

"Beat the Heat" Pre-Season Sale

10% off on all refrigeration and air conditioners in stock!

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GE Profile™ 230 Volt Room Air Conditioner with Electronic Remote Control

- 18,000/17,500 BTUH / 10.0/10.0 EER / 230/208 Volts
- 3 Cooling / 3 Fan Speeds
- 5.5 Dehumidification (pints/hr)
- Energy Saver Switch for Reduced Energy Consumption (2 Speeds)
- EZ Mount Window Installation

AGE18DA

\$499.95

GE 19.7 Cu. Ft. Manual Defrost Chest Freezer

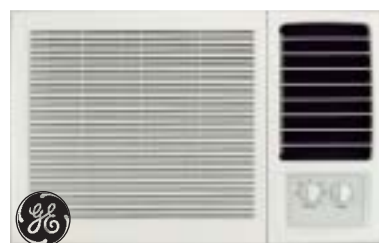


- 19.7 cu. ft. Capacity
- Manual Defrost
- Lock
- 3 Lift-Out and Sliding Bulk Storage Baskets
- Adjustable Temperature Control
- Defrost Water Drain
- Interior Light
- Safety Lock
- Limited Food Loss Warranty
- Wrap-Around Condenser and Evaporator

FCM20DM

\$369.95

GE Value 115 Volt Room Air Conditioner



- Contemporary White Appearance
- 10,000 BTUH, 10.0 E.E.R., 115 Volts 1,400 Watts / 12.0 Amps
- 3.5 Dehumidification (pts/hr)
- 8-Position Thermostat

ASV10AB

\$329.95



GE 21.8 Cu. Ft. top-Freezer Refrigerator with Icemaker

- 21.8 cu ft. Capacity (Fresh Food 15.47 cu ft/Freezer 6.37 cu ft)
- Factory-Installed Automatic Icemaker
- 2 Clear Fruit/Vegetable Crispers
- Pivot-Out Pans
- Snack Pan

GTS22ICM

\$649.95

 **Sumter EMC**
1120 Felder Street, Americus, GA

Mon - Fri 8:30 am - 6 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 2 pm

800-342-6978 or 229-924-8041



SUMTER ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

SEMCO NEWS

Official Member Newsletter

May 2003

Charles Hart earns CCD Certificate



*Charles E. Hart
Director, Schley County*

Director Charles Hart, Schley County, earned his certification as a Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) at the 2003 NRECA Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee. The CCD courses are designed to teach directors the skills to be effective in an increasingly competitive environment and to respond appropriately to new technology, government regulations and business opportunities.

Often called the "core curriculum" for directors, CCD courses cover director duties

and liabilities, understanding the electric business, board roles and relationships, strategic and business planning, and financial planning. Directors must attend 45 hours of classroom instruction and pass an exit test for each class.

Congratulations, Mr. Hart, on your outstanding achievement.

Capital credit assignments

Sumter EMC is a non-profit electric cooperative owned by its members. One of the benefits of being a member is receiving capital credit refunds.

Revenues remaining after all expenses are paid are called margins. Margins are calculated yearly for each consumer and assigned to member accounts as capital credits.

Sumter EMC retains capital credits for several years before refunding them to members to expand distribution facilities and general plant. Using capital credits to construct lines and substations reduces the Cooperative's need to borrow funds as well as lowers our interest expense.

Margins assigned to Sumter EMC by other associated organizations are assigned to members in the same way as operating margins. These organizations include Oglethorpe Power Corporation (OPC), Georgia Rural Electric Service Corp., Southeastern Data Cooperative, and National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation. Margins assigned from OPC* equal 1.4627% of total revenue for 2002. Margins assigned to members from Sumter EMC operations and all other associated organizations combined (excluding OPC) equal 10.2410% of 2002 revenue.

Examples of how your capital credit assignment is calculated are shown in the table below. To compute individual assignments, multiply the percentage figures times the sum of your 2002 power bills, excluding sales tax and other charges.

