Principles + Values = Cooperatives

All cooperative businesses around the world operate in accordance with these seven cooperative principles:

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Member Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training, and Information
6. Cooperation among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

A lesser known fact is that cooperatives have also adopted a set of values that helps to put these principles into practice.

Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, cooperatives believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility, and caring for others.

These values affect us here at Central Georgia EMC. The founders of CGEMC created the cooperative to serve the members who use the electricity and other services we provide, and we continue to do that today. This embodies the values of self-help, taking action and doing what needs to be done. We also know we must embrace the value of self-responsibility and be accountable to you, our member.

Each member has one vote, no matter how much electricity he or she uses. This ensures that democracy is practiced the way it is intended with equality for all members. This is a key difference between cooperatives and investor-owned companies where the number of votes you have depends on the number of shares you own.

For cooperative members, equity has two meanings. We strive to treat all of our members fairly and as a member, you have equity (ownership) in CGEMC.

While each cooperative is autonomous, we act in solidarity with other cooperatives and our community. We know that we can do more for you by partnering with other cooperatives and like-minded organizations.

Your parents were right when they said, “Honesty is the best policy.” As an owner, you have the right to expect us to act with openness and in a transparent manner. We welcome your active participation in our cooperative.

Cooperatives have long been identified as the original socially responsible business. We care about the impact we have on the community while ensuring we are economically viable.

We try to demonstrate our concern for the community through caring for others every single day, whether it is through our community events or Operation Round Up grants given through the Central Georgia EMC Foundation.

By using our values in support of our principles since our founding in 1937, we have been able to serve you for 78 years, and will do so long into the future.
Central Georgia EMC will be happy to provide a program for your school group, civic club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or other community organizations. We offer programs on electrical safety, solar power, energy efficiency tips in your home, and value-added services offered by Central Georgia EMC.

To schedule a presentation for your school or organization, please call Central Georgia EMC’s Member Services Department at 770-504-7831 or 1-800-222-4877, ext. 7831.

Periodically inspect your dryer vent to ensure it is not blocked. This will save energy and may prevent a fire. Manufacturers recommend using rigid venting material, not plastic vents that may collapse and cause blockages.

—Source: energy.gov

CUSTOMERS DUE

Boyd, Wayne
Brown, Philip D.
Cooksey, Emily Ann
Corey, Austin Bechworth
Durham, Keisha
Eason, Chester
Farmer, Jessica Nicole
Francis, Monee S.
Jacob, Teresa
McWright, Tasheon D.
Phung, Thanh
Sears, Clifton Mason
Steele, Gerald
Talbot, Nicholas Raphael
Tate, Jerrica Andrea
Webb, Gay Suzette
Wilkins, Theresa
Williams, Evelyn T.
If You Have A Refrigerator in the Garage …

Many people consider having an extra refrigerator a privilege for overflow food storage during holidays and parties. However, the garage is not necessarily the best place for a refrigerator.

Unless your garage is air conditioned or insulated, a garage can get extremely hot during the summer, which can force the refrigerator to work overtime to keep the food cold. You will see the cost of that hard work on your electric bill.

If you must put a refrigerator in the garage, keep a few things in mind:
• Heat is not the only thing that stresses out a garage-based refrigerator: Manufacturers do not recommend placing one in a space where the temperature dips below 55 degrees in the winter. In an unheated garage, the refrigerator can actually warm up frozen food if the room temperature dips below freezing.
• Have an electrician upgrade the electrical circuits in your garage before you plug in a refrigerator. If the appliance overtaxes the circuit, you could wind up with spoiled food.
• Plug your refrigerator only into a grounded wall outlet.
• Avoid plugging the appliance into an outlet that is controlled by a switch. Someone could accidentally turn the switch off and cut power to the refrigerator.
• Clean a garage-based refrigerator more often than the one in the kitchen. The garage can get dirtier than the house does.
• Do not stack items around the refrigerator or lean anything against it. Like any appliance, it needs room to “breathe” or it will not operate efficiently.
• If your garage refrigerator used to be your kitchen refrigerator, it is probably pretty old and very inefficient. You are better off buying a small, new refrigerator and recycling the old one so you will not waste energy and unnecessarily run up your electric bill.

Recipe of the Month

Hawaiian Sweet and Sour Ribs
From the kitchen of Mrs. Charles Sibley

Ingredients:
3 pounds lean, spare ribs
1/2 cup diced onion
1/4 cup green pepper, diced
2 small cans tomato paste
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1/3 cup vinegar
1 32-ounce can pineapple, chunk and syrup
1/4 cup brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon dry mustard
Salt and pepper, to taste

Directions:
Turn oven to 350 degrees. Cut every third rib about halfway through the strip. Sprinkle ribs with salt and pepper. Place in covered roaster and bake for 1 1/4 hours. Drain excess fat. While ribs are roasting, mix other ingredients and let stand to blend. Pour over baked ribs and bake 45 to 50 minutes longer, basting frequently. Makes 4 servings. Serve over rice or favorite side.

Holiday Notice

Central Georgia EMC will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2015, in observance of Labor Day. In case of a power outage, please call our 24-hour automated outage system at 770-775-7857 or 800-222-4877 for an immediate response. System operators are on duty to assist you.
To help make our customers’ homes more energy efficient, Central Georgia EMC offers a number of programs and services designed to conserve electricity and save money. CGEMC offers the following rebate programs for existing residential homes serviced by Central Georgia EMC:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>System Application</th>
<th>Rebate Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air Source Heat Pump Upgrade</td>
<td>Heating and Cooling</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>(16 SEER or above)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Conversion from Gas to Electric Air Source Heat Pump</td>
<td>Heating and Cooling</td>
<td>$350</td>
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<tr>
<td>(16 SEER or above)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geothermal Heat Pump</td>
<td>Heating and Cooling</td>
<td>$250 per ton</td>
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<td>(up to 3 tons)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENERGY STAR Room Air Conditioner</td>
<td>Heating and Cooling</td>
<td>$25 per system</td>
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<td>(max. 2 systems)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heat Pump Water Heating</td>
<td>Water Heating</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solar Thermal Water Heater</td>
<td>Water Heating</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conversion from Gas to Electric Storage Water Heater</td>
<td>Water Heating</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>(50 gallon min.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photovoltaic System</td>
<td>Water Heating</td>
<td>$450 per kW</td>
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<td>(10 kW max.)</td>
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To download a rebate application or for more information regarding CGEMC’s rebates, visit cgemc.com/rebates or call us at 770-775-7857 or 800-222-4877.

All Central Georgia EMC 2015 rebates are subject to change without notice. Rebates will end on December 18, 2015, unless otherwise noted. Some rebates will require verification by a CGEMC Energy Services Representative.