



CONNECT

A newsletter for the members of JEFFERSON ENERGY COOPERATIVE

Understanding Your Electric Bill

August is typically one of the warmest months of the year, which means air conditioners across our community are working overtime to keep homes comfortable. During periods of extreme heat, many Jefferson Energy Cooperative (JEC) members may see an increase in their electric bill and wonder what factors contribute to the cost of electricity.

During the summer, air conditioning is typically the largest driver of increased energy usage. When temperatures climb into the 90s or higher, cooling systems run longer and more frequently, consuming significantly more electricity than during milder weather.

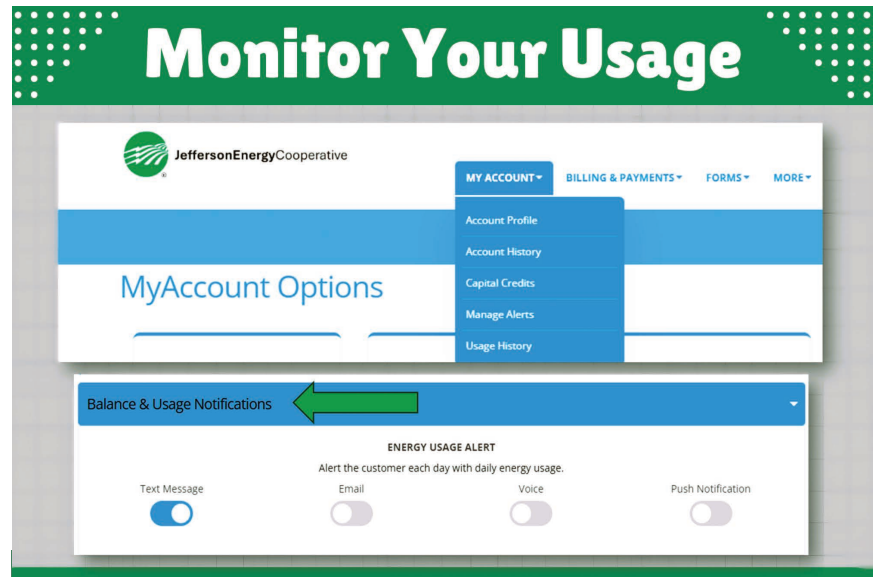
At JEC, we believe understanding your electric bill is an important part of being an informed member. While the total amount due may seem like a single number, it reflects several different costs associated with delivering reliable electricity to your home or business (10016189-001).

The largest factor is often the amount of energy you use. Electricity is measured in kilowatt hours (kwh), and the more energy your household consumes, the higher your bill will be.

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One important thing for members to keep in mind is that, unlike many electric utilities, **JEC does not charge different seasonal rates.** That means the cost per kilowatt-hour remains the same in the summer and winter months. While your bill may increase during hotter weather due to higher energy usage, especially from air conditioning, it is not because electricity costs more during this time. Instead, the increase reflects the additional energy needed to keep your home cool and comfortable.

Monitor Your Usage



In addition to consistent rates, there are simple steps that may help lower energy usage and make a meaningful difference. Setting your thermostat a few degrees higher when you're away, replacing dirty HVAC filters, using ceiling fans, sealing air leaks and avoiding the use of major appliances during the hottest parts of the day can help reduce energy consumption, lower your bill and reduce strain on the local grid during peak demand.

JEC offers levelized billing, which helps spread energy costs more evenly throughout the year to assist with bill planning and budget management. Members can also monitor their energy usage through the portal online at www.jec.coop, where you can track usage and set daily, weekly or monthly alerts to help stay on budget.

Additionally, members who sign up for eBill (online billing only) and AutoPay will receive a monthly credit of \$2.50 on their bill. To learn more, visit www.jec.coop or call (706) 547-2167.

Our mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity, while also being transparent about the factors that impact energy costs. We understand every dollar matters, and we are committed to making smart investments that keep the lights on and support the communities we serve.



JEC Returns \$4.5 Million to Members Through Capital Credits



JeffersonEnergyCooperative

At Jefferson Energy Cooperative, our members are at the heart of everything we do, and we're excited to share some great news with you!

