

Currently Speaking

**Guernsey-Muskingum
Electric Cooperative, Inc.**
17 S. Liberty St.
New Concord, Ohio 43762
740-826-7661 — 800-521-9879
www.gmenergy.com

Board of Directors

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Garry MbiadGeneral Manager/CEO

Electric Rates

Farm and Home Service rate schedule R-1

Service Availability Charge \$16/month
First 500 kWh/month @ 11.519¢/kWh
Over 500 kWh/month @ 9.395¢/kWh

Seasonal Residential Service annual rate schedule S-1

Service Availability Charge \$192/year
First 800 kWh/year @ 19.519¢/kWh
Over 800 to 6,000 kWh/year @ 10.395¢/kWh
Over 6,000 kWh/year @ 9.395¢/kWh

(Your minimum annual charge will be \$192 per year for service between March 1, 2011, and Feb. 29, 2012.)

Commercial Service rate schedule C-1

Service Availability Charge \$16/month
First 1,500 kWh/month @ 11.519¢/kWh
Over 1,500 kWh/month @ 9.395¢/kWh

Rider T —

Kilowatt-hour Tax applies to all rate schedules.
First 2,000 kWh/month .465¢/kWh
Next 13,000 kWh/month .419¢/kWh
Over 15,000 kWh/month .363¢/kWh

What do the Declaration of Independence and electric cooperatives have in common?

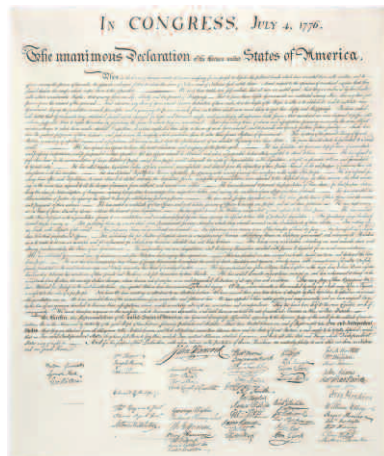
When Benjamin Franklin signed the Declaration of Independence, he is credited with saying, “We must, indeed, all hang together, or most assuredly we shall all hang separately.” That recognition of the need to work together may also be why Franklin, in 1752, founded the first successful cooperative in the United States, the Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses from Loss by Fire, which still operates today.

The principles behind the Declaration of Independence that form the basis of American democracy also form the basis of cooperatives. A cooperative is owned and democratically controlled by the people who use its services. Each member has one vote regardless of their stake; that is, some members can not buy more control than anyone else. This stands in stark contrast to investor-owned businesses where only shareholders have a vote in how the business is run; and even among shareholders, some have more votes than others depending on how many and what type of shares of stock they own.

The Declaration of Independence declared the equality of rights of its citizens and that people had the right to organize to secure their futures when their rights were infringed upon. At the time the Declaration was written, democracy was a pretty untested idea — but the founders of our country were determined to make it work.

So when you celebrate the many liberties and rights we enjoy with our families and friends this year, think about those principles that inspired our Founding Fathers. They also inspired the pioneers who established electric cooperatives — folks who were determined to provide safe, reliable and affordable power to secure the futures of rural communities.

Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative has always operated under the principles of democracy, and we are dedicated to fulfilling that promise as we serve members today and in the future.



County fairs in our area

Harrison County.....	Cadiz.....	July 5-9
Perry County	New Lexington	July 18-23
Hartford Fair (Licking County)	Croton	August 7-13
Muskingum County.....	Zanesville	August 14-20
Noble County	Caldwell	Aug. 29-Sept. 3
Morgan County	McConnelsville	Sept. 6-10
Guernsey County	Old Washington	Sept. 12-18
Tuscarawas County	Dover	Sept. 19-25
Coshocton County.....	Coshocton.....	Sept. 30-Oct. 6

**Fair dates can be found by logging onto <http://www.ohiofairs.org/>
County fairs are a family affair!**

Touchstone Energy Special Achievement Scholarship

We are proud to announce that Alexandra Lawler won first-place in the 2011 GMEC Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship competition. Second place went to Talsha Nichol Little.

This scholarship was created to reward those students who have committed themselves to the pursuit of a college education despite unique personal challenges.

Alexandra graduated this year from Tri-Valley High School. She is the daughter of Eric and Kim Lawler of Frazesburg. Nichol graduated from The Buckeye Career Center. She is the daughter of Clifford Little of Newcomerstown.

