy.com. You can also mail your readings or call us 24 hours a day with meter readings.

Co-op Connections card

The Co-op Connections card is free to all GMEC members, and one card can be used by the entire family. The card can be used to receive discounts nationwide on lodging, entertainment, dining, and more. Visit www.gmenergy.com and click on the link to explore the possible discounts available to you.



IT PAYS TO BUY **QUALITY!**

TWO WAYS TO SAVE:

Rebates for water heaters purchased at Guernsey-Muskingum

Prices include:

FREE delivery

FREE maintenance (except cleaning),
including parts & labor

FREE pressure relief valve

FREE radio-controlled switch

1

Vaughn 50-gallon: 11-year warranty
3-inch foam insulation, 4-inch hand-hole cleanout
Dimensions: 28-inch diameter x 52-inch height
Weight: 230 lbs.

\$650 wholesale cost
\$250 member rebate
\$400 net member cost, plus tax

Marathon 85-gallon: Lifetime (same owner) manufacturer warranty
2.5-inch foam insulation
Dimensions: 29-inch diameter x 71-inch height
Weight: 135 lbs.

\$1,150 wholesale cost
\$ 250 member rebate
\$ 900 net member cost, plus tax

Installation may be available for an approximate charge of \$120.

2

Cash back* – For electric water heaters purchased elsewhere, with installation of a radio-controlled switch (hybrid water heaters eligible):

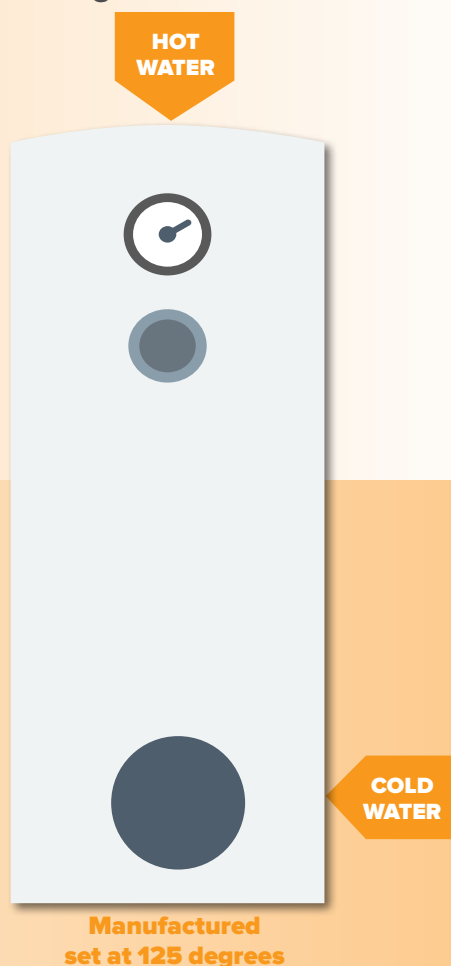
\$100 cash back for:

- 50 gallon
- 7-year warranty (or longer)
- 91% or higher Energy Factor

\$50 cash back for:

- 40 gallon
- 7-year warranty (or longer)
- 91% or higher Energy Factor

**To qualify for cash-back incentives and discounts, members must allow the free installation of a radio-controlled switch. Prices and rebates subject to change. Call Guernsey-Muskingum for more details at 800-521-9879.*





Help us celebrate National Cooperative Month!

Stop in our office every Friday in October from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for free treats and to register to win a \$25 energy credit.

We appreciate our consumer-members!

Christmas Card Contest

Have a budding artist in the family? We're looking for children of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative members to participate in a contest to create the front of Guernsey-Muskingum's 2019 Christmas card. The contest is open to children in grades K through 5.

Entries will be judged on creativity, color, and neatness. The winner will receive a gift card and be announced in the December issue of *Ohio Cooperative Living*.

Parents are encouraged to mail or deliver the card, but please let your child be the artist.

Artwork should be completed on an 8½- by 11-inch plain white piece of paper. Entries must be received in the Guernsey-Muskingum office by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 25. Be sure to include the artist's name, grade, and address with the artwork.

Entries can be dropped off or mailed to:

GMEC
17 S. Liberty St.
New Concord, OH 43762





GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CURRENTLY SPEAKING



Mark your calendar!

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative's Holiday Workshop

Wednesday, Nov. 13, at 6 p.m.

You're sure to have fun!

Refreshments and door prizes provided.

Is your name and account number here?

If it is, call the cooperative's office and receive a **FREE** home change-out to LED lightbulbs (limit six bulbs). Thanks for reading the local pages of *Ohio Cooperative Living* magazine.

#31-0235-10-10.....Laura M Golden

#35-0237-16-05.....Jennifer L Armstrong

#25-0350-16-00.....Russell W Hina

#27-0372-20-01.....Donna Hilterbrand

#46-0195-72-02Clinton D Vinson

#43-0448-16-02.....Larry A Hayes



GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

CONTACT

800-521-9879 | www.gmenergy.com

OFFICE

17 S. Liberty St.
New Concord, OH 43762

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

ELECTRIC RATES

Farm and Home Service rate schedule R-1*
Service Availability Charge — \$22/mo.
First 500 kWh/month — 12.169¢/kWh
Over 500 kWh/month — 10.845¢/kWh

Seasonal Residential Service
rate schedule S-1*

Service Availability Charge — \$360/yr.

First 800 kWh/yr. — 19.769¢/kWh

800 to 6,000 kWh/yr. — \$10.645¢/kWh

Over 6,000 kWh/yr. — 10.845¢/kWh

(Minimum annual charge — \$360/yr.
for service between March 1, 2019,
and Feb. 28, 2020)

Commercial Service rate schedule C-1*

Service Availability Charge — \$24/mo.

First 1,500 kWh/mo. — 12.569¢/kWh

Over 1,500 kWh/mo. — 10.845¢/kWh

*Rider T — Kilowatt-Hour Tax applies to
all rate schedules and must be added to
the rates shown.

First 2,000 kWh/mo. — 0.465¢/kWh

Next 13,000 kWh/mo. — 0.419¢/kWh

Over 15,000 kWh/mo. — 0.363¢/kWh

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