



Life is busy. We give you options.

We get that life is busier than ever, and we are committed to making your experience doing business with us easy and enjoyable. That's why we've worked hard to ensure that your monthly bill is easy to read and keeps you fully up-to-date on your account. Statements are prepared monthly, reflect an average of 30 days of electric use, and are due and payable upon receipt. And because our lifestyles are diverse, we give you many convenient ways to pay your bill.

ONLINE—One-time or recurring payments can be made using e-check, credit, or debit card.

BANK DRAFT—Automatically draft your JOEMC payment from your checking or savings account on the same date each month.

AUTOMATIC DRAFT—Schedule your bill to be paid on or before the due date with a debit or credit card, or e-check.

MAIL—Mail your payment directly to our payment processing center at PO Box 63022, Charlotte, NC 28263-3022.

PHONE—Pay your JOEMC bill by e-check, debit or credit card by calling

our automated telephone service. Have your account number ready, dial 910-353-1940, select option 2, and follow the instructions to pay.

DRIVE-THRU—Visit one of our local offices at 259 Western Boulevard, Jacksonville, or 1225 State Hwy 210, Sneads Ferry. Night deposit boxes are located at each office.

MOBILE APP—Pay on the go when you download the JOEMC mobile app.

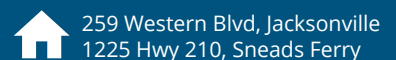
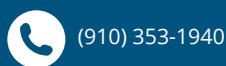
PAY WHERE YOU SHOP—This is an excellent option for members who pay with cash where they shop. Pay your bill at area Speedway, Dollar General, Walmart stores, and more! Visit our

website for a complete list of retailers and how to get the barcode needed to use PayGo.

KIOSKS—We now have six remote PaySite kiosk locations throughout our service areas in Swansboro, Jacksonville, Sneads Ferry and Trenton. See our website for the street addresses.

To see complete details about these payment options, go to <https://www.joemc.com/customer-service/billing-payment-options/>.

If you have any questions about your monthly electric bill or payment options, we'd be happy to discuss them with you at 910-353-1940.



INNOVATIONS

JOEMC Brings AI to Vegetation Management

New Technology

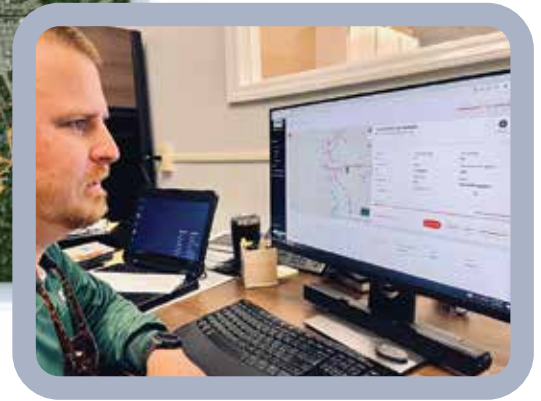
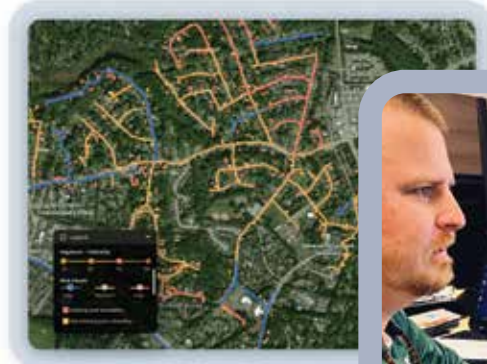
AiDash-Intelligent Vegetation Management System (IVMS)

Opportunity

Jones-Onslow EMC is constantly looking for new ways to serve its members better, and an area of focus recently has been our Vegetation Management program. Crews manage unwanted vegetation using a variety of methods which are periodically evaluated for safety and environmental impact. In years past, crews utilized historical data to create maintenance schedules. Due to the size of our territory, we have found hazardous trees, invasive species, erosion, and other unidentified factors causing issues that were not found through our traditional methods.

Goal

The Intelligent Vegetation Management System allows JOEMC to monitor risk in our service area. This technology serves our members by preventing outages that can occur due to unidentified regions needing clearing. Through the program, crews can schedule line clearance



With this knowledge, JOEMC has a real-time measurement of vegetation needs and hazards of our entire system enabling the Vegetation Management Supervisor to map out where crews need to be, based on a criticality score provided by IVMS.

trimming better, mitigate hazards, and help the co-op better plan for budget expenses based on the predictions through the AI system.

Solution

Intelligent Vegetation Management System utilizes satellites and AI technology to monitor the growth of thousands of trees, and the effects of drought or runoff from storm-swollen rivers that impact the health of the trees near and around our lines. It also assesses tree health through chlorophyll levels, soil erosion, slowed growth, and tree mortality. With this knowledge, JOEMC has a real-time measurement of vegetation needs and hazards of our entire system enabling the Vegetation Management Supervisor to map out where crews need to be, based on a criticality score provided by IVMS. All of this results in fewer members affected by an outage.

save the date
March 31, 2023

JOEMC members...bring the family out for an evening of fun, food, door prizes, and entertainment! On Friday, March 31. Jones-Onslow will hold its Annual Meeting of Members at the American Legion Building/Onslow County Fairgrounds located at 146 Broadhurst Road in Jacksonville.

