

# Currently Speaking

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

## Board of Directors

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**Jerry Kackley, General Manager/CEO**

## 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

## Learning lessons from the 'older' generation

I MUST FINALLY FACE THE REALITY that I am now part of the “older” generation, a late baby-boomer. I am not sure when it happened. The mirror still reflects the image of a youthful and vibrant man ... then I put my glasses on, and ... wow! Remind me to remove my glasses from the bathroom. Every generation brings with it new potential, fresh ideas and different focus. Each generation must build upon the foundations laid by those who came before. Earlier generations invented the automobile and electricity. They learned how to harness the endless power of the atom and walked on the surface of the moon. My generation has made its mark on this world in many ways, some good, some bad. We have developed cellphone and computer technology that the younger generations have embraced so completely. We have recognized the strength of diversity and the value of compassion. But we have also helped to foster a feeling of privilege and a lifestyle of excess.

I love the song by Bucky Covington titled *A Different World*. The lyrics really describe some of the changes that define the differences between generations. “Had three TV channels we got up to change/No video games and no satellite/All we had were friends and they were outside/No childproof lids, no seat belts in cars/Rode bikes with no helmets and still here we are/No bottled water, we drank from a garden hose and every Sunday all the stores were closed/School always started the same every day, the pledge of allegiance then someone would pray.” I can relate to every word of that song, but I can assure you my daughters do not. I wonder sometimes how folks in my generation were able to survive. Our parents loved us just as much as we love our children, but somehow they understood that we needed to “learn by doing” so that we could grow as human beings. They were always there for us, but we did not always see them when we looked over our shoulders.

I have hope for generations X, Y, and Z because I see their tremendous potential. But they must listen to the older generations so that they can learn from our successes and avoid our mistakes. Life is a wonderful yet difficult journey. We all need assistance along the way, but we must also walk on our own two feet. My one piece of advice for everyone is to embrace your faith. It is foolish to believe that this world and all that exists around us could have ever been created without divine intervention. I see the love of God in all life, in all generations. Do great things and make us old folks proud. God bless. ☪



**Jerry Kackley,**  
General Manager/CEO

# Electricity thieves steal from YOU

The thieves who steal from your cooperative are stealing from you because you are a member-owner of the cooperative.

There are three types of electricity thieves: 1) Those who steal electricity by tampering with a meter or equipment; 2) those who steal wire or materials from poles, pole yards or substations; and 3) those who illegally reconnect their electric service after the service has been disconnected because they have failed to pay their bills.

The laws of the State of Ohio say ignorance is no excuse. According to the law, no witness to the equipment tampering is needed as evidence. The case can be proven by showing that the meter or other equipment has been tampered with. The owner of the property is presumed guilty of the tampering unless he or she can present persuasive evidence that someone else committed the crime.

When caught, electricity thieves may be prosecuted and could end up paying fees and penalties well beyond the value of the electricity they stole. In addition, tampering with a meter or equipment can have deadly consequences for the thief and for others who come close to energized equipment. There are numerous cases around Ohio and the country where a thief's last action on earth was attempting to steal from a utility company.

You can help us stop the thieves by paying close attention to activity around utility poles, substations, meters and other Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative equipment. Call Guernsey-Muskingum or the sheriff if you observe suspicious activity or suspect tampering has occurred. Calls may be anonymous.

You pay your electric bills, and thieves should pay theirs and not steal from you.



# Heat pumps *101*

Is an air-source or ground-source heat pump right for your home?

THERE ARE TWO BASIC TYPES of heat pump technology: air source and ground source. In an air-source heat pump, the equipment uses the outside air to heat and cool your home. A ground-source heat pump uses good old Mother Earth's dirt.

Once you get a short distance below the surface, around a depth of 4 feet, the ground temperature stays a reasonably constant 50 to 55 degrees Fahrenheit year-round. Have you ever gone into a cave or tour a cavern? In the summer, it is nice and cool. In the winter, it feels warm. What you sense is the difference between the outside temperature and that of the cavern below ground.

Ground-source heat pumps use this temperature difference to heat and cool a building. These systems need some sort of heat exchanger installed underground, either vertically or horizontally, and filled with a fluid. The equipment at the house itself resembles a typical heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) system. It uses pumps and compressors to move the fluid through pipes inside the house and in the ground, where it picks up or gives off heat, depending upon the need. The process is rather simple, using a fluid to move (or pump) heat from one place to another.

With air-source heat pumps, the system takes advantage of small differences in temperature using the proper compressor and refrigerant mix. Just like its ground-source cousin, the air-source heat pump moves heat from one spot to another. The difference is that the medium to exchange heat is the outside air, rather than the ground.

