



## New Law Adds Protection for Utility Linemen

The 41 electric membership corporations (EMCs) in Georgia, including Central Georgia EMC, recently brought the issue of lineworker safety before the 2016 Georgia General Assembly. Accordingly, EMC linemen will join the ranks of law enforcement, public safety, and transportation personnel who are better protected under the new law signed April 19, 2016, by Gov. Nathan Deal.

“I was proud to sign the Move Over for Linemen bill,” says Deal. “This bill will help the selfless linemen and women in Georgia go home safely to their families after working around-the-clock to keep our lights on, even in extreme weather conditions.”

House Bill 767, the “Move Over for Linemen” legislation, 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 slow down to a reasonable and proper speed

below the posted speed limit. Any motorist who does not change lanes or drop their speed to avoid the utility workers can be fined up to \$250 per occurrence. The new bill, effective July 1, 2016, applies to all types of utility workers,

including electric, natural gas, cable, and telecommunications workers, right-of-way crews, or utility contractors.

The new law and added protections are critical to safeguard workers. According to the Georgia Department of Highway Safety, emergency vehicles parked beside a highway are vulnerable to crashes,

even with emergency lights flashing. Consequently, the original law (passed in 2003) was created to reduce the number of injuries and fatalities involving police officers, paramedics, firefighters, wrecker operators, and highway maintenance workers by maintaining an open buffer lane between passing highway traffic and authorized roadside emergency vehicles.



Lineworkers from across the state of Georgia joined legislators in witnessing Gov. Nathan Deal (center) sign House Bill 767 into law on April 19 at the State Capitol.



Deal signed the bill during a statewide event to recognize Lineman Appreciation Month in April. Representatives from Central Georgia EMC and other utilities gathered at the State Capitol as Deal, members of the Legislature, and the public said “Thank You” for the work and sacrifice of linemen and keeping the lights on 365 days a year.

## CUSTOMERS DUE

REFUNDS

Brandywine Homes GA  
Circle B Roofing  
Daniel, Keith Michael  
Hewer, Breanne  
Howard, Tobias C.  
McClendon, Nicole Lynn  
Merritt, Patricia  
Quintero, Andrew J.  
Stallworth, Tiffany  
Speir, Adam Isaac



### Energy Efficiency

#### Tip of the Month



Avoid setting your air conditioning thermostat at a colder setting than normal. Your home will not cool any faster, and you may have excessive cooling, resulting in unnecessary expense.

—Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

## Conserve Energy Automatically with Load Management

### Load Management Season Starts on June 1

Know the signs



Electric usage is normal. No special energy-saving measures are necessary. Conservation is encouraged.



Electricity use is forecast to be higher than normal. Voluntary conservation from noon to 10 p.m.



Temporary period of peak electric usage. All means of conservation are encouraged.

We all know that summer months in Georgia can be sweltering. When the demand for energy peaks during the summer, Central Georgia EMC pays a premium to supply power to our customers.

The Load Management Switch program reduces the energy required during peak periods and helps lower the overall cost of producing energy. These reductions equal savings for our members in the form of lower monthly electric bills. For more information on our load management program, visit our website at [www.cgemc.com](http://www.cgemc.com).

## Fourth of July Holiday Closing



The Central Georgia EMC office will be closed Monday, July 4, 2016, in observance of Independence Day. In case of a power outage, 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.

# Notice of 2015 Capital Credit Assignments

Central Georgia EMC (CGEMC) announces that the capital credit assignment for 2015 is 14.07 percent. In an electric cooperative structure such as CGEMC, each dollar paid in excess of the cost of providing service is an investment in CGEMC by its members. This allocated amount to each member is kept on permanent record in our office.

At the end of the year, after all expenses are paid, any remaining funds are assigned to members' accounts. CGEMC's margins are used as capital until they can be returned through a general refund without impairing the cooperative's financial condition.

Your capital credit assignment may be calculated by multiplying your total electric bill for the year, minus the sales tax and any miscellaneous charges, times the 14.07 percent.

<b>Example:</b>	
<b>If your annual bill totaled:</b>	<b>Your assignment is:</b>
\$ 150 X .1407	\$ 21.10
\$ 300 X .1407	\$ 42.21
\$ 500 X .1407	\$ 70.35
\$ 1,000 X .1407	\$ 140.70

*NOTE: Assignments do not include Central Georgia EMC large power accounts.*

## Thinking of Having a Balloon Release? Better to Hold on to Them

Runaway balloons, especially those with metallic content, too often make contact with overhead power lines. The balloon's metallic coating can conduct electricity. When the balloon touches a wire, a fire or an electrical surge is possible. Electric power in the neighborhood could go out, putting home electronics at risk, and potentially damaging Central Georgia EMC's equipment.



If you must take balloons outdoors, make sure to secure them and keep them away from overhead power lines. Please do not deliberately set them free to float through the sky, as they may become entangled in a power line. Also, avoid retrieving a balloon that is stuck in a power line. Instead, call us at 770-775-7857 to remove the balloon safely.

## Recipe of the Month



### Blueberry Muffins

From the kitchen of  
*Amber Joyner*



#### Muffin ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- 1/3 cup milk
- 1 egg
- 1 cup blueberries

#### Instructions:

Combine dry ingredients. Add milk, oil, and egg to dry ingredients and mix well. Fold in blueberries. Put mixture in greased muffin pan.

#### Topping:

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup butter, cubed, at room temperature
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon

#### Instructions:

Combine sugar, flour, and cinnamon. Cut butter into mixture. Generously sprinkle on top of muffin mixture. Bake at 425 degrees for 25 minutes.

#### Would you like to share a recipe?

If so, please send to 923 S. Mulberry St, Jackson, GA 30233, Attn: Vicki Jolley. Alternatively, submit to [vjolley@cgemc.com](mailto:vjolley@cgemc.com). Please include your account number. You will receive a \$20 credit on your next electric bill for recipes that are printed.



**Central Georgia EMC**  
Community Partners

24 hours a day, 365 days a year  
770-775-7857 • 1-800-222-4877

923 Mulberry Street  
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www.cgemc.com

**Report an Outage**  
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Monday – Friday

**Closed**

Saturday, Sunday and Posted Holidays

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Minorities/Females/Disabled/Vets employer  
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News & Views is published and distributed  
monthly to all members and customers of  
Central Georgia EMC.

**Editorial Staff**

Christy Chewning  
Victoria Jolley

# The Easiest Way to Pay Your Bill

Central Georgia EMC offers members the option to set up automatic monthly payments in advance so you have more time to do the things you enjoy. The automatic payment option allows you to set up recurring monthly payments using a credit card or checking account. Choose the “Schedule Automatic Payment” option from the payment menu, and enter either your credit card or checking information.

You can opt to pay on your due date, or select another date, and your payment will process each month automatically. You will receive a confirmation email letting you know when your payment posts. You may want to use the automatic payment system for a particular period. By choosing an ending date, your payments will no longer process after that date.

The flexibility to manage your CGEMC account, schedule payments, and update information is at your

fingertips. To access these options, please visit [www.cgemc.com](http://www.cgemc.com), choose the “Customer Portal” link and sign into your account.



**Central Georgia EMC**

Choose the self-service  
payment option that fits  
your schedule!



Pay online at [www.cgemc.com](http://www.cgemc.com)  
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