



# Plugged in to Altamaha EMC

Serving: Toombs, Montgomery, Emanuel, Treutlen, Laurens, Johnson and Tattnall



## Electricity Brings Everyday Value

Even though I work in the energy industry, like most people, I still don't think much about the electricity I use. I expect the lights to turn on when I flip the switch and the coffeemaker to work each morning. Because electricity is so abundant, we don't think much about it. Since many of us have been spending more time at home over the past few months, we have likely been using more energy. And yet, we still expect an endless supply of power with uninterrupted service 24/7. The only time we really think about electricity is when the power goes out or perhaps when the monthly bill arrives.

Given how electricity powers our modern lifestyle every day, it's a great value, especially when compared to other common services and expenses. For example, think back to the cost of a gallon of gasoline 20 years ago. Consider the cost of groceries or a cup of your favorite specialty coffee from a few years back. In comparison, the cost of electricity has remained largely flat, unlike most other consumer goods.

Like many of you, I have a cell phone to stay connected with the world and I subscribe to satellite television so I can enjoy more viewing options. Many of us consider these necessities for modern day life. We can see what we're getting for our money, and we pay the price for those services. In contrast, when we use electricity, we don't necessarily "see" all that we're getting for our money.

But considering what electricity does for us, it's a tremendous value for our quality of life as well as our budgets. For comparison, consider that the average rent increase was nearly 4% (from 2014-2019) according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index (CPI). The cost of medical care was increased 3% during this time, and education was not too far behind at 2.6%. So, where did electricity rank? According to the CPI, electricity increased by less than half a percentage point, 0.4%.

The bottom line: electricity brings everyday value. In fact, Altamaha EMC members have experienced less than 5 hours of outage time each year for the past 5 years (with the exception of hurricane related outages). Considering that electricity is something we all use around the clock, I'm very proud of our track record. At the same time, we are striving to increase our service reliability, reduce those brief interruptions and reduce costs. We are continually working to improve our operations to ensure a smarter grid and exploring more renewable energy options where possible.

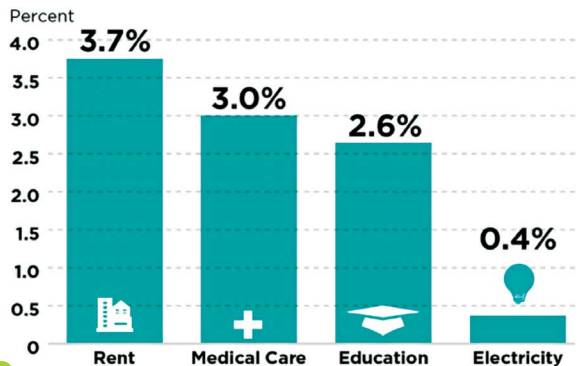
Altamaha EMC provides the reliable service you expect and deserve as valued members of the co-op. And as your trusted energy advisor, we want to help you save you energy and money.

We recognize that the past few months have been challenging for many of our members and we're here to help. If you have questions about your account or are looking for ways to save energy at home, please give us a call. Altamaha EMC is *your* electric co-op and our sole purpose is to serve you and the needs of our community. That's everyday value.

### ELECTRICITY REMAINS A GOOD VALUE

The cost of powering your home rises slowly when compared to other common expenses. Looking at price increases over the last five years, it's easy to see electricity remains a good value!

Average Annual Price Increase 2014-2019



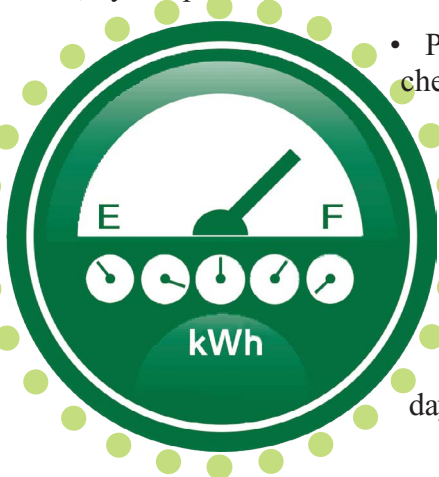
Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Consumer Price Index

# Take Charge with Pay•Your•Way

**A**ltamaha EMC's innovative prepay program for residential accounts allows you to take charge of your electric bills by paying for your electricity before you use it. This approach gives you more flexibility and control over the use of electricity. Some advantages of **Pay•Your•Way** are:

