

Currently Speaking

**Guernsey-Muskingum
Electric Cooperative, Inc.**
17 S. Liberty St.
New Concord, Ohio 43762
740-826-7661 — 800-521-9879
www.gmenergy.com

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Jerry Kackley ..General Manager/CEO

Electric Rates Farm and Home Service rate schedule R-1*

Service Availability Charge \$18/month
First 500 kWh/month @ 13.069¢/kWh
Over 500 kWh/month @ 10.945¢/kWh

Seasonal Residential Service annual rate schedule S-1*

Service Availability Charge \$216/year
First 800 kWh/year @ 21.069¢/kWh
Over 800 to 6,000 kWh/year @ 11.945¢/kWh
Over 6,000 kWh/year @ 10.945¢/kWh

(Your minimum annual charge will be \$216 per year for service between March 1, 2012, and Feb. 29, 2013.)

Commercial Service rate schedule C-1*

Service Availability Charge \$18/month
First 1,500 kWh/month @ 13.069¢/kWh
Over 1,500 kWh/month @ 10.945¢/kWh

*Rider T —

Kilowatt-hour Tax applies to all rate schedules and must be added to the rates shown.
First 2,000 kWh/month .465¢/kWh
Next 13,000 kWh/month .419¢/kWh
Over 15,000 kWh/month .363¢/kWh

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Independence

AS I WRITE THIS, many of our area schools are planning their graduation ceremonies, and our high school seniors are preparing for the next phase of their lives. Having been young once (many moons ago), I can recall that I was nervous yet excited by the newly found sense of “independence” that graduation brought. My diploma was proof that I was ready to take on life’s challenges. I was an adult who could make my own decisions and choose my own directions in life...the world was mine! Foolish boy...I had no idea in 1980 that “independence” brings with it a huge burden of responsibility and that the easiest days of my life were now behind me. I now had the opportunity to choose the path I should follow, but I had not expected that there would be so many forks in the road on my journey. The choices were staggering, and there was only one person to blame if a wrong turn was made.



**Jerry Kackley,
General Manager/CEO**

The decisions that we make impact much more than just ourselves, for we are all part of God’s wonderful world. We must make choices with this in mind. We are fortunate to live in a country that was founded on “independence” and provides us with an abundance of opportunities. As we celebrate our independence this Fourth of July, I hope that each of us will take a moment to recognize the tremendous blessings we have as Americans. These have not come without sacrifice and pain...you need only walk through a local cemetery and see the many flags on the graves of our veterans to understand that. Independence comes with a price and a responsibility. God Bless America! ☺

Generation-and-transmission component remains unchanged

YOUR ELECTRIC SERVICE BILL is made up of various components. More than half of your bill is a generation-and-transmission component (GTC). This is used to cover all the costs of generating electricity and transmitting it to substations to be used by the cooperative’s members. The last time the GTC was changed was with the November 2012 bill. Since that time, it has been at the 8.10 cents per kilowatt-hour level. Looking ahead and projecting the rate for the next three months, we do not anticipate any change in the GTC.

No coverage of local expenses is included in the GTC charge. The GTC will continue to be revised quarterly, if necessary. ☺

Office hours

On Thursday, July 4, the Guernsey-Muskingum office will be closed so our employees may enjoy the holiday. The office will resume normal hours on Friday, July 5. We wish you a safe and happy holiday!

Touchstone Energy Achievement Scholarship

WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE that **Jade Schultheis** was chosen as the winner of the Touchstone Energy® Achievement Scholarship for 2013. Jade graduated from Tri-Valley High School and is the daughter of Gigi Hartman of Adamsville. She plans to attend Zane State College to study physical therapy.

The second-place award went to **Katelyn Wagner**. Katelyn graduated from John Glenn High School and is the daughter of Kevin and Trudy Wagner of Norwich. She plans to attend Muskingum University to major in special education.

The Touchstone Energy Achievement Scholarship was created to reward those students who have committed themselves to the pursuit of a college education despite unique personal challenges. ☺



Katelyn Wagner



Jade Schultheis



Cardinal Plant Tour

If you are interested in touring a power plant that generates your electricity, please call Guernsey-Muskingum's member services department today at 1-800-521-9879.

You, a cooperative member, are one of the owners of the Cardinal Generating Station in Brilliant, Ohio, and this will be a chance to see it in operation.

The arrangements are being made for Wednesday, Oct. 2. A bus ride, tour and lunch will be provided.

Seats will be reserved for G-M members who have not taken the tour in the past. Please call, as seats are limited, and will be filled on a "first-call/first-served" basis.

Please be our guests! But don't delay!

Neptune wins scholarship

WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE that Troy Neptune was chosen as the first-place recipient of the Ohio Line Supervisors Association Scholarship for 2013.

Troy graduated from John Glenn High School and is the son of Bill and Teresa Neptune of New Concord. Troy plans to attend Otterbein College to study art.



Troy Neptune

The Ohio Line Supervisors Association Scholarship is awarded to children of Ohio cooperatives, Buckeye Power and Ohio Rural Electric Cooperative employees. Students are judged on scholastic record, personal achievement, school and community activities, personal interview and cooperative knowledge. ☺

County fairs in our area

Harrison CountyCadizJuly 2-6
 Perry CountyNew LexingtonJuly 15-20
 Hartford Fair (Licking Co.).....CrotonAug. 3-10
 Muskingum CountyZanesvilleAug. 11-17
 Noble CountyCaldwellAug. 26-31
 Morgan CountyMcConnelsvilleSept. 3-7
 Guernsey CountyOld Washington.....Sept. 9-14
 Tuscarawas CountyDover.....Sept. 16-22
 Coshocton CountCoshoctonSept. 27-Oct. 3

Fair dates can be found by logging onto <http://www.ohiofairs.org/>.
County fairs are a family affair!

