



# COLQUITT EMC NEWSLINE

VOLUME 54, NUMBER 6

JUNE 2024

## WEATHERIZE YOUR HOME FOR SUMMER COMFORT AND SAVINGS

Are you starting to think about home improvement projects for this summer? Consider adding weatherizing your home to the list! You might think of weatherizing for winter, but it helps year-round, especially in summer when your air conditioner works overtime.

- Door sweeps help seal the bottom of the door. They come in different materials like plastic or felt.

- Weatherstripping can also be used on windows, especially on the sides or around the window sash (the movable part).

If you're unsure how to caulk or weatherstrip, there are helpful videos online at [Lowe's.com](https://www.lowes.com) or [energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov).

- Adding insulation to your attic or walls is a more significant project, but it can save energy year-round. Older homes are more likely to need additional insulation. Call the energy experts at Colquitt EMC to schedule an insulation inspection as part of our free home energy assessment.

The free energy assessment is one of the benefits of your co-op membership, so we encourage you to take advantage of this helpful service.

Weatherizing your home can make it more comfortable, improve air quality, and even help your air conditioner last longer. So why wait? Weatherize now and save money all year!

**3 WAYS TO SEAL IN COMFORT**

In addition to increased comfort, weatherizing your home is an excellent way to save energy and lower your cooling and heating costs. Here are three ways you can seal in comfort and savings.

- Caulk**  
Apply caulk around cracks and openings between stationary components like door frames and window frames.
- Weatherstripping**  
Install weatherstripping around components that move, like doors and operable windows.
- Insulate**  
Adding insulation is an effective weatherization strategy, especially for older homes. Consider additional insulation in areas like an unfinished attic, exterior walls and floors above uninsulated spaces.

Weatherizing can save energy (and money!) by sealing up leaks around windows and doors. If you see daylight around windows or they rattle easily, air is escaping. Check for small cracks, too.

- If you find leaks, remove the old caulking, and clean the area before applying the new caulk. Caulk comes in tubes, and you'll probably need one per window.

- Another easy fix is weatherstripping around your doors. There are different types, so choose one that works for your climate. Most stick on easily and last a few years.

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## BROOKS COUNTY AG DAY

At Ag Day hosted by Quitman Elementary's Ag Department, David Wheeler, Brooks County Serviceman, shows students the protective gear that he wears when working with electricity.

## HURRICANE ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS

Hurricane season extends from June 1 to November 30, and NOAA is projecting an above-average season. Below are tips you and your family should practice to stay safe before, during and after the storm.

### Preparing for the hurricane:

- Make sure flashlights, battery-powered lanterns and other sources of light are readily available.
- Make sure flashlights and radio batteries are fresh.
- Have an adequate supply of medicine, first aid supplies, and baby items.
- Keep a two-week supply of bottled water, non-perishable food items, batteries (including battery banks for phones) and solar-powered lights on hand.
- If prescriptions are essential, make sure to get them refilled in case of an extended power outage or extensive damage to the area.
- Keep identification and documentation on hand, such as your social security card, driver's license, birth certificate and insurance information for your home, car, and life.
- Make an evacuation plan for you and your family in case of an extended power outage.
- Listen to weather forecasts and predictions for possible hurricanes – hurricane season begins June 1 and ends in November.

### During the hurricane:

- Get inside a sturdy building and stay away from the windows.
- Don't leave candles unattended and keep them away from furniture, draperies and other flammable materials. Keep children away from open flames.
- Don't open freezers and refrigerators any more than absolutely necessary.
- Listen to local radio stations for news about power outages.
- Turn off your heating and air conditioning systems.
- Unplug sensitive electronic appliances such as TVs, game consoles, microwaves and computers – this will protect your appliances against power fluctuations that can occur when power is restored.
- After power is restored, be sure to wait five to 10 minutes before turning on appliances and heating systems.



# POOL SAFETY REMINDER

Never bring corded, electrical items near the swimming pool.  
Use battery-powered items instead.

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## **After the hurricane:**

- If power lines and poles are down in your area, treat them as if they are energized and dangerous. Never touch them and stay away.
- Debris from the storm can hide power lines that have fallen. Fallen trees that contain energized power lines can electrocute any item it comes in contact with, such as a metal fence, a pond or standing water. Even the ground can be energized near fallen power lines.
- If your electricity is out, make sure to check with neighbors to see if they have power. If they have power, you may have blown a fuse or tripped a breaker. Never replace a fuse or reset a circuit breaker with wet hands or while standing on a wet (or damp) surface.
- If you're without electricity and want to use a portable generator, make sure to use it in a well-ventilated area.
- Replenish your supplies of batteries, bottled water, non-perishable food items and firewood for future hurricanes.



