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NewsLine

April 2018

Colquitt EMC Celebrates *Lineman Appreciation Month*



Got Lights? Thank A Lineman

Electric membership cooperatives (EMCs) across the country, including Colquitt EMC, will join together in April to support electric utility linemen whose expertise and knowledge are vital each day but especially critical when outages occur and power restoration is required.

Gov. Nathan Deal issued a proclamation observing April as Linemen Appreciation Month in Georgia, and the State House and Senate introduced two companion resolutions.

Also, to pay tribute to the men and women who keep the lights on, lawmakers passed House Bill 767 which requires any motorist approaching utility linemen at an active work site, as indicated by traffic cones or flashing yellow, amber, white or red lights, to change lanes or reduce their speed to a reasonable and proper speed below the posted speed limit. Any motorist who does not change lanes or drop his/her speed to avoid utility workers can be fined up to \$250 per incident. The "Move Over" law applies to all types of utility workers, including electric, natural gas, cable and telecommunications workers, right-of-way crews or utility contractors.

Colquitt EMC honors the dedicated workers who often face challenging conditions to keep the lights on. We proudly recognize all electric linemen for the services they perform around the clock in dangerous conditions to keep power flowing and protect the public's safety.

Colquitt EMC invites members to take a moment and thank a lineman for the work they do.

3 Spring Projects That *Save You Money*

Home cooling season is just around the corner and now is a great time to prepare for the summer heat. These DIY opportunities can cut your power bill, increase your home's curb appeal and boost your comfort all year long.

1. Clean Up around the Outdoor AC Unit

Leaves, grass clippings, dirt, and vegetation overgrowth can reduce your air conditioners efficiency. By cleaning up around the outdoor air conditioning unit, you can ensure your cooling system has the proper airflow needed to operate efficiently.

DIY How To: Start by trimming any bushes or overhanging branches that may block airflow. Next, turn off the power and carefully brush out debris from the fins. Hose down the unit from top to bottom. Straighten any bent fins with a unique tool called a fin comb.

2. Build a Green Screen

Plants can be an essential ally in reducing cooling cost. They not only create shade but also lower surrounding air temperatures by a process called transpiration.

DIY How To: Start with a homemade or premade trellis, which comes in a variety of sizes in cedar or rust-resistant metal. If mounting to a wall, fasten the trellis to standoffs (blocks or brackets), which steady the unit away from the wall so that plants

have room to grow behind it without resting on your siding or install a freestanding trellis mounted on long stakes anchored in gravel or cement. When choosing climbing plants, be sure to consider your plant hardiness zone (8b in South Georgia) and how much sun the trellis will get each day.

3. Put in a Screen Door

Though limited during times of high heat or high humidity, natural ventilation can provide free cooling when the weather is right. Introducing fresh air into your home at regular intervals can freshen things up and dilute vapors and odors that can build up after the house has been closed up for a long time.

DIY How To: Measure your entry-door opening, noting which side the hinges are on, and choose a corresponding screen door. Check the fit before installing; you'll likely need a hacksaw to trim the base of the door's aluminum side pieces, called Z-bars, to match the slope of your existing sill. Secure the hinge-side bar to the screen door with the supplied screws, and steady the assembly in the opening. Push the bar against the jamb and secure with screws. Next, secure the top and latch-side bars to the jamb, and install the automatic closer and the door handle. Attach the safety chain, and seal around the screen-door frame with silicone caulk. Be sure to get a screen door with interchangeable storm panels so you can convert it to a storm door during the winter.



Unclaimed Capital Credits

In compliance with O.C.G.A. Section 44-12-236 of "The Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act" of Georgia, Colquitt EMC is attempting to locate former members and heirs whose capital credit checks were issued December 1, 2012 for electrical service received in 1991, but which have been returned by the U.S. Post Office as "undeliverable" or have been otherwise unclaimed.



A current database of these members, with their last known address, is available at our offices. The last possible date to claim these funds is June 30, 2018. All funds not claimed by this date will be donated for charitable uses, as permitted by O.C.G.A. section 44-12-236 of "The Disposition of Unclaimed Capital Property Act" of Georgia.



DON'T MISS OUT! Colquitt EMC is offering SCHOLARSHIPS!

Colquitt EMC awards scholarships to students who are enrolled in colleges or universities located in Colquitt EMC's service area. To be eligible, applicants must reside in the household of a Colquitt EMC member. The application and additional details are available at **www.colquittemc.com**. *Deadline is June 15, 2018.*

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1. Conserve water by taking showers instead of baths.
2. Turn off lights when you leave a room.
3. Bring your reusable bags to the market and other stores when shopping.
4. Go paperless. Pay as many bills as possible online.
5. Ditch the car and walk when possible.



**BRIGHT
IDEAS**

ENERGIZING EDUCATION!



**Colquitt Electric
Membership Corporation**

**MATH • HISTORY • LANGUAGE ARTS
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**Teachers! Earn up to \$1,000 for
your classroom!**

Applications available April 1

Bright Ideas, sponsored by Colquitt EMC, awards grants to teachers for innovative classroom-based education projects. Through Bright Ideas, teachers can illuminate students' love of learning. Teachers of all disciplines in grades K-12 are eligible to apply. **Deadline to apply is June 1.**

For more information, visit www.colquittemc.com

Recipes of the Month



Spring Sunshine Salad with Citrus Parmesan Dressing

Servings: 4-6

INGREDIENTS

6 - 8 handfuls mixed salad greens, washed and dried well (or butter lettuce)
1 - 2 medium oranges, sectioned, pith removed, cut in half
1 avocado, thinly sliced
1/2 cup toasted nuts (sliced almonds, pine nuts, walnuts, etc)
1/2 cup sliced spring onion (scallions, or green onions)
Parmesan cheese, shavings to garnish

Citrus Parmesan Dressing

1/3 cup freshly grated parmesan cheese
2 oranges (zest and juice)
2 tablespoons chopped shallots (or red onion, or scallions)
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
1 cup extra virgin olive oil
1/4 teaspoon lemon juice
2 pinches salt
2 pinches pepper

DIRECTIONS

Salad:

Wash and dry salad greens well and place them in a large bowl. Add orange pieces, nuts, and onions. Toss well with the Citrus Parmesan Dressing. Add the avocado and toss the salad gently, so as not to mush the avocado. Sprinkle with some Parmesan shavings (using a vegetable peeler).

Citrus Parmesan Dressing:

In a bowl combine the grated Parmesan, orange zest and juice, and the shallots. Whisk in the red wine vinegar. Whisk in the olive oil and finish by seasoning with salt and pepper. Or you may use a jar and shake the dressing.

(Cut Here)