

SPOTLIGHT

JONES-ONSLOW EMC—POWERING HOMES SINCE 1939

MARCH 2021

Ditch the Paper, Save Money and Time

Have your monthly electric bills been arriving a little later than usual? We have noticed that the mail is taking a bit longer than expected, so we want to share other options to review and pay your monthly bill.

“We can also email you a 7-day due date reminder and a cutoff notification to not miss paying your bill on time.”



- **Paperless Billing & Notifications**
If you check your email more often than regular mail, paperless billing is for you! When you sign up for paperless billing, you will receive an email each month when your statement is available to view online at the JOEMC website. Sign up for paperless billing under the **Account Management** section of **My Account** at joemc.com.

We can also email you a 7-day due date reminder and a cutoff notification to not miss paying your bill on time. Check out this feature on our website under the **Notifications** section of **My Account** at joemc.com.

- **Automatic Bank Draft**
The Automatic Draft Payment Plan eliminates the hassle of writing a check each month. You can arrange to have the payment deducted from your bank checking account, debit card, or

credit card. Signing up for automatic draft is easy; you can use our online self-service feature or call the office and speak to a customer service representative. If you sign-up using a debit or credit card, make sure to update your information when you receive a new card. Updating your card information will ensure that there is no disruption in service.

- **Mobile App**
Download the JOEMC mobile app for fast, easy, secure access to your account anytime...no matter where you are. You can view your balance, pay your bill, report an outage, track your usage, and schedule alerts and reminders.

Go to My Account on joemc.com to view all the ways Jones-Onslow is helping you stay in control of your monthly electric bill.

Worried About High Bills?

You can now track your daily usage.

Have you found the Jones-Onslow EMC *Daily Usage* summary yet? This free online tool helps you track your daily usage and assist you in understanding the effect weather has on electric use.

That's especially important in our area since the weather changes drastically from day-to-day. When temperatures plunge outside, your heating system has to work harder to maintain your comfort inside.

Our *Daily Usage* summary shows you how local weather is affecting your power use. This brings the weather's impact on your bill into focus.

In addition to tracking your daily power use, you can set it to notify you via email when you exceed a set daily limit, which you determine. By monitoring your daily usage, you'll better understand the amount of your monthly electric bill.

The *Daily Usage* summary is easy to find on the JOEMC mobile app or under **My Account** at joemc.com.

How To Clean Refrigerator Coils

Your refrigerator is one of the largest, most-used appliances in your home. It requires only minimal maintenance, just simple cleaning of the condenser coils, which disperse heat. If the coils are covered with dust, gunk, or pet hair, they cannot diffuse the heat properly, and the unit will not run efficiently.

A bigger problem can result if the compressor burns out from continually running because of the grimy coating. Compressors are an expensive problem to fix, so consider taking the time to clean your refrigerator coils once a year.

STEP 1

Locate the refrigerator's coil, a grid-like structure, or fan that will likely have a covering or grate protecting it. The coil is usually concealed behind the front toe-kick or in the back. Some newer models have internal coils, so if you do not see them in the front or back, this may be the case with your fridge.

STEP 2


If the coil is in the back, slide the refrigerator away from the wall, removing the plug from the electrical outlet if possible. You may also need to disconnect the line to the water dispenser or ice maker to allow enough room to work.

STEP 3

Gently vacuum and clean the coil. Using the brush or crevice attachment, carefully vacuum the dust and dirt wherever you see it. Be sure to vacuum and wipe down the sides and back of the refrigerator and the floor.

STEP 4

Once everything is dry, plug the refrigerator back in, and rearrange the power cord and supply lines, so they don't get kinked or stuck under the refrigerator's weight or behind it. Slide the refrigerator back into place. Be sure to replace the toe-kick panel if it was removed.



Yearly maintenance to your refrigerator helps ensure efficiency and longer life of the appliance.

Three Easy DIY Projects to Save Energy

With spring right around the corner, now is the perfect time to tackle a few DIY efficiency projects for your home. The good news: You don't have to be an energy expert to do this!