## **HURRICANE SEASON JUNE 1 - NOVEMBER 30**

**Prepare now to stay safe before,  
during and after the storm.**



## SUNBELT AG EXPO FIELD RESEARCH TO BE SHOWCASED JULY 10-24

The 2024 Sunbelt Ag Expo Field Research Days are scheduled for July 10-24, and farmers are invited to join us at their convenience during this two week period to learn practical information about the newest technologies that they can use to improve their operations.

The Sunbelt team looks forward to welcoming farmers and professionals in the ag industry to a self-guided driving tour of the Darrell Williams Research Farm located at the Expo show site at Spence Field in Moultrie, Ga. Visitors should arrive thru Gate 2 anytime between 8:00 am and dark for the tour. Directional signs will lead visitors to the tour path. At the first stop, farmers will have the opportunity to pick-up a map as well as information about each plot. Additionally, pre-recorded segments featuring university researchers and company vendors will be available for viewing while driving through the fields or at a later time on Sunbelt's YouTube channel. This new format will allow visitors to tour grounds at their convenience all at once or multiple times if they so choose.

"We are grateful to continue working with university and corporate researchers on the Darrell Williams Research Farm, where we conduct cotton, peanut, corn, and forage research. The ultimate goal in all of the research is to improve the farmer's bottom line and to do it using the most environmentally and technologically sound practices," says Chip Blalock, Sunbelt Ag Expo Executive Director.

"Every year, our mission is to provide a place where research can be done to benefit all row

crop and forage farmers. We enjoy working with the researchers and helping them disseminate the information to the farmers," says Cody Mitchell, Sunbelt Ag Expo Farm Manager.

"Our team works all year to have the best-looking farm around. We want the Expo farm to showcase what a farm should look like," he says. "We look forward to welcoming farmers to look at the crops in July and invite everyone to come back in October for the Expo."

There are a few tips visitors should keep in mind to enjoy a successful tour. Bring a friend to experience the event with you - come during the day or late afternoon at your convenience. Be sure to have a smartphone or tablet with you to view the research videos during the tour. Videos will be accessible using the Official Sunbelt Ag web site or YouTube channel. Connect your device to your vehicle Bluetooth before you arrive so that it is ready to go. Don't forget to follow the signs to the beginning of the tour from Gate 2 and continue to follow the directional signs throughout the tour. Ensure you pick-up a copy of the plot map as well as information about the research. Prepare to explore and learn at your own pace on the research farm, all while enjoying your comfortable vehicle!

UGA researchers, Extension Specialists, and ag chemical representatives conduct numerous trials at the Sunbelt farm for all major southern agronomic crops. To view more specific Field Research Days details, visit [www.sunbeltexpo.com](http://www.sunbeltexpo.com).

# Recipe OF THE MONTH



## **Greek Tomato Salad**

### **INGREDIENTS**

8 medium tomatoes, peeled and sliced  
1 medium onion, thinly sliced  
1 green pepper, chopped (optional)  
1 cucumber, chopped (optional)  
2 tablespoons fresh mint or parsley (chopped)  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
1 tablespoon wine vinegar or balsamic vinegar  
1 garlic clove, minced (optional)  
salt and pepper, to taste  
1/2 cup feta cheese crumbles  
1/2 cup Kalamata olives

### **DIRECTIONS**

Combine tomatoes, onion, pepper & cucumber in a bowl. Combine fresh herbs, olive oil, vinegar and garlic. Pour dressing over vegetables and toss lightly. Salt and pepper, to taste. Garnish with cheese and Kalamata olives. If desired, garnish with sprigs of fresh herbs.

## Church of the Month



### **Zion Grove Assembly of God**

422 Zion Grove Church Rd. • Meigs, GA

Pastor: Tony Morris

### **Service Schedule**

Sunday School	10 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	11 AM
Wednesday Night Service	6 PM

To nominate your church for Church of the Month, please contact Sonya Aldridge at 229-985-3620 ext. 1225 with your church's information. Please include service schedule, address and pastor's name.

### **Bible Verse of the Month**

From the rising of the sun to the place  
where it sets, the name of the LORD  
is to be praised.                      - Psalm 113:3