

Snapping Shoals EMC Illuminator

A Monthly Newsletter for Snapping Shoals EMC Members

April 2022

Your Co-op's Rates Among Best in State



Snapping Shoals EMC members continue to pay less for their electricity than most other Georgians, according to the most recent Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) winter survey.

In fact, our rates are the 3rd lowest at 1,000 kwh, 4th lowest at 1,500 kwh and 5th lowest at 2,000 kwh among all providers, according to the latest PSC survey.

PSC residential rate surveys are done twice a year during the summer and winter. For the winter 2022 survey, residential rates in effect for the month of January from Georgia's EMCs, government-owned utilities and Georgia Power are utilized. The survey looks at four different electricity levels: 500, 1,000, 1,500 and 2,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh). A kilowatt-hour is the unit used to determine the amount of electric power consumed. 2278588

One kilowatt-hour is the electric power required to run one 100-watt light bulb for ten hours. For more information about the survey and the PSC visit www.psc.state.ga.us.

Summer Rates Effective May 1

Summer rates are effective from May through October, and winter rates are billed from November through April. In areas such as ours where summers are hot, the peak demand for electricity occurs during the months when air conditioners are working hard to keep everybody cool. The higher demand for electricity on these hot summer days makes the cost of providing power greater at this time of year, and that is reflected in our rate structure.

SSEMC RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC RATES

Summer (May through October)
Base Charge: \$28.00 per month
First 1,000 kwh: 8.53¢ per kwh
Over 1,000 kwh: 11.52¢ per kwh

Winter (November through April)
Base Charge: \$28.00 per month
First 1,000 kwh: 8.20¢ per kwh
Over 1,000 kwh: 7.95¢ per kwh

ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR JULY 21

This year's Annual Meeting of the Members of Snapping Shoals EMC is set for Thursday, July 21, at the Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers. **Registration will be held beginning at 8:00 a.m. through 11:15 a.m. via drive-thru.** Registered members will also receive their yellow buckets via drive-thru. The first 1,500 registered members will receive a \$20 bill credit.

Those wishing to stay for in-person activities will be directed where to park after registering. The business session will begin at 11:30 a.m. and prize drawings will be held after the business session ends. **Members must be present to win prizes.**

We will resume all of our traditional Annual Meeting festivities this year, including a gospel group, children's games, energy information booths and medical advice from Newton Piedmont. The Touchstone Energy hot air balloon will make a special appearance at our 2022 Annual Meeting as well. Weather permitting, the hot air balloon will be available for tethered rides from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. for 20 lucky members who are selected from our Touchstone balloon drawing (contest form at right).

The Touchstone Energy Hot Air Balloon Program is the second longest tenured corporate balloon program in the country. The balloon program has been involved in over 650 balloon events,

festivals and annual meetings. Since 1999, the hot air balloon program has demonstrated its commitment to community by giving more than \$320,000 back to local communities in philanthropic donations. 4653383

Only Snapping Shoals EMC members (electric customers) are eligible to register, to participate in the election of directors and co-op business, and to win prizes. Members must be present to win prizes. For SSEMC's bylaws pertaining to the Annual Meeting and Election of Directors, please visit www.ssemc.com.

TOUCHSTONE BALLOON DRAWING ENTRY

DEADLINE TO ENTER IS JUNE 24, 2022 (limit one entry per member)

Name _____
SSEMC Account Number _____
Address _____
Contact number _____

Mail your completed entry form to: Touchstone Balloon Contest, P.O. Box 509, Covington, GA 30015. Winners will be randomly drawn and contacted by phone prior to the Annual Meeting.



Thank a

LINEMAN

You've likely noticed Snapping Shoals EMC crews out and about, working on power lines and other electrical equipment in our community. It's no secret that a lineman's job is tough, but it's a job that is essential and must be done. Nationwide, there are approximately 120,000 electric lineworkers. April is national Lineman Appreciation Month but Snapping Shoals EMC's linemen are responsible for keeping power flowing 24/7, 365 days a year to our members.

