

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	<u>\$18/month</u>
First 500 kWh/month	<u>12.769¢/kWh</u>
Over 500 kWh/month	@ <u>10.645¢/kWh</u>

Seasonal Residential Service annual rate schedule S-1*

Service Availability Charge	<u>\$216/year</u>
First 800 kWh/year	@ <u>20.769¢/kWh</u>
Over 800 to 6,000 kWh/year	@ <u>11.645¢/kWh</u>
Over 6,000 kWh/year	@ <u>10.645¢/kWh</u>

(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	<u>\$18/month</u>
First 1,500 kWh/month	@ <u>12.769¢/kWh</u>
Over 1,500 kWh/month	@ <u>10.645¢/kWh</u>

*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

How it all *works*

I HAVE ALWAYS considered myself a man of reasonable intelligence. I grew up on a farm where I learned a lot about a wide variety of topics ranging from gardening to mechanics.

Common sense was a job requirement every day, and it was essential to avoid accidents and injuries (which I had my share of anyway). I credit my parents, brothers and sisters for sharing their knowledge, life experiences and love with me over the years — they were great teachers.

I am not a big reader, so I prefer to gain an understanding of things through hands-on experience. I can read the instruction manual, but the words don't sink in until I actually start turning the wrench. That is when the "a-ha" moment happens for me.

I can generally figure out how something functions by watching it operate or by taking it apart. But I'm amazed by the ingenuity and natural ability that some folks seem to possess. How is it possible that the Einsteins, Edisons and Franklins of our world had such genius that they could create complicated devices and machines from mere ideas? The computer I'm using at this very moment is an excellent example. Have you ever dismantled a computer? It is impossible to figure out how such a machine functions. Where are the gears for goodness' sakes? No sane person could have come up with that technology.

My wife gets aggravated with me because I like to watch the series "How It's Made" instead of her favorite channel, HGTV. I just can't help myself — the precision and sophistication of the machines and processes are amazing. Who needs to watch a home renovation when they can witness the creation of blueberry turnovers in mass production? That, my friends, is genius at work!

But all these inventions pale in comparison to the beauty that surrounds us. Just look around. The world we live in is spectacular and stunning, and it is filled with wondrous and complicated creations. There are 7 billion unique human beings on this earth, and the complexity of each individual makes a computer seem like a mere tinker toy.

None of this would be possible without God, the ultimate inventor and creator. And He does it all using only one tool — LOVE.

God bless. ☸



Jerry Kackley,
General Manager/CEO

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Periodically inspect your dryer vent to ensure it is not blocked. This will save energy and may prevent a fire. Manufacturers recommend using a rigid venting material — not plastic vents that may collapse and cause blockages.

Source: energy.gov

A change for the better

Replacing filters in heating and cooling units increases efficiency and prolongs life span

When it comes to energy efficiency in the home, sometimes small changes can make a big impact. An unglamorous task like changing your heating and cooling system's filters keeps the unit running more efficiently, and it can also save money.

As a home's occupants move around, dust from carpets, furniture and drapes is driven into the air. Dust and dirt trapped in a system's air filter leads to several problems, including:

- reduced air flow in the home,
- up to 15 percent higher operating costs,
- costly duct cleaning or replacement, and
- lowered system efficiency.

Professionals recommend that the filter on a central air-conditioning unit or furnace be changed monthly. It's simple and easy, and in many cases, it only takes a few minutes.

Filters are available in a variety of types and efficiencies rated by a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV), which is a method developed by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers that tests filter effectiveness. The higher the MERV, the more effective the filter is at keep-

ing dust out of your heating and cooling system. While most types of filters must be replaced, some are reusable. And don't forget about the winter months. Your heating system needs to work as efficiently as possible to keep you warm, and a clean air filter helps it do just that.

Heating and cooling professionals recommend turning your system off before changing the air filter. Make sure that the arrow on the filter, which indicates the direction of the airflow, is pointing toward the blower motor. When you've made the change, turn your system back on.

Beyond saving money and improving the air quality in your home, changing air filters is a great opportunity to teach your family about energy efficiency. Consider getting everyone involved, and the entire family will learn how simple changes can make a big difference.

For other tips on how to save, visit the GMEC website at www.gmenergy.com, or call the GMEC efficiency experts at 740-826-7661.




ASK YOUR ENERGY ADVISOR



Ray Crock,
Energy Advisor

Maintaining your air conditioner

Annual maintenance can help improve indoor comfort and the efficiency of an air conditioner while prolonging the life of the unit. Hire a certified professional when your unit needs more than basic maintenance.

- 1 Routinely replace or clean air filters. This can lower an air conditioner's energy consumption by 5-15 percent. 
- 2 Check the air conditioner's evaporator coil every year and clean it as necessary.
- 3 If coil fins are bent, use a "fin comb" to straighten them.
- 4 Have a split system? Be sure to clean debris and leaves from the fan, compressor and condenser. 
- 5 Occasionally pass a stiff wire through the unit's drain channels to prevent clogs.
- 6 For window air conditioners, inspect the window seals to keep cool air from escaping. 

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Reserve your spot for the Cardinal Plant Tour on Sept. 30

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 for you 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.

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.

#11-0484-34-00 Mary Shook
#29-0281-25-04 Jamie M Shuster
#21-0140-01-05 Rachel A Miller
#52-0549-17-00 Mark E Johnson
#50-0403-07-02 Beth A Smith
#53-0204-01-03 Edith E Warne

GMEC KARAOKE CONTEST

"COUNTRY STYLE"

WHEN: Sunday, Aug. 16 @ 7 p.m.
Registration starts at 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: Muskingum County
Fairgrounds Entertainment Tent

WHO: First 30 people to register

PRESENTED BY: Guernsey-Muskingum
Electric Cooperative

WHAT: A \$50 prepaid VISA to the
winner of each age group:

- Under 18
- 18 to 35
- 36 to 50
- Over 50

RULES:
Fairground admission
is not included.

Singing order will be
randomly selected at
registration and cannot be
changed.

Singers can bring their
own CDs or use Sandy's.

Music will end after
four minutes.

Singers must
be present at their turn.



Two GMEC students visit D.C. with Youth Tour in June



Noah Moulton and Caleb Zinn were selected to represent Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative this year at the Washington Youth Tour. Noah and Caleb joined 37 other students from Ohio and West Virginia for the seven-day, all-expense-paid trip.

The weeklong tour included a stop in Gettysburg, Pa., as well as at the Jefferson and Lincoln memorials, Arlington Cemetery and the National Zoo. Students also experienced a night cruise on the Potomac River.

The tour is offered in conjunction with Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Guernsey-Muskingum's statewide service organization, to allow students a chance to learn about the principles and practices of American democracy and to gain a better understanding of rural electric cooperatives and how they work.

Noah (at left in the photo) and Caleb were chosen to attend from all applications received based on an interview at the GMEC office in March. Noah, a junior at Bishop Rosecrans High School, is the son of Danny and Annette Moulton of Philo. Caleb, a senior at Maysville High School, is the son of Chris and Amy Zinn of Mt. Perry.