

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

Board of Directors

Jim Rex Chairman
Jay Gray Vice Chairman
Shirley Stutz Secy.-Treasurer
Ed Bay Director
John Enos Director
Brian Hill Director
Duane Parks Director
Joseph P. Boeckman Counsel
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.

Times are changing



Jerry Kackley,
General Manager/CEO

I MUST BE GETTING OLD, because I find that more things annoy me now than when I was younger. As wonderful as life is, I find myself adding items regularly to my list of “stuff that bothers me.” Many of these issues are generational: pants drooping to expose colorful underwear, shoes with laces dangling, tattoos, body piercings, cell-phones, social media...I could go on.

In my day, the belt was not only a useful tool to prevent pants from sagging, but with the right buckle, it was also a fashion accessory (and on rare occasions, a disciplinary device). We would double knot our shoe laces to ensure they would remain tied, and we invented Velcro for those who struggled with tying things. My only tattoos came from a box of Cracker Jack and faded away after a couple washings. Women pierced their ears, and that was about it. Anyone who had witnessed my father putting a ring in a bull’s nose would not contemplate piercing his or her own. And communication: We talked, for goodness’ sake — using the spoken word!

Yes, times are a-changing, and I must admit that it isn’t all bad. I can’t tell you how many times I have repaired something using YouTube as my guide. But one thing that hasn’t changed since the day our wonderful country was established is that the very essence of our democracy relies on each of us voting. Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative supports the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s (NRECA) “Co-ops Vote” campaign. In 2012, rural voter turnout was down a staggering 18 percent, and folks, that is simply not acceptable — there is just too much at stake. There are millions of cooperative members eligible to vote, and together, we can make a difference. So here’s your checklist:

1. Register to vote by October 11.
2. Early voting starts October 12, so you can avoid the lines.
3. Absentee/mail-in ballots are available by contacting your county election board.
4. Visit www.action.coop to let your voice be heard.
5. Contact GMEC to join ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action® or to become more informed on issues that affect you.
6. Vote on Nov. 8, if you choose not to vote early.

Let your voice and your frustrations be heard. See ya at the polls! ☺

God Bless! Jerry

“Breaking Free” September story correction

In the September issue of *Country Living* magazine, page 22’s story, “Breaking Free: Experience the therapeutic power of the horse,” incorrectly stated that Breaking Free Therapeutic Riding Center “is raising money to build its own indoor arena on Linda and Bryan Lake’s grounds in Norwich.” The capital campaign is raising funds for the indoor arena on Breaking Free TRC’s own property, donated by The Lakes. Donations can be made at their website, www.breakingfreeriding.org, or by mail to: Breaking Free Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc. 2795 N Moose Eye Road, Norwich, OH 43767.

Thank you to all those who attended the Family Fun Day for members of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc., on Saturday, Oct. 1. Stay tuned for pictures — you might spot yourself or someone you know!

If you are “lucky” and receive *Country Living* magazine before Oct. 1, please join us!

Family Fun Day!

Saturday, October 1

12-6 p.m. at Deerassic Park
14250 Cadiz Rd., Cambridge

Free food:
Hot dogs
Popcorn
Cotton candy
Ice cream
Water

Activities will include:

- ◆ Fishing
- ◆ Canoe/kayaking
- ◆ Pellet range
- ◆ Cornhole
- ◆ Archery (including soft-tip)
- ◆ High-voltage safety demo
- ◆ Deer viewing
- ◆ Inflatable obstacle course

Educational booths, including:

- ◆ Project Ohio
- ◆ Energy Wall



RE Guernsey-Muskingum
Electric Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Karaoke “Country Style” contest winners



Left to right: Winners Kendra Kent, Sol Schwartz, Ronda Bible, and Pat Wess receive their prizes.

The Karaoke “Country Style” Contest was an opening-day event sponsored by Guernsey-Muskingum Electric at the 170th Muskingum County Fair. Singers in four age categories competed with their favorite tunes.

The under-18 age division winner was **Kendra Kent** of Zanesville; the 18-to-35 age winner was **Sol Schwartz** of Senecaville; the 36-to-50 age winner was **Ronda Bible** of Zanesville; and the over-50 age category winner was **Pat Wess** of Glenford.

Each winner received a \$50 gift card, and all participants received a sandwich and drink coupon to use at the fair. Judges for the evening were Laura Schumann and Kenny Wayne, while sound was provided by Sandy Groves.

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)

\$100 cash back:

- ✓ 50 gallon
- ✓ 7-year warranty (or longer)
- ✓ 91% or higher Energy Factor

\$50 cash back:

- ✓ 40 gallon
- ✓ 7-year warranty (or longer)
- ✓ 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 Electric for more details at 1-800-521-9879.