Is your name and location/ account number here?

If it is, call your cooperative's office and receive a **FREE** home change-out to compact fluorescent light bulbs. (Limit 12 bulbs.) Thanks for reading the "local pages" of *Country Living* magazine.

- #11-0201-09-04Jamie A Mox
- #12-0009-13-02.....Allen L French
- #15-0256-02-00Victoria D Ochs
- #18-0153-14-02Eric Hartman
- #21-0345-01-10Martha M Harris
- #27-0409-12-00.....Aaron L Bauserman
- #29-0303-01-02Casey G Head
- #74-0124-21-00Bruce Dozer

4th Annual Farm Science Review Bus Trip

Wednesday, Sept. 18

Yes, I/we would like to join our co-op and ride in a Muskingum Coach Tour Bus to the Farm Science Review at London.

Seats will remain at \$25 each this year even with the increase in ticket prices and fuel cost.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____.
 Please make check payable to GMEC.

**DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE TRAFFIC —
LEAVE THE DRIVING TO US!**

Your ticket covers the bus trip to and from the Review, plus a light breakfast and your entry to the Farm Science Review.
 Bus departs Cambridge at 6 a.m.,
 and Zanesville at 6:30 a.m.

Mail or return to:

**Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative, Inc.
 17 S. Liberty St., New Concord, Ohio 43762**

For more information, call member services at 1-800-521-9879.

I will board the bus at



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

To keep your electric bills accurate and catch any problems sooner, be sure to turn in an accurate meter reading every month. Try to read your meter on the same day every month. Meter readings can be sent in with your payment, called into the GMEC office 24 hours a day or entered on our website at www.gmenergy.com.

Keeping cool and staying cheap

THERE IS NO DOUBT that using air conditioners to keep cool comes at quite a cost. If your home is too hot in the summer, there are many ways you can help keep the heat out of your house and keep your electric bill cool at the same time. Planting trees, for instance, is one of the best ways to diffuse the hot summer sun before it enters your home. I lost a large tree on the west side of my house, which shaded it from 1 p.m. on; I could not believe the difference it made in the heat in our home and the cost of running my air conditioner. But a surprising amount of heat comes from inside your home.

The biggest sources of internal heat gain are lights and appliances. Reducing their use will save electricity and keep your home cooler. In humid climates, moisture that is released by cooking, bathing and other activities will make it harder for air conditioners to cool your home. A drier home feels more comfortable.

Here are some easy ways to keep cool in the summer and help your power bill also.

- Replace standard incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs. The electricity used by standard

bulbs produces 10 percent light and 90 percent heat. Also, compact fluorescent lights are cheaper to operate. LED lights operate even cooler.

- Schedule heat-producing chores like baking or doing the laundry after the hottest part of the day.

- Use kitchen and bathroom fans to remove heat and moisture during and after cooking and bathing.

- When replacing appliances, buy those with the ENERGY STAR® label. These appliances conserve energy and release less unwanted heat.

- If you are home during the day, use a room fan to create a cooling breeze.

- If you live in an area where evenings are cool, don't forget about the cheapest cooling method of all. Open your doors and windows or run window fans — this will move cool evening air through your home for almost no cost.

- Close windows in the morning while the house is cool and close the curtains or blinds to keep the sun's heat out.

- Prepare meals outside on the grill and keep the heat out.

- Shut off heat-producing appliances like computers and TVs when not in use. ☹



*Ray Crock,
Energy Advisor*

Budget Billing plans available

DO YOUR ELECTRIC BILLS go up and down with the changing seasons? Would you prefer to pay approximately the same amount each month? If so, Guernsey-Muskingum may have a budget billing plan for you.

The cooperative offers two budget billing plans: the **fixed budget** and the **levelized budget**.

Fixed budget

Under the fixed budget plan, the cooperative estimates your monthly use based upon a 12-month average. This average is then used to calculate the bill that you will pay over the next 12-month period. Members typically pay the same amount every month. This amount may be adjusted periodically by the Member Accounting department to prevent either a large positive or negative balance from accumulating on the account.

Levelized budget

The levelized budget does not result in exactly the same budget payment each month. The coop-

erative adds the current month's consumption to the previous eleven months' use, and an average monthly kilowatt-hour figure is determined. This amount is used to calculate the budget billing amount for the month. This means that the budget amount is actually adjusted monthly, but usually remains within a few dollars of the previous month's budget. As with the fixed budget, the levelized budget amount may need to be adjusted periodically to prevent a large positive or negative balance from accumulating. The levelized budget can only be offered for accounts that have 12 months of billing history.

The benefit of both budget plans is to minimize or eliminate large swings in your bill that can be caused by the change of the seasons. If either of these budget plans appeals to you, and your billing account is current, just call the Member Accounting department at 740-826-7661 or 1-800-521-9879 and ask to be placed on budget billing. To remain on either budget plan, the budget amount billed must be paid in full each month.

One phone call is all it takes. ☹