1 Make the Most of Your Water Heater: Insulating a water heater that's warm to the touch can save 7 to 16 percent annually on your water heating bills.

2 Seal Air Leaks with Caulk: Applying caulk around windows, doors, electrical wiring and plumbing can save energy and money.

3 Weather Strip Exterior Doors: One of the best ways to seal air leaks is to weather strip exterior doors, which can keep out drafts and help you control energy costs.

SAFETYFIRST

Don't Toy with Your Safety

When you are playing outdoors, keep a safe distance from power lines, substations, and other equipment your electric co-op uses to send electricity to your home.

Flying remote-controlled toys and kites are a great way to have fun, but accidentally making contact with a power line or other electrical equipment can be dangerous and, in some cases, even deadly.



- Never fly kites or remote-controlled toys near power lines.
- Stay away from power lines, meters, transformers, and electrical boxes.
- Never climb trees near power lines.
- If you get something stuck in a power line, call your electric co-op.
- Never touch or go near a downed power line.

COMMUNITYFOCUS

Connect with Us Virtually

It's unfortunate that due to Covid-19 we cannot hold our annual meeting in person this year, but we are happy to have you connect with us virtually. Be looking in your mailbox, if you haven't received it already, for your registration packet. If you have any questions you may call our office at 910-353-1940.

26 March

connect with
JOEMC at 10 a.m.

joemc.com



POTATO SCONES

Prep Time: 20 mins

Cook Time: 10 mins

Servings 6 scones

Ingredients

1 pound cooked potatoes

4 ounces self-rising flour

2 ounces butter

Pinch of salt

Instructions

1. Heat a lightly greased griddle or cast iron skillet over medium-high heat.
2. Mash potatoes with flour, butter, and salt until a stiff dough forms.
3. Turn dough out onto a lightly floured work surface. Knead dough lightly and roll dough out to about 1/2-inch thick. Cut into six triangular wedges.
4. Working in batches, cook scones, turning once on hot griddle until golden brown, 4 to 5 minutes per side.

It Pays to be a Member



Jones-Onslow EMC
CEO Jeffery T. Clark

Returning money to our members is a significant cooperative value, and we hope you agree that it's also a nice benefit of being a cooperative member.

During the latter part of February, your cooperative mailed a "green" letter to you, our members, concerning your Board of Directors' authorization of a capital credits refund. There is a space provided for your signature and a return envelope so you can mail it back to our office.

The name "capital credits" may sound complex, but it's a simple concept. Capital credits are the annual margins—revenues minus expenses of the cooperative—allocated to each member based on their individual purchase and use of electricity. Until they're returned to members, capital credits are funds used as operating capital to invest in power lines, substations, and other electric system assets that provide all JOEMC members with reliable electricity. After using the money for a period of years to finance investments in electric facilities, it is returned to our members.

To assure your return of capital credits and the fiscal health of your cooperative, your Board of Directors has approved and put into place an equity management plan. The plan uses an industry best standard that looks at the percent of member equity to total assets. It includes a schedule for the regular return of member equity in the form of capital credits.

The equity plan also determines how much of the cooperative's investment in electric system assets will be covered through member capital and how much will be covered by long-term debt. Our goal is to balance member capital (equity) and debt to give members the lowest possible rates.

This year, the capital credit refund authorization (almost \$2.2 million)

will be for members who received electric service from JOEMC during the years 1998 and 2020. These refunds will consist of 100% of the remaining allocated capital credits from 1998 and 25% of the allocated capital credits from 2020.

There is a space provided for your signature and a return envelope so you can mail it back to our office.

All active members who received service during the years mentioned above will receive their refund in the form of a "capital credit refund" on their electric bill. All inactive members who received service from the cooperative during those years will receive a capital credit check in the mail.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Don't keep your refrigerator too cold. The Department of Energy recommends a temperature setting of 35 to 38 degrees for the fresh food compartment and zero degrees for the freezer.

Make sure the refrigerator doors are sealed airtight to maximize efficiency.

Source:
www.energy.gov



Our offices will be closed on Friday, April 2 for Good Friday.



www.joemc.com