- No more surprises when you get your electric bill each month
- Notifications allow you to better monitor your energy use and budget for electricity costs
- Timely notices enable you to know immediately if your energy use increases significantly so you can take corrective action to resolve problems that will increase your bill
- You control the payment schedule – pay monthly, weekly or more often
- If you have an existing account with us, we will credit your deposit from that account to your **Pay•Your•Way** account
- Additional deposits, late fees or reconnect fees are not applicable to **Pay•Your•Way** accounts
- If your **Pay•Your•Way** account is disconnected, you will be reconnected automatically when a payment is made and applied to the account that raises the credit balance above \$50
- Payments can be made at all three Altamaha EMC offices during normal business hours, by telephone, or on our website at [www.altamahaemc.com](http://www.altamahaemc.com)

Receive  
automatic  
alerts via  
text or  
email



- Payment methods include cash, check, money order, e-check, debit or credit card
- **Pay•Your•Way** includes a debt management feature that provides a way to spread a pre-existing delinquent balance due over an extended period of time
- Automatic alerts and notifications can be sent via text or email

For more information on **Pay•Your•Way**, contact us today by calling 912-526-8181.

# UNCASHED REFUND CHECKS

Below is a list of former Altamaha EMC members who have uncashed refund checks. If your name appears on the list below, contact us at 912-526-2120 before July 1, 2020. If these checks aren't claimed by July 1, 2020, we will deliver the funds to the Georgia Department of Revenue, Unclaimed Property Program as required by law. After this date, any attempts to reclaim your money will need to be directed to the Georgia Department of Revenue.

Aguilar, Candice M	Dickerson, William A	Reed, Walter J
Allen, Brittany	Dismuke, William	Reyes, Juan
Arroyo, Robert	Donald, Christopher Brent	Ricks, Betty
Ascencio, Aide	Dowd, Samantha L	Rogers, Ottis Lee
Bautista, Felix	Everidge, Jennifer	Royal, James Grady
Baza, Sonya M	Felix, Santos	Schriber, Gwendlie Lee
Berry, Gregory Lynn	Frecker, Deloris	Scott, Louvenia
Bolton, Steven L	Gaffney, Sandra	Scriven, Khadijah
Bostic, Elaine	Gilbert, William Shawn	Smith, James D
Brown, Elaine	Gudeman, Jessika R	Solengerg, James R
Brown, Shannon M	Halcombe, John	Stuckey, Ronnie
Bynes, Hubert	Hall, Charles Lee	Taylor, Robert Charles Jr
Capallia, Linda J	Hall, Clarence	Thigpen, Skylar Kay
Chubb, Anthony Allen Jr	Hedrick, Austin	Thompson, Harry Gene
Clemons, Joseph Lee	Hidalgo, Jerson Lopez	Turner, James Michael Jr
Coleman, Melanie S	Hopkins, Holly M	Underwood, Timothy Lane
Coley, Eddie	Johnson, James Floyd	Vanosdell, Ronald Earnest
Crabb, Ashley Nichole	Johnson, Johnnie Mae	Ward, Alfred
Deese, John A	Knight, Heather Renee	Way, Gibson Giles
	Lawrence, Janice Elaine	White, Kenneth Dale
	Lopez, Prisciliana	Wilkes, Arthur
	Lynn, Cynthia A	Williams, Carnisha
	Meeks, Luther B	Wommack, Joshua Thomas
	Mendiola, Savannaha	Woods, Clarence
	Mick, Terry	Woodward, Pickens
	Molina, Santiago	
	Mosley, Mary Ann	
	Musselman, Donald R Jr	
	Nolasco, Miguel A	
	Phillips, Bonita	
	Phillips, James O	
	Puryear, Ann E	
	Ramirez, Humberto	



# Don't Let Summer Heat Spoil Family Fun

Even as restaurants are reopening and take-out food is more available, home is where the cookouts happen. Moving dinner outdoors is a great way to save energy in the summer.



Firing up a charcoal grill uses zero electricity. Other ways to keep energy bills down at mealtime include:

- **Get creative with cold side dishes.** Learn how to make gazpacho, colorful salads that mix fruit with raw veggies, and dips featuring avocados, garbanzo beans or tomato bases.
- **Grill veggies outdoors rather than steaming them on the stove.** Asparagus, corn-on-cob and skewer of mushrooms, onions, tomatoes and zucchini all taste better when they're grilled.

- **Make potato salad or pasta salad in large batches.** That way, you only have to boil the ingredients on the stovetop once for a supply that can last over several meals.
- **Skip the baking.** Order fresh bread and desserts from a nearby bakery to show your support for local businesses and keep your oven off.