The work can be heavy, in more ways than one. The equipment and tools that a lineman carries while climbing a utility pole can weigh up to 50 pounds. That's the same as carrying six gallons of water. Linemen are required to climb poles ranging anywhere from 30 to 120 feet tall.

Linemen must be committed to their career because it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle. The long hours and ever-present danger can truly take a toll. In fact, being a lineman is listed in the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S. Linemen often work non-traditional hours in difficult weather conditions. Becoming a journeyman lineman can take more than 7,000 hours of training. That's because working with high-voltage equipment requires specialized skills, experience, and an ongoing mental toughness.

SSEMC, Walton Gas Celebrate Two Years

Natural gas is ... natural gas. All providers sell the same commodity-based product. So, how does a company in such a competitive business distinguish itself? Walton Gas believes it is with a relentless focus on the customer. They genuinely look out for their customers. That is why they got into the business 20 years ago — and it is what drives them today. It is also why we chose to develop a partner program with them two years ago. 2921963

In April of 2020, we began a program to help our members navigate the competitive natural gas business. We have always had a keen interest in helping our members make good choices when it comes to their natural gas service. It can be confusing for our members as they evaluate various rate plans from the many different providers — some of whom are very large companies serving multiple states. What rate plan makes sense for you, really? What do you do when it's time to "renew" your service?

Walton Gas has a service standard and culture

Shortcuts are not an option, and there is no room for error in this line of work. 4560872

Despite the many challenges, SSEMC's linemen are committed to powering our local community. During severe weather events that bring major power outages, linemen are among the first ones called. They must be ready to leave the comfort of their home and families unexpectedly, and they don't return until the job is done, often days later.

In addition to the highly visible tasks linemen perform, their job today goes far beyond climbing utility poles to repair a wire. Today's linemen can pinpoint power outages from miles away. Line crews now use laptops, tablets, and other technologies to map outages, survey damage and troubleshoot problems.

Linemen are essential to our community. Without the dedication and commitment of these hard-working men, we would not have the reliable electricity that we need for everyday life. So, the next time you see SSEMC linemen, please thank them for the work they do to keep power flowing, regardless of the time of day or weather conditions. After all, linemen are the power behind your power.



that sets them apart from other providers. You can see it in their offerings and the way they do business. They always have a great rate and consumer-friendly policies — no deceptive marketing, hidden payment fees or gimmicky "Introductory" rates. That is why Walton Gas has received the highest Customer Satisfaction ratings among all providers — not once, but in each of the three years a survey was conducted. 4344082

April is actually a good time to review your natural gas service after the colder winter months. Switching to Walton Gas only takes a few minutes. They handle everything. Visit www.waltongas.com/snappingshoals or call 678-639-3277 to join the Walton Gas family today.



P.O. Box 509
Covington, GA 30015
www.ssemc.com

24-Hour Phone Number
770-786-3484

Report an outage:
Use the mySSEMC app
or call 678-814-4961

Pay your bill or check your account balance:
Call 1-888-999-1416 or
use the mySSEMC app

Report power theft:
Call our anonymous tip line
at 678-729-8095

Call before you dig:
Call Utilities Protection Center
of Georgia at 811 or visit
www.georgia811.com

OFFICE LOCATIONS
14750 Brown Bridge Road
Covington, GA 30016

190 Fairview Road
Ellenwood, GA 30294

*24-hour payment kiosks
are located at each of our offices*

OFFICE HOURS
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday - Friday

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**Find your number
and win a \$50 credit!**

If your Snapping Shoals EMC account number is hidden in this issue of The Illuminator, call us at 770-786-3484 within the next month and you could win a \$50 credit on your bill.

The Illuminator is a monthly newsletter published for Snapping Shoals EMC members.

*Report an outage, pay your bill
and manage your account
with the mySSEMC app.*



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