Budget billing plans available

Do your electric bills go up and down with the changing seasons? Would you prefer to pay approximately the same amount each month? If so, Guernsey-Muskingum may have a budget billing plan for you.

The cooperative offers two budget billing plans: the fixed budget and the levelized budget.

Fixed budget

Under the fixed budget plan, the cooperative estimates your monthly use based upon a 12-month average. This average is then used to calculate the bill that you will pay over the next twelve-month period. Members typically pay the same amount every month. This amount may be adjusted periodically by the Member Accounting department to prevent either a large positive or negative balance from accumulating on the account.

Levelized budget

The levelized budget does not result in exactly the same budget payment each month. The cooperative adds the current month's consumption to the previous eleven months' use and an average monthly kilowatt-hour figure is determined. This amount is used to calculate the budget billing amount for the month. This means that the budget amount is actually adjusted monthly, but usually remains within a few dollars of the previous month's budget. As with the fixed budget, the levelized budget amount may need to be adjusted periodically to prevent a large positive or negative balance from accumulating. The levelized budget can only be offered for accounts that have twelve months of billing history.

The benefit of both budget plans is to minimize or eliminate large swings in your bill that can be caused by the change of the seasons. If the either of these budget plans appeals to you, and your billing account is current, just call the Member Accounting department at 740-826-7661 or 1-800-521-9879 and ask to be placed on budget billing. To remain on either budget plan, the budget amount billed must be paid in full each month.

One phone call is all it takes.

Did you know?


“You can save money on your electric bill by using solar lights for outdoor lighting?” Consider using solar lights for outdoor lighting. Solar cells convert sunlight into electricity that can be stored in a battery and tapped at night to make light. Check manufactures’ instructions to make sure your solar lights are situated to receive sufficient sunlight to recharge each day.

Keep the 4th fun

Fourth of July fun often involves parades, picnics and fireworks. If fireworks will be part of your celebration, keep these items in mind:

- Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks
- Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Light fireworks only on a smooth, flat surface away from the house, dry leaves and flammable materials.
- Never try to relight fireworks that have not fully functioned.
- Keep a bucket of water close by in case of a malfunction or fire.
- Firecrackers, rockets and sparklers account for nearly 60 percent of fireworks injuries.
- Nearly half of the injuries associated with fireworks are to children under the age of 15. For children under 5, sparklers are responsible for nearly 75 percent of injuries.

Source: Naval Safety Center



**ON MONDAY, JULY 4TH, THE
GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED SO OUR EMPLOY-
EES MAY ENJOY THE HOLIDAY.**
The office will resume normal hours on Tuesday, July 5th.
We wish you a safe and happy holiday!

Are your name and location/account number here?

If it is, call your cooperative's office and receive a FREE home changeout to compact fluorescent light bulbs. (Limit 12 bulbs.) Thanks for reading the “local pages” of *Country Living* magazine.

- #11-0550-14-03Teresa L Shuster
- #15-0030-40-00D F Gardner
- #26-0309-02-00James D Girton
- #37-0053-23-00James R Ross
- #40-0069-07-07Shelly Hottinger
- #43-0171-47-01John R Hursey II
- #53-0358-22-05Amos Slabaugh
- #60-0481-19-00J B Elmer

How much does a 'peak' cost?

Have you ever heard Guernsey-Muskingum Electric announce a Peak Alert on the radio? Have you ever wondered what a peak is? "Why should it concern me?" you may ask. A peak affects you and every one of us.

During "peak" time, it costs us more to make or buy electricity. At these times, the large "base load" power plants are at capacity. Special peaking plants are brought on line to meet demand at that time. Wholesale power costs can increase hundreds of times. These peak times typically occur between 1 and 6 p.m. on the extreme hottest days.

If you can lower your family's electric use during peak periods, you can help keep our electric rates stable. Here is how you can help: Please try to shift your use of electric items to earlier or later in the day during those extreme hot days, and make sure you turn off items that are not in use or not necessary. Also consider joining our radio-controlled switch program which I will describe at the end of the article. You don't have to do this every day...only during the extreme hottest afternoons.

