



Hot Weather, Cool Savings

Mastering the Art of Energy Conservation to earn savings on your monthly electric bill.

Extreme summer temperatures can be challenging to beat; however, rather than dialing down the thermostat too much, aim to maintain it no lower than 78 degrees to preserve energy best. Although this might feel excessively warm in sweltering weather, remember that attempting to achieve your desired temperature will result in a higher electric bill since the unit will continually be running.

To conserve money in other areas, take caution when utilizing appliances that produce heat, notably the dryer. Not only does it expel warmth, but it also pulls out cool air from your house. Aim to avoid

using the dryer during the hottest periods of the day and shorten the duration of its use. And always remember to clear out the dryer vents and filters, and you can even try drying clothes outdoors.

Next up, gadgets such as stoves and water heaters can make a big impact on your energy bills. Rather than cooking indoors, use the grill on hot days, opt for shorter showers, and let the exhaust fan operate for just long enough to remove moisture.

Extra measures to maintain a chillier atmosphere include:

- Turning off unneeded lights

and substituting incandescent bulbs with energy-saving LEDs.

- Running full loads of laundry and dishes. Also, running these at night when it is not quite as warm outside.
- Shutting draperies and blinds.
- Making sure windows and doors are closed tightly.
- Employing fans in the rooms you usually occupy.

Remember, fans produce cool air to aid the body's natural cooling, but if the room is not occupied, flip the switch and save some money.

For more hot weather tips, follow us on social media.



INNOVATIONS

Communications Highway

New Technology

NetCloud Exchange-Truck Communications

Opportunity

Before improved technology, truck communications were difficult in the past, due to limited cellular carrier options. The signal quality would degrade depending on the provider's strength, causing communication challenges for field crews.

Goal

NetCloud Exchange in Jones-Onslow EMC trucks enables the cooperative to achieve greater agility, simplicity, and security across their Wide Area Network (WAN). It facilitates seamless connectivity, empowering efficient operations and the ability to adapt quickly to changing business needs. The solution simplifies network management while providing robust security measures, ensuring the protection of sensitive



data. Overall, NetCloud Exchange enhances operational efficiency and productivity for Jones-Onslow EMC trucks.

Solution

Improved truck communications have numerous benefits for Jones-Onslow EMC members. With the adoption of advanced technology, such as utilizing multiple cellular carriers within our service territory based on signal strength, JOEMC can significantly enhance network connectivity for field crews. This expanded carrier selection improves access to crucial applications, maps, and other resources that efficiently serve the cooperative's members. By leveraging improved truck communications, Jones-Onslow EMC can provide crews with better tools and connectivity, ultimately enhancing their ability to deliver high-quality service to you.



Educators, sharpen your pencils and submit your Bright Ideas Education Grant now. Early birds that apply by **August 15th** will get in on a chance to win a \$100 VISA gift card.

For more info: joemc.com/community/bright-ideas/



Scholarships Awarded

Congratulations to the thirty outstanding students who received scholarships from JOEMC!

Of the thirty recipients, twenty-six were graduating high school seniors, while the remaining four were community college students. The selection process for the scholarships involved both Onslow County Sponsors for Academic Talent (SAT) and local school staff. This demonstrates a collaborative effort

to identify and support students with exceptional academic potential.

The scholarships were awarded at various events held at the recipients' local schools in May. For the four community college students, the local College Foundation at the college selected them and presented

them with their scholarship award letter during the academic year.

These scholarships will undoubtedly provide valuable financial assistance as the students pursue their academic endeavors.

Once again, congratulations to the recipients!

Onslow County SAT Scholars: Britton Weiler, Ashton Jarman, Mark Hurlbut, Abigail Sutton, Samantha Patton, Leilani Betancourt, Abigail Johnston, Bailey Arnold, Nathan Priechenfried, Kristin Vinson, Hailey Griffin, Kirstyn Brownley, Madison Simmons, Michael Corrente, Megan Eesley, Alvin Bissett II, **East Duplin:** Landon Day, Alyssa Acevedo, **Jones Sr:** Rubi Arriaga, Dyana West, **South Lenoir:** Sydney McLawhorn, David R. Phillippe, **Topsail:** Shane Johnson, James Swinson, **Lejeune:** Lily Bentacu, Jaydin Briggs, **CCCC:** Mary Barnett, Careem Moore, **LCC:** Sarah Mills, Alisha Aragon

STAY SAFE AND AMP UP THE FUN

Summer is here, and it's time for outdoor adventures! Whether going to the beach, having a picnic, or camping, keeping electrical safety in mind is essential. As members of Jones-Onslow EMC, we want you to enjoy your summer while staying safe.

