

## GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CURRENTLY SPEAKING

# MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

The dog days of summer bring smiles to those of you loving the heat and always concern from your power company about the peak demand issues that arise during this time of year. Whenever you hear a peak alert, please pay attention to this, as it does help if you can reduce your usage of electricity.

The way your cooperative is billed for energy usage is heavily geared toward the demand needs of the system. This has changed over the years, and now we are charged with much higher for our maximum, or peak demand the time at which we used the most electricity. It is possible to have low usage most of the time but very high peak demand, which creates a low load factor. The best rate for all would be a high load factor, meaning we use a consistent level of power all day and night long with very few spikes in usage.

We have offered ways to reduce your usage in the past with LED lightbulbs and energy efficient appliance rebates to help you, our members, control your electric usage. Now if you can help us spread that load consistently over 24 hours as much as possible, it would be the best of both worlds. If



Brian Hill GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

you have questions on energy efficiency, do not hesitate to reach out to us.

# **Beat the peak!**

Did you know that the cost of electricity goes up during periods of peak demand?



Normally, electricity costs only pennies per kilowatt-hour.



During peak load times, it can cost as high as a dollar per kilowatt-hour!





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# **Energy efficiency** keeps improving – even through a pandemic



Americans keep getting more efficient in their use of energy, a trend that has even powered its way through the pandemic. Experts are starting to publish energy statistics gathered from 2020, a year that seemed to upend every part of our lives, and energy was no exception.

Last year saw a 7% drop in energy use in the U.S., the largest annual decrease since those figures first started being collected in 1949, says the Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration (EIA). EIA attributes much of that decrease to the economy's reaction to the coronavirus.

#### **Sleeping later**

Energy consumption didn't just drop — it shifted as well. Commercial energy use fell dramatically as people stayed home from the office. Residential use rose because, of course, people stayed home from the office. People even slept later — some areas reported peak morning electricity use moving from around 6 a.m. when people would normally shower and make breakfast before leaving the house to go to work to later in the day, as people simply walked from their kitchen to their home office.

Several well-established, long-term energy use trends include:



- Residential energy use per household fell 16% from 2001 to 2018.
- Automobiles continued a 20-year trend that has increased average fuel economy more than 30%, from 19.6 miles per gallon in 2011 to 25.7.
- Use of highly efficient LED bulbs has grown from a 20% market share in 2015 to 60% in 2019 and that trend won't be reversed since LEDs last well over 10 years.
- One measure of efficiency is "energy intensity," which calculates how much energy is consumed per dollar of the nation's gross domestic product. In 2020, that number was about half of what it was 30 years ago, and it's projected to fall further in the next 30 years.

#### **Built-in efficiency**

That forecast for the next 30 years comes from a new EIA report, *Annual Energy Outlook 2021*. While the report projects energy use will not completely return to 2019 levels until 2025, it "does not project long-term structural changes in electricity demand resulting from the pandemic."

If the pandemic hasn't permanently changed the longterm structure of the energy industry, the report says it also won't affect the march toward greater efficiency.

Here's a partial list of why the EIA says the U.S. will keep getting more energy efficient: "Currently established increases in efficiency standards, building codes, and incentives lead to energy efficiency improvements ... changing technology, behavior, and policy."

So, as you and the rest of the world sort out how many meetings will be forever replaced by Zoom calls, we can count on continued improvements in motor vehicle fuel economy, lighting, building codes, and other energy saving measures that will keep going long into a postpandemic world.





# New employee

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative Inc. welcomes new employee Sam Zimmer. Sam was hired in June as an accountant. Sam is a graduate of John Glenn High School and Muskingum University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in public accounting and business.

Welcome to the cooperative crew, Sam!



# Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 🔨





# New lineman

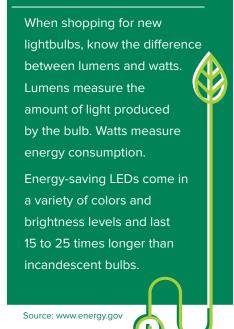
Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc. welcomes new employee Dale Goodwin. Dale was hired in June as a journeyman lineman. He brings work experience from American Electric Power, where he was the principal training specialist at the distribution training center. Dale resides near Chandlersville with his wife Theresa and their two sons Bryden and Heath.

Welcome to the cooperative crew, Dale!



## GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CURRENTLY SPEAKING

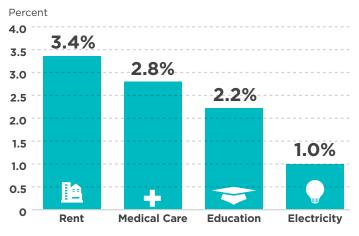
## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



# ELECTRICITY REMAINS A GOOD VALUE

The cost of powering your home rises slowly when compared to other common expenses. Looking at price increases over the last five years, it's easy to see electricity remains a good value!

#### Average Annual Price Increase 2015-2020



Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index

### Is your name and account number here?

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

#11-0563-20-02......Jeff Nabb #12-0595-17-01.....Judy L Bush #21-0206-03-00.....Dwight Minner #41-0121-07-07......Sarajean Shalosky #53-0232-19-02 ..... Allison A Reed #68-0006-20-09 ... Mallory M Muffet

#### 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 — \$24/mo. First 500 kWh/month — 12.669¢/kWh Over 500 kWh/month — 11.345¢/kWh Net Metering Residential R-1 NM\* Service Availability Charge — \$42/mo. First 2,000 kWh/mo. — 11.145¢/kWh Over 2,000 kWh/mo. — 11.345¢/kWh Seasonal Residential Service rate schedule S-1\* Service Availability Charge — \$384/yr. First 800 kWh/yr. — 20.269¢/kWh 800 to 6,000 kWh/yr. — 11.145¢/kWh Over 6,000 kWh/yr. — 11.345¢/kWh (Minimum annual charge — \$384/yr. for service between March 1, 2021, and Feb. 28, 2022)

Commercial Service rate schedule C-1\* Service Availability Charge — \$26/mo. First 1,500 kWh/mo. — 13.069¢/kWh Over 1,500 kWh/mo. — 11.345¢/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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