



MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



STAY BACK AND STAY SAFE



Brian Hill
GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

Working with electricity can be a dangerous job, especially for lineworkers. In fact, *USA Today* lists line repairers and installers among the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. That's why safety is the number one priority for Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative. This isn't empty talk. Over time, we have created a culture of putting our crews' safety and that of the community above all else.

Our mission is to provide safe, reliable, and affordable energy to you, our consumer-members. Yes, we strive to deliver affordable and reliable electricity, but it's equally important that our employees return home safely to their loved ones. This requires ongoing focus, dedication, vigilance — and your help!

Distractions can be deadly

While we appreciate your kindness and interest in the work of our crews, we ask that you stay back and let them focus on their task. Even routine work has the potential to be dangerous, and it takes the full attention of the whole crew. Distractions can have deadly consequences. If a lineworker is on or near your property during a power outage, for vegetation management, or for routine maintenance, please allow them ample room to work. These small accommodations help protect our crews — and you.

If you have a dog, try to keep it indoors while lineworkers are on or near your property. While most dogs are friendly, some are defensive of their territory and can't distinguish between a burglar and a utility worker. Our crews work best without a pet "supervising" the job.

We recognize that for your family's safety, you want to make sure only authorized workers are on or near your property. You will recognize Guernsey-Muskingum employees by their service trucks with our name and logo on them. You may also recognize our lineworkers because they live right here in our local community.

Slow down and move over

In addition to giving lineworkers some space while they are near your property, we also ask that you move over or slow down when approaching a utility vehicle on the side of the road. Just as Ohio's Move Over Law requires you to move over for first responders and tow truck drivers, you must also slow down and move over for utility crews. This extra barrier of safety helps those who help all of us.



Keeping pets (and energy bills!) comfortable



Ray Crock

than dogs, and they do a good job of reducing their activity level as temperatures climb. But both cats and dogs can get overheated. The USDA says that room temperatures in facilities housing dogs or cats should not exceed 85 F for more than four hours at a time.

When winter comes, you should know that both cats and dogs can handle the cold better than humans. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), which regulates facilities that house cats and dogs, requires those facilities to maintain temperatures above 50 F. Some exceptions are allowed for breeds accustomed to the cold or if some form of insulation for the animals is provided. Your pet's tolerance really depends on their breed and the thickness of their coat.

A report by the Purdue Center for Animal Science says that Siberian huskies can tolerate temperatures below freezing, but some short-haired dogs require temperatures of 59 F or higher. Older animals may require warmer temperatures than younger ones.

Using garage space

Some pet owners like to have their animals stay in the garage overnight. USDA rules suggest this should be fine if your garage temperature stays between 50 F and 85 F. Pets might be able to handle a lower temperature if they have a warm, insulated bed.

However, heating or cooling your garage for your pet's safety and comfort is not a good energy choice. An uninsulated garage could easily cost more to heat or cool than a home. A better solution is a climate-controlled pet house, which you can purchase from multiple retailers.

You can also purchase heated beds for cats and dogs. Some beds use as little as 4 watts of electricity, so they won't drain your energy bill.

Keep these helpful tips in mind as you work at saving energy while caring for your two-legged and four-legged family members!

Many of us consider our pets to be part of our family, and we should take them into consideration when planning energy use or energy savings in our homes.

Considering a pet door?

Pet doors are convenient for pet owners and pets, but they can impact energy bills. A pet door that is poorly made or improperly installed will create unwanted drafts that increase energy bills and reduce the overall comfort level of your home. The wrong type of door may also be pushed open during high winds.

Consider installing a pet door that is certified by the Alliance to Save Energy (ASE) or has a double or triple flap. The best solution may be a high-quality electronic door that is activated by a chip on your pet's collar. It's difficult to undo a pet door installation, though, so before taking the leap, do your homework. There may be other strategies that will give you and your pet some of the convenient benefits without the downsides.

Indoor temperatures

We try to keep our thermostats lower in winter months and higher in summer months to save energy, but have you ever wondered how this affects your pets? During summer, cats and dogs handle the heat in different ways. Cats clearly enjoy warmer temperatures



Cardinal Plant Tour

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

You, a cooperative member, are one of the owners of the Cardinal Power Plant in Brilliant, Ohio, and this is a chance to see it in operation.

A bus ride, tour, and lunch will be provided for members on Wednesday, Oct. 2.

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

Please be aware that in the event that there is a "high" or 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.

*Please, be our guests!
But don't delay!*

10th ANNUAL FARM SCIENCE REVIEW BUS TRIP

Wednesday, Sept. 18

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

Seats will remain at \$25 each this year.

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 ticket to the Farm Science Review.

Bus departs Cambridge at 6 a.m., and Zanesville at 6:30 a.m.

I WILL BOARD THE BUS AT _____ CAMBRIDGE _____ ZANESVILLE

Mail or return to:

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc. • 17 S. Liberty St., New Concord, OH 43762

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



GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CURRENTLY SPEAKING

WHAT IS OPERATION HELPING OTHERS?

Over 5,000 GMEC members have signed up to participate in Operation Helping Others (OHO). If you are one of those members, thank you! If you are not familiar with OHO, here is how it works:

OHO is a voluntary program that rounds up your electric bill to the next dollar and uses the spare change as a donation to fund needs in our community. In the example below, Willie's 56¢ combines with other members' donations to make a big difference in our communities.

OHO is not a program to pay Guernsey-Muskingum electric bills. Funding comes entirely from members who voluntarily

participate. Every penny raised by your donations to OHO go toward assisting the needs in our community.

The OHO Committee, consisting of one appointed volunteer from each district, determines how the donations will be distributed. Since its inception, Operation Helping Others has provided over \$389,000 in the Guernsey-Muskingum area.