Don't be fooled by common energy myths

EATING CARROTS WILL GREATLY IMPROVE YOUR EYESIGHT, cracking your knuckles leads to arthritis, and watching too much TV will harm your vision. We've all heard the old wives' tales, but did you know there are also many misconceptions about home energy use? Don't be fooled by common energy myths.

Myth: The higher the thermostat setting, the faster the home will heat (or cool).

Many people think that walking into a chilly room and raising the thermostat to 85 degrees will heat the room more quickly. This is not true.



Cooking Efficiency Tip

Every time you open the oven door to check on a dish, the temperature inside is reduced by as much as 25 degrees, increasing cooking time — and energy use! Try using the oven light instead.

Thermostats direct a home's heating and cooling system to heat or cool to a certain temperature. Drastically adjusting the thermostat setting will not make a difference in how quickly you feel a temperature change.

The U.S. Department of Energy recommends setting your thermostat to 78 degrees during summer months and 68 degrees during winter months for optimum energy efficiency.

Myth: Opening the oven door to check on a dish doesn't really waste energy.

While it can be tempting to check the progress of what's cooking, opening the oven door does waste energy. Every time it's opened, the temperature inside is reduced by as much as 25 degrees, delaying the progress of your dish and, more importantly, costing you additional money. If you need to check a dish, try using the oven light instead.

Myth: Ceiling fans keep your home cool while you're away.

Many people think this is true — but ceiling fans cool people, not rooms. They circulate room air but do not change the temperature. A running ceiling fan in an empty room is only adding to your electricity use and your bill. Remember to turn fans off when you're away to reduce your energy use.

Myth: Reducing my energy use is too expensive.

Many consumers believe that reducing energy use requires expensive upfront costs like purchasing new, more efficient appliances or building upgrades to an older home. But the truth is, consumers who make small changes to their energy efficiency habits, such as turning off lights when not in use, sealing air leaks, and using a programmable thermostat, can see a reduction in energy consumption.

Remember, energy efficiency doesn't have to be difficult. Focus on small changes to save big. Learn more about ways to save energy by calling 740-826-7661 or 800-521-9879. ☎



Ray Crock,
Energy Advisor

Official Notice of Intention to Reallocate Patronage Capital

The following is a listing of former members of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc. who received service from the co-op in prior years. Attempts were made to mail capital credits checks to these former members in 2012. These capital credit checks have remained unclaimed for at least four years.

The Cooperative's Code of Regulations provides that capital credits payments which remain unclaimed for four years shall, after proper notice is given, be reallocated to the current margins of the cooperative. After such reallocation, these unclaimed payments will no longer be available for payment to the former members listed.

If you have any information on any of the names published in this listing, please call the cooperative's office at one of the numbers listed below. Thank you for your help.

New Concord **Toll Free**
740-826-7661 **1-800-521-9879**

- CARLESS RESOURCES INC
- CONSOL RESC OF AMERICA
- EASTERN STATES OIL & GA
- ENTERPRISE GAS & OIL
- FINDLEY OIL CO
- GASPRO ENERGY INC
- KING LIMESTONE
- LEADER DEVELOPMENT CORP
- NATLAND ENERGY
- OHIO INNS, INC
- PALLET RECYCLING
- ROGER C DUPKE OIL CO IN
- WELL CARE SERVICES INC



Holiday Workshop on Nov. 16

Mark your calendar for Guernsey-Muskingum Electric's Holiday Workshop on Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016, at 6 p.m. You're sure to have fun! • Refreshments & door prizes

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.

- #47-0971-12-00 D D Baginski
- #53-0331-24-04..... Irmgard D Ball
- #12-0136-10-01 Kathryn E Whetzel
- #21-0341-21-01 Jerry L Donaldson
- #32-0365-03-01 Mindy Wilson
- #85-0014-10-04 Amanda M Worstell

Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

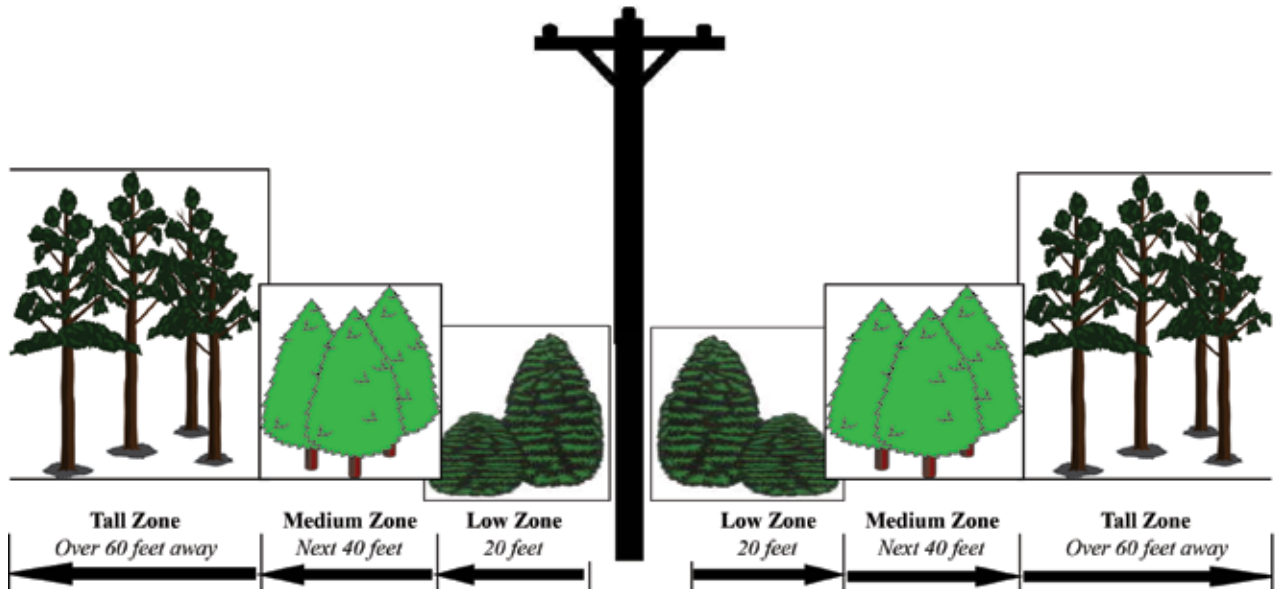
Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible agency or USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call 866-632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: 202-690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

GMEC tree-planting guidelines



Tall Zone	Medium Zone	Low Zone - Utility Easement Area	
Tall or large trees with maximum height of over 60 feet.	Plant medium trees with a maximum height of 30-60 feet	(Under wires) - It is better not to plant in this area. If you do, plant shrubs only or small, low-growing ornamental trees with a maximum height of 15 feet.	GMEC will maintain 20 feet in any direction around and anything above energized primary conductors on a five-year cycle.



Combat High Energy Bills! Schedule a FREE Home Energy Audit.

In a continuing effort to help our members save energy and money, Guernsey–Muskingum Electric Cooperative provides an experienced Energy Advisor, Ray Crock, to conduct on-site, home energy audits. Appointments are filling up quickly so call today to make your reservation!

Contact our Member Service Department at 1-800-521-9879. Visit TogetherWeSave.com for helpful energy saving tips.

Stealing electricity and meter tampering are crimes

Since August 1978, a revised Ohio law has been in effect covering theft of utility service and tampering with utility equipment. The statute provides that a person does not have to be seen tampering with a meter to be held responsible for such action. Prior to the revision in the law, it was difficult to prosecute a person for meter tampering unless the action was witnessed.

