



CONNECT

A newsletter for the members of JEFFERSON ENERGY COOPERATIVE

Benefits of Advanced Metering Infrastructure

Chris Dillard, President and CEO

For more than 83 years, Jefferson Energy Cooperative (JEC) has been dedicated to providing members with safe, reliable electric service at the lowest possible price. To further this commitment, Jefferson Energy recently completed implementation of a state-of-the-art, two-way meter reading system that uses a series of towers and collectors to monitor and read JEC's electric meters. This system is referred to as advanced metering infrastructure (AMI).



The technology that JEC uses as part of its AMI system is one (89368-001) of the most advanced meter reading systems of its kind. The AMI system utilizes a digital meter at your location that collects, stores and sends real-time data through a communications network connected to a central computer system located at JEC's headquarters.

There are many benefits to having an AMI system:

- Members can monitor their electricity use simply by going to the Member Portal at www.jec.coop. There you can find exactly how much electricity you've used and when it was used. This is helpful when trying to manage energy usage.
- JEC can immediately pinpoint outage locations and work toward reducing power restoration times.
- AMI meters are more accurate, which helps with budgeting and predicting electrical needs for the future.
- AMI saves money by eliminating the labor and transportation costs of in-person meter reading—a savings passed along to our members.

These are just a few of the benefits of having an AMI system. In the future, we will continue to utilize this system, and any other means available, to improve our service and reliability while maintaining the lowest possible price. We appreciate your support and thank you for your membership.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Installing a smart power strip is a quick and easy way to start saving money while making your home more energy efficient. Smart power strips can actually cut off power to save energy because they can detect when a device is in standby mode.

—Source: energy.gov



How to Clean Your Thermostat

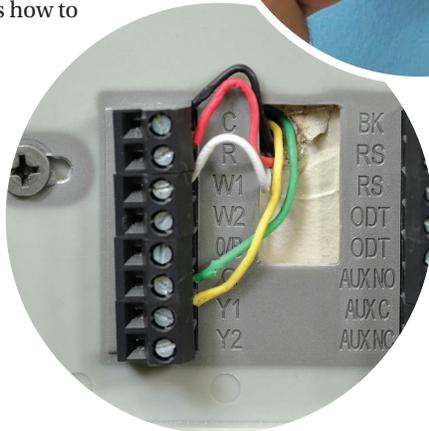
If we've learned one thing from the COVID-19 pandemic, it's the importance of keeping surfaces clean.

At this time of year, one of the most-touched surfaces in your home just might be the air conditioner's thermostat. Killing germs on the thermostat's surface is only one reason to clean it regularly, however. (34852-001) Often, a malfunctioning thermostat is just dirty.

Dirt can affect the way the thermostat calibrates, making it use more energy than normal to maintain a comfortable temperature in your home. In other words, a clean thermostat is a more energy-efficient thermostat.

Cleaning your thermostat when the seasons change from warm to cool, and then again when they change back, can extend the life of the device. Here's how to clean your thermostat:

- Remove the cover. Depending on the model, you might have to remove screws but most covers simply snap off.
- Using a clean, soft paintbrush and a gentle



touch, dust the inner workings of the thermostat. For grime or debris at points where the electronic components touch, slide an open dollar bill like dental floss between them to loosen and remove it. An alternative tool is a can of compressed air.

- Inspect the device for loose or corroded wires. If you find any, call an electrician. Repairing a thermostat is not a do-it-yourself job.
- Replace the batteries.
- Dust the cover and then put it back on.

Note that smart thermostats do not need interior cleaning.



Join us in celebrating *Georgia Magazine's* 75th anniversary with a look back at classic recipes from our past.

This three-layer Lemon Lush dessert recipe is a cool summer treat and was featured in the August 1992 issue of *Georgia Magazine*.

For more recipes from August 1992, scroll to page 18 of this issue in our online archives at bit.ly/gmg0892.

Lemon Lush

Recipe from Dianne Davis, Snapping Shoals EMC

First Layer:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1-1/2 cups pecans, chopped
- 1/2 cup margarine, softened
- 1 tablespoon sugar

Combine all ingredients. Press mixture into an 11-by-13-inch baking dish. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Cool.