For more information or to sign up for OHO, please call the office at 800-521-9879.



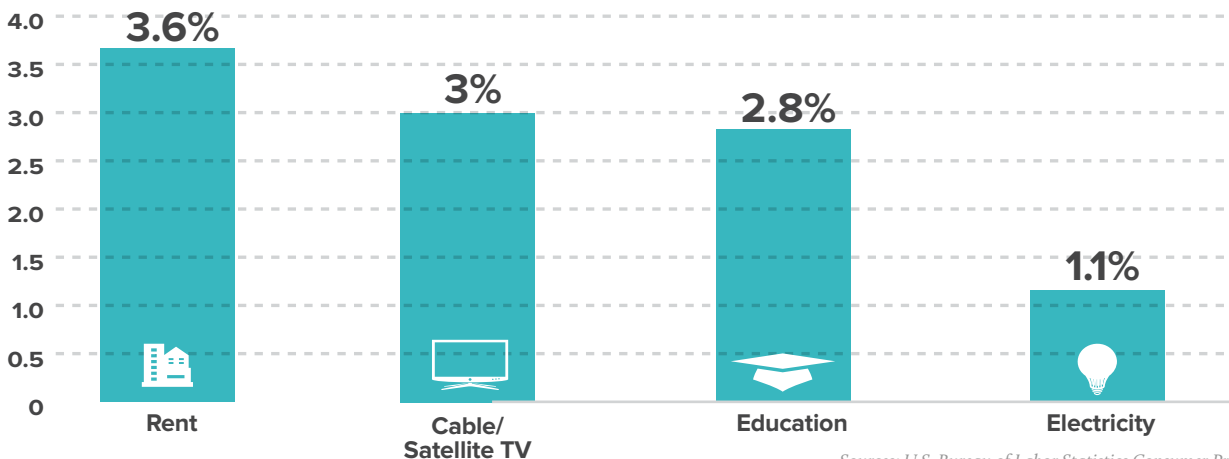
Willie Wiredhand's electric bill	\$73.44
Willie rounds up his bill and pays	\$74.00
Donation	56¢

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 2013-2018

Percent



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

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

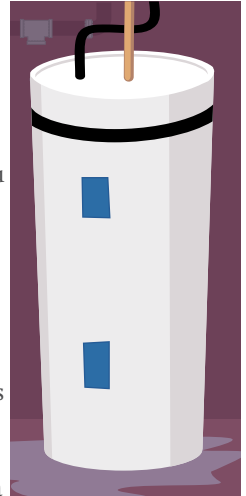
Did you buy a new ENERGY STAR refrigerator or freezer? We may have a \$100 rebate for you. Call member services for details.

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.



We want to hear from you!



Help us plan for future energy needs.

This August through October, the cooperative will be working with Clearspring Energy to survey our members about the appliances they own. The purpose of the survey is to help us understand how members use electricity so we can plan for future energy needs. The surveys will be by email or postal mail, but not everyone will be contacted. If you are contacted, we would greatly appreciate a few minutes of your time to share your feedback with the cooperative.

We strive to provide all members with safe, affordable, and reliable electric service. By participating in the survey, you will help us make decisions that benefit you, your family, and your neighbors. All information is confidential.

Thank you!

**OHIO'S ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVES**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 

IT PAYS TO BUY QUALITY!

TWO WAYS TO SAVE:

Rebates for water heaters purchased at Guernsey-Muskingum

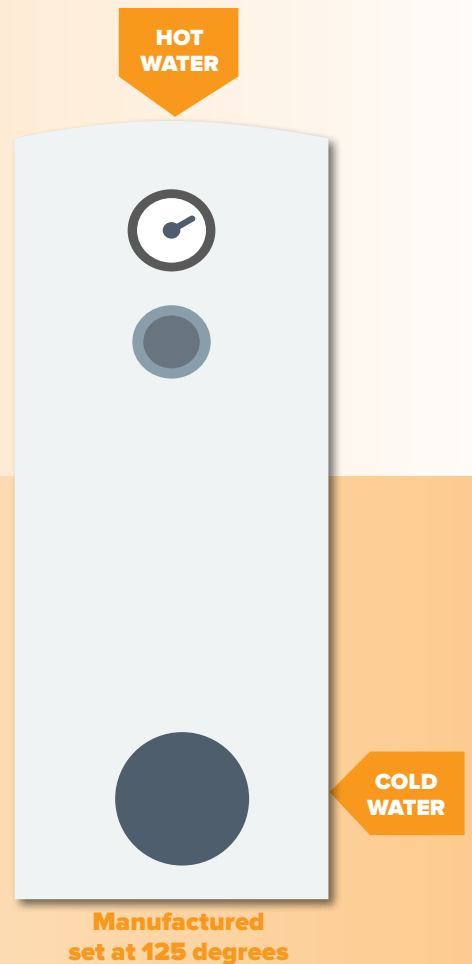
Prices include:

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 cash back for |
| • 50 gallon | • 40 gallon |
| • 7-year warranty (or longer) | • 7-year warranty (or longer) |
| • 91% or higher Energy Factor | • 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.*



GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CURRENTLY SPEAKING



On Thursday, July 4, Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative will be closed so that our employees may enjoy the holiday with their families. We wish you a safe and happy holiday!

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

When it's warm out, avoid using the oven. Try cooking on the stove, using the microwave, or grilling outside instead.

Source: *energy.gov*



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.

#12-0817-28-00Chad Rodgers

#24-0373-04-09Kaleb Dosch

#32-0352-46-01.....Susan F Stevens

#43-0689-03-01.....Lynn O Mast

#42-0229-26-00.....

Shawn Crosby

#20-0294-45-00.....

Delfred C Stahnke

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, 2018, and Feb. 28, 2019)

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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