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Electric vehicle FAQs

You've likely heard or read that most automakers are transitioning many or all their new vehicles to electric-only models over the next 10 years. Regardless of the type of car you drive today, the electrification of the transportation sector is underway.

We regularly receive inquiries about electric vehicles (EVs) from Washington EMC members, so I thought it would be helpful to respond to some of those frequently asked questions in this month's issue of *Georgia Magazine*.



Q: Why is Washington EMC communicating about electric vehicles?

A: It's no secret that consumer interest in electric vehicles (EVs) is growing, and Washington EMC is providing information about EV charging requirements so our members can make informed decisions when considering an EV purchase.

Q: Why is Washington EMC involved in EV infrastructure issues?

A: All electric utilities are planning now to ensure they have the necessary electric infrastructure in place to meet future EV charging needs—without jeopardizing the ability to keep reliable power flowing to our

local homes and businesses. As your local energy provider, Washington EMC is best suited to advise and help our members and local businesses plan for the electric vehicle future.

Q: Can I charge my EV using an existing outlet or do I need a special outlet?

A: It depends on how fast you want to charge. All EVs come with a 110-volt-compatible (Level 1) charging unit, which can be plugged into any standard household outlet. For an eight-hour overnight charge, this will enable traveling around 36 to 40 miles a day. If you typically drive longer distances or are in a hurry, a Level 2 charger takes about half the time and provides about 180 miles of range over an eight-hour charging period. A Level 2 charger requires a special outlet that must be installed by a licensed electrician.

Q: Does the outside temperature affect the range of an EV?

A: Outside temperatures, particularly colder weather, can impact the range of an EV. Unlike a gas-powered vehicle, where the heat is mostly coming from the engine, an EV must produce cabin heat and manage an optimal battery temperature with energy that comes from the battery, which can reduce battery range.

Q: Will an EV meet my daily driving needs?

A: If you are like most Americans and drive an average of 30 miles a day, an EV can meet your daily needs.



Wendy Sellers
President/CEO

Q: What kind of incentives are available for EVs?

A: There are a variety of tax credits, rebates and other incentives available for EV purchases. Visit www.afdc.energy.gov/laws/electric-vehicles-for-tax-credit to learn about federal incentives available through the Clean Vehicle Credit program. Visit www.epd.georgia.gov to learn about state incentives.

Q: Should I let my co-op know if I purchase an EV?

A: If you purchase an EV, please let us know so we can better serve you. As more Washington EMC members buy EVs, it's helpful to know where they're located in our area so we can ensure we have the necessary infrastructure in place to meet charging needs and provide reliable power to our local homes and businesses.

We understand making the switch to an EV is a big decision. Whether you're ready to make an EV purchase or wondering whether an EV can meet your daily driving needs, we're here to help you make an informed decision.



An electric membership corporation

258 N. Harris St. • P.O. Box 598
Sandersville, GA 31082

Email: wemc@washingtonemc.com

Website: www.washingtonemc.com

Wendy Sellers, President/CEO

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and each of you—our members!



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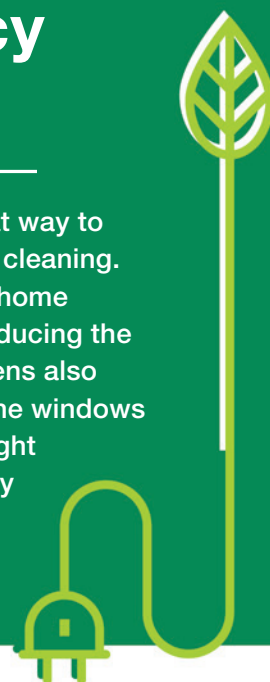
Energy rates will remain unchanged.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Washing windows and screens is a great way to practice energy efficiency during spring cleaning. Clean windows and screens make your home brighter by allowing more sunlight in, reducing the need for lamps and fixtures. Clean screens also allow more fresh air in the home when the windows are open to recycle indoor air. Natural light and clean air are energy savers, and they enhance overall health and productivity.

Source: www.energy.gov



Want to save a little green this spring?

If you're looking to save a little green this spring, we recommend you start by saving energy, which is a great way to be kind to the environment.

Here are 10 easy, zero-cost ways to add a little "green" around the house:

1. **Turn off lights when you leave a room or go to bed.** Lighting an empty room is a waste of resources and money.
2. **Load up the dishwasher before turning it on.** You'll use less energy if you run the appliance only when it's full. However, don't overload the dishwasher, as water needs room to get between plates, glasses and silverware to do its best work.



3. **Wash clothes in cold water.** Most of the energy your washing machine uses is for heating water.
4. **Take showers, not baths.** Showers use less water than filling a bathtub. And keep your showers to 10 minutes long to save even more water.
5. **Unplug appliances when you're not using them.** Appliances continue to use small amounts of electricity when they're plugged in, even if they're turned off.
6. **On warm spring days, turn off the heat and open the windows.**
7. **Lower the thermostat on your water heater to 120 degrees.** That's the safe temperature recommended by manufacturers.



8. **Close the damper of your wood-burning fireplace when you're not using it.** An open damper in an unused fireplace sends heated air from your home up the chimney.
9. **Move furniture away from heating and air-conditioning vents.** If you block them, your HVAC system has to work harder to heat or cool your house. The harder it works the more energy it uses.
10. **Switch the directions your ceiling fan blades spin:** counter-clockwise during the summer and clockwise in the winter.



It's time to get your A/C inspected

Once the weather starts to warm up—but before it gets hot outside—call an HVAC technician to inspect your home's cooling system.

Getting an early checkup will ensure that the A/C works the first day it's hot enough to need it. The tech will clean the coils, inspect parts and spot any problems-in-the-making before they become expensive repairs.

It's important to have this tuneup every spring about a month before you think you're going to start using the A/C. And once the summer heat is history, get a tech back in your home to take a look at your heating system.



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