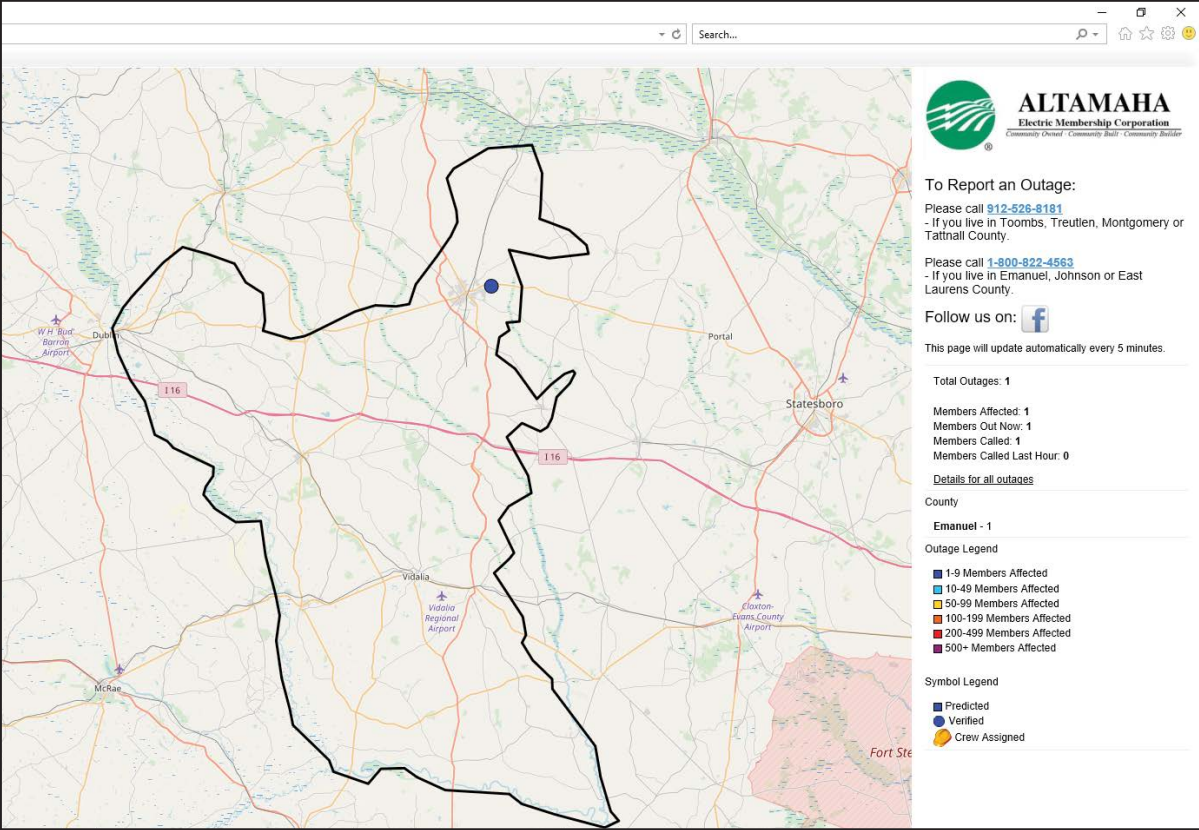
## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Home cooling makes up a large portion of your energy bills. Try to keep the difference between the temperature of your thermostat setting and the outside temperature to a minimum. The smaller the difference, the more energy you will save.



# Outage Map Available

At Altamaha EMC we continually work towards improving our service to you, our valued members. You can view outages using our outage map system on our website at [www.altamahaemc.com](http://www.altamahaemc.com) or from our mobile app. Always report all power outages by calling 912-526-8181. Stay away from downed power lines.



**ALTAMAHA**  
Electric Membership Corporation  
Community Owned • Community Built • Community Builder





# Member RECIPES

## Peach Shortcake

2 tablespoons sugar  
2 cups peeled, sliced Georgia peaches  
1 teaspoon lemon juice  
2-1/3 cups buttermilk biscuit mix  
1/4 cup sugar  
1/2 cup milk  
4 tablespoons melted butter or margarine

Mix together sugar, peaches and lemon juice. Set aside. In a mixing bowl, combine remaining ingredients. Pour into a 9-inch cake pan. Bake at 375 degrees for 15-20 minutes. When cooled, slice into 8 pieces. Top shortcake slices with 1/4 cup peaches before serving. Note: Top with a dollop of fresh whipped cream, if desired. Yields 8 servings.

Each month, our newsletter features recipes submitted by our members. If you have a favorite recipe and would like to share it with other readers in the Altamaha EMC service area, send a copy, complete with name, address and daytime phone number to: Tammye Vaughn, Altamaha EMC, P.O. Box 346, Lyons, GA 30436. Each month, a recipe will be selected for publication. The member who submitted the featured recipe will be given a \$10 credit on their next Altamaha EMC bill. Due to limited space, not all recipes received will be featured. Recipes printed in *Plugged In* are not independently tested; therefore, we must depend on the accuracy of those members who send recipes to us.