MORE DETAILS TO COME IN NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER AND ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

Lace up those sneakers.

It's time to apply for Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships!

Do you know a rising sixth or seventh grader who dreams of playing basketball on a college campus? JOEMC is again partnering with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and NC State University to make that dream a reality for two lucky students in our service area.

Through the Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship program, JOEMC will provide one middle school boy a scholarship to attend the Carolina Basketball Camp in Chapel Hill from June 17-21. One middle school girl will receive a scholarship to participate in the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp in Raleigh from June 18-22.

The scholarships cover all expenses at the overnight camps, providing a

glimpse into college life. Campers stay overnight in dorms, learn fundamental skills that will help them excel on and off the court, and receive individual and group instruction from Division 1 coaches to enhance their basketball and team-building abilities.



To apply, reach out to your middle school to inquire about applications or download a TSE Sports Camp application at joemc.com and look for "Youth Programs" under the "Community" tab. Students must complete and submit the online application by March 31.

Put Safety First During Winter Weather

Keep these tips in mind to protect you and your family when winter weather comes your way:

- 1** Place space heaters on solid surfaces at least three feet away from flammable items. Always turn off space heaters before exiting a room or going to sleep.
- 2** Don't leave a fireplace unattended unless embers are extinguished. Use a fire screen to catch rolling logs or sparks.
- 3** Generators should only be used in open and ventilated areas and should never be operated inside a home, including in a basement or garage, due to the risk of carbon monoxide fumes. Never connect generators directly to household wiring without first having

a qualified electrician install a transfer switch to prevent backfeeding, which poses a serious threat to line workers.

- 4** If using Sterno or charcoal to cook food, always do so outside in a well-ventilated area. Cooking indoors with Sterno or charcoal will produce deadly carbon-monoxide fumes, which are colorless and odorless.

- 5** Stay away from downed or sagging power lines, and don't attempt to remove tree limbs from lines. Never drive over or walk over power lines; always assume they are electrified and dangerous. Alert your electric cooperative of any damaged lines immediately.

EASY CHEESY SOFT PRETZEL BITES

Soft and chewy with the cheesiest topping!

Serves 8
Source: halfbakedharvest.com

INGREDIENTS

- 1 lb. soft pizza dough
- ¼ cup baking soda
- 1 egg, beaten
- pretzel salt, for sprinkling
- 1 stick (½ cup) butter, melted
- 8 oz. crumbled blue cheese or your favorite cheese
- fresh thyme or parsley, for serving

DIRECTIONS

1. Cut the dough in 34 bite-size pieces, cover, and let rest 5-10 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, preheat the oven to 425° F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Bring a large pot of water to a boil.
3. Add the baking soda to the boiling water. Boil the dough bites, 10 or so at a time, for 30 seconds. Remove with a slotted spoon, dropping each bite onto the parchment-lined baking sheet.
4. Arrange the bites in a greased 12-inch baking dish. Brush the bites with the beaten egg, then evenly pour over the butter. Top with crumbled cheese.
5. Bake for 20-30 minutes or until pretzels are golden brown and the cheese has melted. Finish with herbs. Serve warm!



AI Technology Helps Keep You Energized

The words “artificial intelligence,” or AI, may conjure up images of sci-fi movies or beings from across the universe. In reality, AI enables us to provide you with the innovative and enhanced service on which your co-op is focused.



Jeffery T. Clark, CEO

One such technology uses AI to help us safely power you with the reliable, affordable electricity you depend on.

Through a partnership with AiDash, a satellite and artificial intelligence company, we can access real-time satellite imagery for an aerial view of JOEMC’s entire right-of-way (ROW) network. This helps JOEMC and contract crews maintain trees and vegetation that could otherwise cause outages along the co-op’s ROW areas.

During severe weather, trees that fall on or interfere with power lines are a major problem. Trimming trees

away from lines before storms is crucial in keeping uninterrupted power flowing to local homes and businesses.

Among its benefits and capabilities, AiDash:

- Tracks threats to power lines, like hazardous trees and other vegetation risks.
- Pinpoints ROW locations on our power delivery system that need to be addressed.
- Factors in weather and growth patterns, helping us identify where crews need to trim more frequently.

This technology’s accuracy greatly in-

creases efficiency. It also decreases ROW inspection expenses. This helps us hold down costs—an added benefit for you and your cooperative. You can learn more about AiDash on page two of this JOEMC newsletter.

It’s an exciting time for JOEMC and our members. You’ll be hearing about additional innovative products and enhanced services in the coming months. As always, we strive to provide you with the best service experience possible. That’s because at JOEMC, members come first.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Do you have a home office? Set equipment like printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saver mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life.

Another way to save in the home office is to use energy efficient lamps for task lighting. Small lamps use less energy than whole-room lighting.



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