At the Beach and Pool:

- Keep electrical devices away from water and sand.
- Use battery-powered or waterproof devices whenever possible.
- Make sure beach umbrellas and canopies stay away from power lines.

Picnics and Outdoor Gatherings:

- Use outdoor-rated extension cords for electrical devices.
- Keep cords away from where people walk to prevent accidents.



- Check cords for any damage before using them.
- Don't overload outlets and extension cords.

Camping and RVing:

- Only use electrical hookups made for camping or RVs.
- Regularly check cords, plugs, and connectors for any problems.
- Don't overload the electrical system in your RV or campsite.
- Use ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) near water sources.

We want you to have a fantastic summer filled with outdoor fun while staying safe. By following these tips, you can enjoy your adventures while reducing the risk of accidents or electrical hazards. Share these tips with your friends and family, and let's make this summer season unforgettable and safe for everyone!



Cedar Plank Grilled Salmon with Sweet Potatoes

Courtesy of: carolinacountry.com

serves: 4

INGREDIENTS

- Cedar planks with enough surface area for salmon
- 4 Alaska salmon fillets (4–6 ounces each), fresh, thawed or frozen
- Olive oil spray
- 1 tablespoon fresh (or 1 teaspoon dried) dill, thyme or rosemary
- Salt and freshly cracked pepper, to taste
- 4 large sweet potatoes, sliced lengthwise into wedges
- ½ tablespoon ground cumin

DIRECTIONS

1. Soak cedar planks for 1 to 2 hours (or overnight) submerged in water. Remove and pat dry.
2. Heat grill to medium (400 degrees).
3. If salmon is frozen, rinse ice from it under cold water; pat dry with paper towel. Spray cedar planks and salmon with olive oil spray.
4. Place salmon on planks; sprinkle with your chosen herb, salt and pepper. Place sweet potatoes in a bowl; spray with cooking spray. Sprinkle with cumin and salt and pepper, to taste. Toss to coat.
5. Place cedar planks with the salmon and sweet potato wedges on grill. Cover the grill and cook about 3 to 4 minutes; turn sweet potato wedges over and continue cooking until wedges are soft and cooked. Remove them and keep them warm. Cook salmon 12 to 15 minutes, until fish is opaque throughout.

Ready to Respond

Summer is here. Schools have let out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While this time of the year brings fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that your cooperative is ready to respond.



Jeffery T. Clark, CEO

The primary cause of most power outages is damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. JO-EMC's Vegetation Management Department works year-round through the co-op's right-of-way clearing program to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches, or other vegetation types. However, damage can occur to transmission equipment, substations, and power lines during storms, despite our best efforts.

When this happens, our priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time. We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. The most extensive outages affecting the most members are handled first, like damage to transmission lines, which serve thousands of people. These problems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

First, our line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts

there or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members.

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If you continue to experience an outage, there may be damage to a tap line outside of your home or business.

Next, line crews check the service lines delivering power to neighborhoods and communities. Line crews repair the damaged equipment, restoring power to hundreds of people. If you continue to experience an outage, there may be damage to a tap line outside of your home or business.

Several years ago, we installed a state-of-the-art

meter system, and the beauty of this new infrastructure is that we are aware of power outages before reports from members. However, it is always a good idea to report an outage by calling our office, going to our website, or utilizing our outage text alert program. That way, you can ensure JOEMC is fully aware of your outage. And remember, if you use the outage text alert program, you'll also receive outage updates by texting "STATUS."

When thunderstorms inevitably illuminate our warm summer nights, we are here for you. Our dedicated crews are ready and prepared to respond to whatever Mother Nature sends. We will continue to do our best to avoid power disruptions, but as you know, the weather sometimes presents challenges beyond our control. If there is a power outage, visit the "Outage Hub" at joemc.com to track outages in our area and receive the latest restoration updates.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Summer is a prime opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors. To reduce home energy use, avoid using your oven and use a grill instead. Not only will cooking outdoors eliminate the electricity used to power the stove, but it will also avoid raising the temperature inside your home, reducing the need for air conditioning or cooling.

You can also avoid using the oven with tasty no-bake recipes. Get creative in the kitchen (or the backyard) and find new ways to save energy!

Source: Dept. of Energy