Second Layer:

- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese
 - 1 cup frozen whipped topping
 - 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- Using a mixer, blend all ingredients. Spread evenly over baked crust.



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Third Layer:

- 2 (3.5-ounce) packages lemon instant pudding
- 3 cups milk

In a large bowl, mix pudding and milk until thickened. Pour over cream cheese layer. Cover dessert and chill overnight. When ready to serve, cut into squares.

Pete Gilmore Named JEC Employee of the Quarter

Jefferson Energy Cooperative (JEC) is pleased to announce that Pete Gilmore has been selected as Employee of the Quarter for the second quarter. Pete has been with JEC for more than 27 years.

Pete began his JEC career as a custodian before moving into the meter reading department. He spent seven years in that role before joining the line crew as an Apprentice Lineman. After receiving the proper training, he advanced to his current position of Line Technician III.

Pete says the things he loves most about his job are his co-workers and the feeling of serving the community by building and maintaining power lines that keep Jefferson Energy's members comfortable and happy in their homes.

On being selected as Employee of the Quarter, Pete says, "It's a great honor. I've always been taught and raised my children on the fact that as long as you do as you're supposed to, whether people are watching or not, it will always pay off in the end. I'm very grateful for this recognition, and the determination and encouragement it has given me can't be put into words."

"Pete has a great attitude and is very respectful," says his crew leader, Harry Avery. "With his leadership skills, he makes my job easy, especially when I am away from the office and not on the job site. Pete is very loyal (10065518-002) to JEC and goes above and beyond when it comes to safety.

"What stands out with me the most about Pete is his dependability," Avery adds. "I can always count on him at any time, even after hours. Pete is always on time and ready to work."

Pete and his wife of 28 years, Loretta, have two wonderful children. Their son, Landis, is a junior at Georgia Southern University and their daughter, Karrington, is now a sophomore at Jefferson County High School.



'I'm very grateful for this recognition, and the determination and encouragement it has given me can't be put into words.'

Pete Gilmore

Pete says family is the most (10060400-004) important aspect of his life. "Always cherish them no matter what distractions life may throw at you. At the end of the day,

life is what you make it," he says.

In his spare time, you can find Pete hunting and fishing with friends and family. He says he loves the serene feeling of enjoying nature with others and feels everyone should try it at least once.

Thanks to Pete for all his hard work and dedication and congratulations on being selected Jefferson Energy's Employee of the Quarter!

Labor Day Closing

Please note that all Jefferson Energy offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 7, for Labor Day. Have a happy and safe holiday





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All offices: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday

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For your convenience, bills can be paid anytime at the Corporate Headquarters, Richmond, Louisville or Thomson offices.

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KEEP INFORMED AND WIN \$25

It pays to keep informed about JEC's business. Read and find your account number in "CONNECT." Call our Member Services Department to claim your award—a \$25 credit on your bill.

WITH YOUR CORRECT PHONE NUMBER, WE CAN GET THE LIGHTS ON FASTER

During large outages, Jefferson Energy Cooperative receives thousands of calls at once. Having your correct phone number helps our Outage Call Answering System retrieve your information faster.

Please check the phone number and service address listed on your electric bill. If they are incorrect, please call 877-JEFFERSON (877-533-3377) with the correct information so we can better serve you.

Jefferson Energy Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Help your community get the funding it needs for programs and services like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, Medicaid, health clinics, education, and much more.

Complete the 2020 Census online, by phone, or by mail. It's easy, safe, and important.



For more information, visit:
2020CENSUS.GOV



Let Us Help Protect Your Family

Jefferson Energy Cooperative is the one you have always plugged into for reliable, economical energy service. Well, now you can plug your home into one of our innovative and affordable security systems.

Because we already provide your electricity, adding a security system is a snap! With our low prices and unmatched service, you can't afford not to protect your family and the ones you love.

Call 1-877-JEFFERSON today and find out more about Jefferson Energy Cooperative's home security systems. Don't wait until it's too late.



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