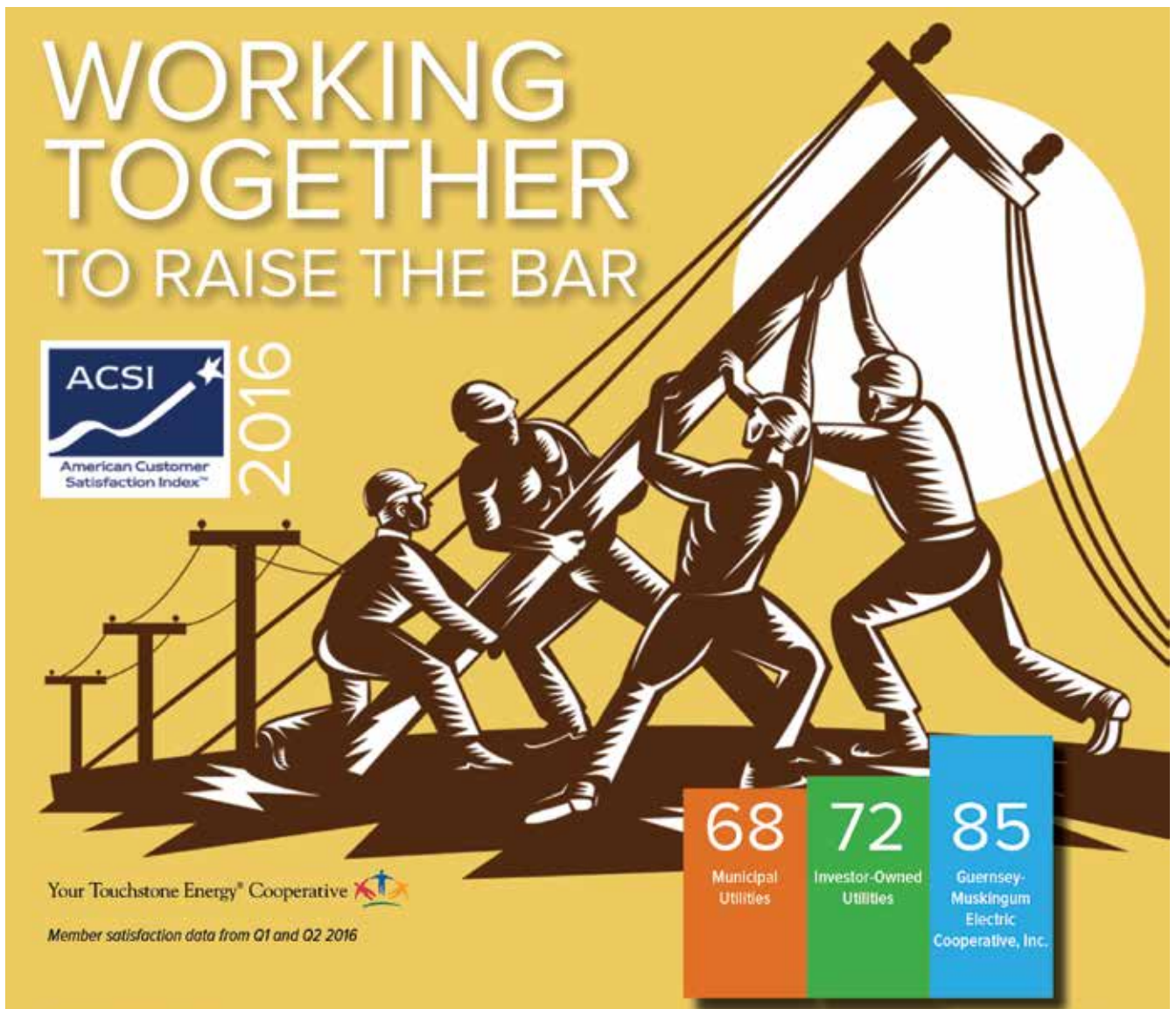
In addition, in prosecution for a user's reconnecting a device that was disconnected by a utility, such activity now is considered prima facie evidence that the user intended to defraud the utility.

The law defines theft of a utility service as a first-degree misdemeanor if the value of the stolen electricity, plus any utility equipment repair, is less than \$150. It's a fourth-degree felony if the value is more than \$150 or if the offender was previously convicted of the charge. Tampering convictions carry similar penalties.

Tampering is defined as "to interfere with, damage, or bypass a utility meter, conduit, or attachment with intent to impede the correct registration of a meter or the proper function of a conduit or attachments."

Conviction can bring from six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine to five years in jail and a \$2,500 fine.





Meter tampering costs all of us. It costs the cooperative, and it costs you. And it's downright dangerous. If you witness someone tampering with an electric meter, contact your cooperative office. Stealing electricity is a crime, and anyone caught violating the law will be prosecuted.



UNPLUG THE ELECTRONICS, PLUG IN WITH YOUR FAMILY



The average American child spends 5 to 7 hours per day on a computer, mobile phone, or other mobile device.¹

-  Kids who have more screen time and less time outside have narrower blood vessels in their eyes, which has been linked to cardiovascular disease in adulthood.³
-  For every hour playing video games, children are 50% more likely to experience pain in their fingers and wrists.
-  84% of 18-24 year-olds report having back pain resulting from looking down at screens.²
-  Over 60% of obese children report watching more than 2 hours of television each day.

Here are **3 ways** to trade screen time for healthful family time:

1 Cook together

Children who eat 3 or more family meals a week are 12% less likely to be overweight and 24% more likely to eat healthy foods than those who don't.³

2 Unwind at the end of the day

Unplugging at least 15 to 30 minutes before bed has been shown to help everyone in the family sleep better.^{4,5}

3 Read a book

Reduce your stress by up to 68% when you pick up a book.⁶ Choose a book the whole family might enjoy and discuss it over dinner or on the way to school.

SOURCES:

1. "Screen time and children." Medline Plus
2. "'Tech Neck' and other Tech Troubles." WebMD
3. "This Is Your Teen On Screens." HuffingtonPost
4. "Unplug Before Bed." Bastyr University
5. "Power Down for Better Sleep." WebMD
6. "Reading For Stress Relief." University of Minnesota