How much does this help? First let me try to explain how Guernsey Muskingum Electric is billed for power versus how we bill residential customers. You pay for your electric strictly by the kilowatt-hour, which is the use of 1,000 watts for 1 hour (imagine 10 100-watt lights on for 1 hour or 20 100-watt lights on for one half hour). The cost of power to your cooperative, however, has a large peak demand component. Demand is measured by kilowatts (the power that 10 100-watt lights use at any moment). Demand charges make up more than 40 percent of Guernsey-Muskingum Electric's power costs. About half of that is made up by a demand charge based on how many kilowatts we were using during the five highest peaks of the year, and this is charged every month. This year that charge is \$6.18 per kilowatt. Multiply that by our average demand during the five highest peaks (about 47,700 kw) and you can see the impact to our bill...every month for the year.

Would you like to know the impact that you can

have during a peak. In the green box are some examples.

- So how can you help?
 - Try to shift your use of electric items to before or after peak hours (1 to 6 p.m.).
 - If you must dry clothes, consider a solar clothes dryer (clothesline)...it will also save you about 50 cents per load.

ITEM	PEAK DEMAND TO GMEC MONTHLY
100-watt light bulb	\$0.62
27-watt compact fluorescent bulb	\$0.17
250-watt television	\$1.55
600-watt big screen tv	\$3.71
Clothes dryer	\$30.90
Dishwasher	\$7.42
Electric water heater	\$27.81
Central air conditioner	\$17.3
Swimming pool pump	\$4.14

Vaughn Sepco water heater or \$50 to \$100 rebate on other electric water heaters (at least 40 gallons).

Receive up to \$1 credit per month on your electric bill.

Receive free service and parts for your electric water heater.

Air conditioner

\$100 rebate on new central air conditioner or heat pump with electric resistance back up heat.

Dual Fuel heat pump

\$300 rebate on new electric heat pump with fossil fuel back-up heat.

Geothermal Heat Pump

\$300 rebate on new geothermal heat pump.

Call member services at 800-521-9879 for more information or to answer any questions.



Ray Crock, Energy Advisor

- Turn your air conditioner up three degrees and then back down after the peak.

- Put your pool pump on a timer and have it off between 1 and 6 p.m. This could also save you about \$13 per month.

Call us about our radio-controlled switch program:

Water heaters

Get a \$175 to \$200 rebate off our cost of a

Co-op Notes

Geothermal heating/cooling system — \$300 rebate

We have a \$300 rebate to help pay for the most efficient underground heating, cooling and hot water system available today. A radio-controlled switch is required on the unit and on your electric water heater of at least 40-gallon capacity. More than 250 of our members are using geothermal.

Dual Fuel — \$300 rebate

If you install a new add-on electric heat pump with a fossil-fuel back-up and have an electric water heater, which is at least 40-gallon capacity, you are eligible for a \$300 rebate. Radio-controlled switches are required to be installed on both the heat pump and water heater. Please call your cooperative for details. Over 800 members are using Dual Fuel.

Cool Returns — \$100 rebate

Are you having central air conditioning installed or a new electric heat pump with electric resistance heat back-up? Allow your cooperative to install a radio-controlled switch and receive a \$100 rebate check. More than 100 members are using cool returns.

Water heater with a hole

The four-inch hole in the side of our tank is great for cleaning out sediment. This rebated tank is available for *free delivery*. We also have \$50 or \$100 checks to send you if you purchase a tank somewhere else. Give us a call for details.

Water heater installation available

If you purchase your water heater from G-M, our members services technician, Tim Fisher, will install your water heater for an additional charge. Give us a call.

Radio-controlled switch

“What a deal!” If you don’t already have a radio-controlled switch for your electric water heater, at least 40-gallon capacity, please call and Tim Fisher will install one.....FREE. More than 5,300 G-M members have a RCS on their water heaters. This entitles you to a discount and free maintenance (except cleaning) including parts and labor on your electric water heater. Some exclusions apply, call us for details.

Meter reading

You can enter your meter readings on-line at our website, www.gmenergy.com. And as always you can mail your readings or call us 24 hours a day with meter readings.

Co-op Connections® Card

The Co-op Connections® Card is free to all GMEC members and one card can be used by the entire family. The card can also be used to receive discounts nationwide on lodging, entertainment, dining and more. Visit www.gmenergy.com and click on the link to explore the possible discounts available to you.

2nd 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 at London.

Please reserve _____ seats at \$25 each.

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, plus coffee and doughnuts in the a.m. and your ticket into the Farm Science Review. Bus departs Cambridge at 6 a.m., and Zanesville at 7 a.m.

Mail or return to:

**Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc.
17 S Liberty St, New Concord, Ohio 43762**

For more information, call member services at 1-800-521-9879.

I will board the bus at

CAMBRIDGE

ZANESVILLE