Heat pumps are much more energy efficient than traditional heating and cooling systems, but they do have some drawbacks. In extremely cold climates,

air-source units lose their ability to heat effectively around 17 degrees Fahrenheit. Below that temperature, they have to use electric "resistance" heat to keep up, and they can quickly become expensive to operate. In temperate climates, they are likely your best choice for heating and cooling, especially for forced-air applications. While some companies have worked to build a cold-climate model, it is still a work in progress. Ground-source systems can operate in nearly any climate and work well with both baseboard hot-water and forced-air systems. But they're expensive to install because of the need for a ground loop.

Heat pumps, properly applied, can make a world of difference to your monthly bill as well as to your comfort. Talk to the energy experts at Guernsey-Muskingum and find out if a heat pump will work for your heating and cooling needs. ☞

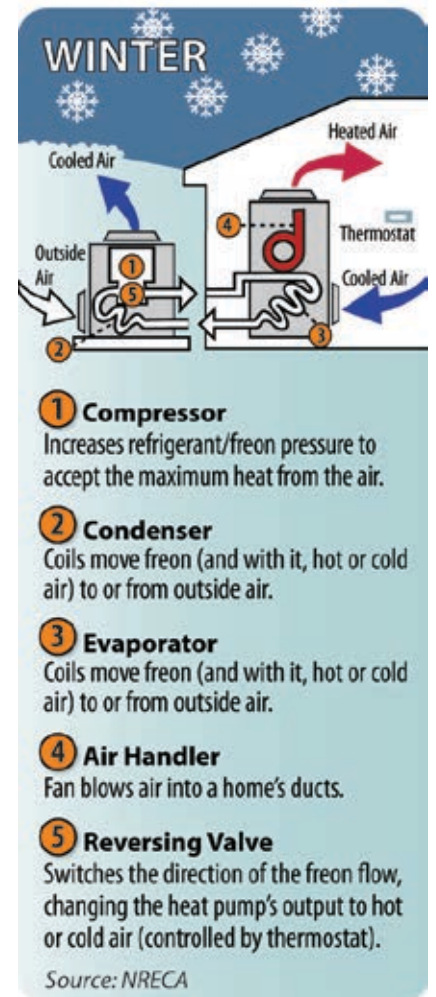
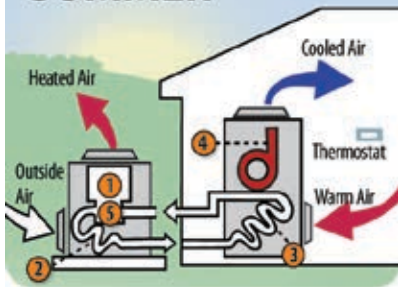


Ray Crock,  
Energy Advisor

## How Do Air-Source Heat Pumps Work?

By transferring heat between a house and outside air, these devices trim electricity use by as much as 30 percent to 40 percent in moderate climates.

### SUMMER



# Annual Holiday Workshop: **Nov. 4**

The Holiday Workshop at Guernsey-Muskingum Electric on Wednesday, Nov. 4.

We will offer one workshop in the evening from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Guernsey-Muskingum office, 17 St. Liberty St., New Concord.

This year there will be great learning opportunities, including hands-on activities. If you would like to attend this fun-filled evening, please call GMEC's Member Services at 1-800-521-9879. There is no charge to attend.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn some great tips to help you prepare for the holiday season.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Reduce your water-heating bills by taking simple steps like lowering your water heater's temperature and installing low-flow showerheads.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

## Holiday office hours

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric's office will be closed for the following holidays, but please note **the drive-up window will be open on the Saturdays after:**



**Thanksgiving: Thursday, Nov. 26 - Friday, Nov. 27**  
**Drive-up window open Saturday, Nov. 28**

**Christmas Eve, Day: Thursday, Dec. 24 - Friday, Dec. 25**  
**Drive-up window open Saturday, Dec. 26**

**New Year's Day: Friday, Jan. 1**  
**Drive-up window open Saturday, Jan. 2**

If outages occur during the holidays, call 800-521-9879 for emergency service.  
GMEC's payment dropbox is always available for your convenience.



## HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative's board of directors and employees wish all members a happy Thanksgiving.

### 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.

- #24-0563-40-00..... Jamie R Slate
- #21-0029-21-07 ..... Jayme L Wisecarver
- #22-0402-06-00 ..... Don Palco Sr
- #71-0262-34-00..... Paul Bailey
- #43-0142-14-01..... David K St Clair
- #52-0181-10-03..... Barbara J Moore