

Currently Speaking

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

17 S. Liberty St.
New Concord, Ohio 43762
800-521-9879
www.gmenergy.com

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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, 2016, and Feb. 28, 2017.)

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Summer sun and stable rates: What's to come?



Jerry Kackley,
General Manager/CEO

AUGUST IS HERE — that means that the 'dog days' of summer are now upon us. I heard on the news just the other day that the single 90-plus degree day we experienced in early June was the hottest day in our area since 2012. That sort of shocked me because I remember the oppressive heat during the derecho in July 2012, and I must say it was nasty. That warm day in June didn't even begin to compare with that terrible week.

While I cannot know yet what the summer of 2016 has in store for us (I write my columns over a month in advance of publication), my hope is that July, August, and September will not be extreme weather months. While the air-conditioning use can certainly help our revenues, it means higher bills for our members, and I wouldn't wish that on any of you. And I'm absolutely sure that none of us want storms or the potential outages that accompany them.

Looking back at the year so far, we had a very mild winter, which translates into lower-than-budgeted revenues and margins so far in 2016. The co-op's financial strength or weakness is very much tied to our residential loads — individual members like you. Our growing commercial loads are certainly important to us, but GMEC still gets nearly 75 percent of our revenue through residential sales. January, February, and March are still our biggest use months due to electric heating, though use in August and September has grown in recent years due to AC loads.

Rates have been stable for the past four years, actually decreasing by \$3 per 1,000 kWh since 2012. That's amazing to me, and it's certainly a welcome change from the significant rate increases of the past decade when our members felt the financial impact from the cost of the new pollution equipment installed at Cardinal Power Plant. If you have not had an opportunity to tour the Cardinal plant, the next trip will be Sept. 28, so give us a call, and we can pencil you in.

What direction will rates go in 2016, 2017, or beyond? I wish I knew. Rates will be impacted by the economy in our area, the potential return of the Utica development, the weather, and more importantly, the cost of any additional EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) regulations that might be implemented in the coming years. Whether I like it or not, I have almost no control over any of these.

As always, we will use our heads and our hearts to guide us, asking for God's direction and the continued support of our members. After all, we are in this together. Enjoy that summer sun! ☺

*Have a wonderful day!
God Bless! Jerry*

Wow! *What a deal!*

Here's a scenario: Say you're shopping for a new car. You want a good car for the money you spend but feel you don't need the best or most luxurious automobile available. One dealer is offering a low-priced car at full retail markup with a five-year warranty. Another dealer is offering a Cadillac 40 percent off his wholesale cost with an eleven-year warranty and free service for the life of the car. On top of that, he will deliver it to your home and give you a discount on all the gasoline it uses. The final price of the two cars is close, although the second may be a little higher.

Which are you interested in? Do I have your attention?

I always write these articles with the goal of helping our members find ways to save money. With that in mind, I feel the need to remind everyone of a great savings opportunity similar to the scenario I just started with.

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative offers Vaughn water heaters to our members at \$250 below our wholesale cost. This is a 40 percent discount on a 50-gallon electric water heater. It comes with an eleven-year full replacement warranty, and we provide free service for the life of the tank. On top of that, it's delivered free to your house, and you can even get up to a \$1 discount on your electric bill every month. This tank is more heavily insulated than your average tank and is equipped with a clean-

out hole and a stone lining.

So why would anyone buy a tank anywhere else? I'm not sure. I received a call from a member I know asking about our water heaters for a rental he owns. Several months later, I saw him and asked if he ever replaced it. He responded that he found a "better deal." However, I replied that he did not find a "better deal" — he just found a cheaper water heater.

You are now probably wondering how and why we do this. We offer this service to our members in return for taking part in our electric load management program. We install a radio-controlled switch that allows us to shed electric load during a few peak hours each year. In the electric industry, lowering electric peaks — or occasions of high electric use — is a big bang for your buck. Savings like this help keep everyone's rates as low as possible. In fact, your cooperative has been doing this program since the 1970s.

We also offer rebates and free service on tanks purchased elsewhere if you have a switch installed. To learn more or to see how you can be part of the program, call GMEC at 800-521-9879 or visit www.gmenergy.com.



Ray Crock,
Energy Advisor



Annual Youth Tour teaches students about democracy

Samantha Mozena and Zed Redd were selected to represent Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative this year at the annual Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. Samantha and Zed joined approximately 39 other students from around Ohio for the seven-day, all-expense-paid trip in June.

The week-long tour of the capital included a stop in Gettysburg, a meeting with members of Congress, visits to the Jefferson and Lincoln memorials, Arlington Cemetery, and the National Zoo, as well as a night cruise on the Potomac River.

The tour is offered in conjunction with Ohio's Rural Electric Cooperatives to teach students about the principles and practices of American democracy and how rural electric cooperatives function.

Samantha, a junior at Tri-Valley High School, is the daughter of Denny and Valerie Mozena of Zanesville. Zed, a senior at Meadowbrook High School, is the son of Nathan and Marci Redd of Lore City.

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 1-800-521-9879.

You — a cooperative member — are one of the owners of the Cardinal Power Plant in Brilliant, Ohio, and on Wednesday, Sept. 28, you'll have the chance to see it in operation. 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 soon — 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 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 — call us now!

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Is your room air conditioner working overtime? Reduce air leaks by installing rigid foam panels (instead of the commonly used accordion panels) in between the window frame and unit, and secure with duct tape.

Source: energy.gov

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.

#51-1188-42-00..... Jan Collins
 #31-0620-24-00 Harlena D Bobb
 #10-0186-18-00 Jason Griffin
 #53-0382-40-02.....Angela Rose
 #58-0296-16-01.....Robert A Pulley
 #16-0007-20-00 Wayne H Dearth

7th Annual Farm Science Review Bus Trip

Wednesday, Sept. 21

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.

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.

“Country Style” Karaoke Contest

WHEN:

Sunday, Aug. 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
Registration starts at 5:30 p.m.

WHERE:

Muskingum County Fairgrounds Entertainment Tent

WHO:

First 30 to register

WHAT:

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

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

RULES:

Fairground admission not included. Singing order will be randomly selected at registration, and bumping to a later spot will not be permitted. Singers can bring their own CDs or use Sandy’s. Music will end after four minutes, and singers must be present when it’s their time to perform.



IT PAYS TO BUY QUALITY!

TWO WAYS TO SAVE:

1) Rebates — For water heaters purchased at Guernsey-Muskingum:

- Prices include: **FREE delivery**
FREE maintenance (except cleaning), including parts and labor
FREE pressure relief valve
FREE radio-controlled switch

50 gallon: dimensions — 28” dia. x 52” height (Weight = 230 lbs.)
 \$625 wholesale cost
\$250 member rebate
\$375 net member cost, plus tax

80 gallon: dimensions — 32” dia. x 59” height (Weight = 345 lbs.)
 \$850 wholesale cost
\$250 member rebate
\$600 net member cost, plus tax

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

2) Cash back — for electric storage water heaters purchased elsewhere, with installation of a radio-controlled switch (hybrid water heaters not eligible)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>\$100 cash back:</u> | <u>\$50 cash back:</u> |
| ✓ 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 for load control purposes. Prices and rebates subject to change. Call Guernsey-Muskingum for more details at 1-800-521-9879.