JEC is returning more than \$4.5 million in capital credits to our members. Although capital credits are usually retired on an average cycle of about 25 years, this year's return is an exception. Thanks to a series of fortunate and positive financial developments, your Board of Directors approved an accelerated retirement of a portion of the capital credits allocated to members from 2025 (10007762-001).

Following Hurricane Helene, JEC employees worked diligently with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Georgia Emergency Management Agency to secure disaster recovery funding. As a result, we received more grant assistance for initial restoration efforts than originally budgeted. In addition, those funds were received sooner than anticipated, reducing the interest expense associated with the emergency line of credit established for storm recovery. These factors

generated more than \$4.5 million in financial benefits, which will now be returned directly to our members.

Most eligible members will receive their capital credits retirement as a bill credit on their August electric bill. To qualify, members must have been served by JEC in 2025.

As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, JEC operates differently than investor-owned utilities. When revenues exceed the amount needed to operate and maintain the electric system, those margins are allocated to members as capital credits in proportion to the amount of electricity used during that year. The retirement of capital credits is one of the unique benefits of cooperative membership and reflects our commitment to returning value to the members we serve.

This return represents more than just dollars, it reflects JEC's ongoing commitment to serve our members. JEC is proud to be your cooperative, and we're honored to return these funds back to you!



Don't Fall for Summer Home Repair Scams

As temperatures rise, so do reports of door-to-door home repair scams.

Contractors may show up uninvited, claiming your air conditioner is about to fail or your roof was damaged in a recent storm. Some even say they are already working in your neighborhood and can offer a “today only” deal (111341-001).

Don't fall for it!

These high-pressure tactics are designed to push homeowners into quick decisions. Warning signs include requests for large upfront payments, insistence on cash, lack of a written estimate or no verifiable business address. In some cases, scammers may pose as utility workers and ask to check your meter or demand payment to avoid service shutoff.

Before agreeing to any work, take a few minutes to verify the company. Ask for a license number and proof of insurance. Look up the business independently and check for reviews or complaints. Legitimate contractors will provide written estimates and allow time for questions.

If something feels off, it probably is. Taking a pause can protect your home and wallet during the busiest repair season of the year.





Jefferson Energy Cooperative's



Now Taking Applications
2026-27
School Year
Aug. 1-Sept. 25



We are now accepting educator applications for the 2026-27 Bright Ideas Grant Program. All entries must be submitted by Sept. 25 and must be submitted online only.



BRIGHT IDEAS

Bright Ideas Grant Program

SCAN ME



Bright Ideas Grant



CONNECT

Jefferson Energy Cooperative

Jefferson Energy Cooperative

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A member-owned Georgia cooperative since 1937

OFFICE HOURS

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

WAYNE A. GOSSAGE, JR.

President/CEO

TAMIKA LAMPKIN

Director of Cooperative Communications

For your convenience, bills can be paid anytime
at the corporate headquarters, or in the
Richmond, Louisville or Thomson offices.

TOLL-FREE SERVICE NUMBER

(877) 533-3377

24-hour Dispatching Daily

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED:

Labor Day, Sept. 7
Thanksgiving, Nov. 26-27
Close at noon, Dec. 18
Christmas, Dec. 24-25
New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 2027

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. You may also text "OUTAGE" to 877-JEFFERSON
(877-533-3377) to communicate your issue.

*Jefferson Energy Cooperative is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.*

Levelized Billing

- Worried about the uncertainties of your energy bill?
- Looking for some normalcy from month to month?



**We are now offering levelized billing for
all residential members!**

Who?

Any member with a zero balance.
Members who have been with JEC for at least 12 months.
**Not valid for prepay account members.*

What?

A rolling 12-month average of your bill.

How?

Call us at (706) 547-2167 and speak to one of our
representatives for more information.



Labor Day Closing

Jefferson Energy Cooperative
offices will be closed Monday,
Sept. 7, in observance
of Labor Day.



2026-2027

As the 2026-27 school year begins, we extend our best wishes to
teachers, students and families for a safe, successful and inspiring start.

Just as electricity powers connections and progress, your commitment
sparks growth, creativity and possibility in every classroom (8029-001).

We're confident this year will shine with moments of discovery,
achievement and meaningful collaboration. Here's to a bright year of
learning and new opportunities ahead!

Jefferson Energy Cooperative