A letter setting out the magnitude of 2002 capital credits will be mailed to consumers served on Rate Schedule HLF-8 and Rate Schedule CSA; the percentage multiplier does not apply. If you have questions about your capital credit assignments, call our Americus office at (229) 924-8041 or (800) 342-6978.

* OPC margins include both OPC and Georgia Transmission Corporation.

CAPITAL CREDITS ASSIGNED FOR 2002

		If your total bills were:	\$ 500	\$ 1000
10.2410	Capital Credits assigned from Sumter EMC margins were:		\$51.21	\$102.41
1.4627	Capital Credits assigned by Oglethorpe Power Corporation were:		\$ 7.31	\$14.63



Some people are shocked by what they find when they dig in their yard

Call before you dig - it's the law!

It's that time of year when people begin poking all kinds of holes in the ground for new trees, shrubs, fence posts, mail boxes; you name it. The problem these days is that you don't really know what you are going to dig into. It may only be a few earthworms or the ball point pen you lost a few years ago. On the other hand, it could be a buried utility line carrying 220 volts of electricity; or you may chop right into the cable TV line just in time for your favorite program.

Excavation damage can cause injury, loss of life, and environmental damage. It interrupts vital electric, phone and cable services; and it can involve costly repairs.

Before you dig, even to plant trees or shrubs in your own backyard, you must follow these four basic steps:

1. Before you dig, call the Utilities Protection Center's toll-free number, 800-282-7411.
2. Wait the required time for the utilities and municipal agencies to mark the location of underground facilities.
3. Respect the marks.
4. Dig with care.

Protect your family with a Sumter EMC Weather Radio - early warning is your best defense against storms and weather hazards.

Protect your home appliances and electronics today!

Sumter EMC's surge protection program provides protection against surges from near lightning strikes which enter your home through your electric meter, phone line, or cable/satellite TV connection.

Sumter EMC surge suppressors are backed by a lifetime manufacturer's warranty. Meter based whole house protection safeguards your major appliances for just \$5.95 per month; telephone and cable surge protection, each only \$2/month. Installation is free!

For delicate electronics, Sumter EMC has a complete line of point-of-use surge protectors starting at \$52.00. Call today, 800-342-6978 or 229-924-8041, for complete details.



Help us read your meter

Each time you turn on a light or use an appliance, your electric meter records the electricity you purchase. In order to ensure that you receive an accurate bill, someone must read your meter each month.

Sometimes our employees are greeted by big dogs, locked gates, or overgrown bushes. This makes it hard to reach and read your meter safely. You can help us by doing a few simple things:

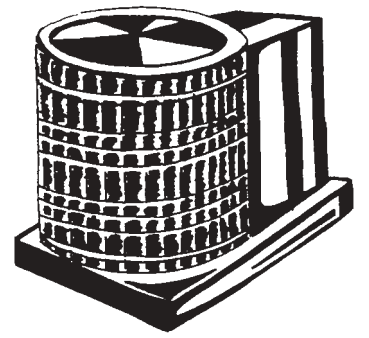
- Make certain we have clear access to your meter.
- Prune any plants hiding the meter.
- Leave dogs inside or on a leash.
- Move any objects blocking the meter.

Thank you for your help in keeping your meter accessible to us.

Electric heat pumps reduce energy costs all year long

Investing in an electric heat pump is one of the smartest energy decisions you can make, and Southwest Georgia is the perfect place to make your investment pay off. The electric heat pump is basically an air conditioner with an added advantage. In one convenient unit it will heat your home in the winter and cool your home in the summer. It's that simple.

The electric heat pump received its name from its method of operation. In actuality it doesn't "pump" heat; it extracts it from the air and transfers it to another space. Only the heat from the air is transferred, not the actual air. That's why so many comparisons are made to solar heat. The electric heat pump does not generate heat - it transfers heat generated by the sun. Since we have an abundance of sunshine in Georgia, the electric heat pump is right at home here!



In winter, the heat pump moves heat from the outside air to the inside, warming your home. Even the coldest winter day offers heat; when it's zero degrees, the air still contains usable heat.

In summer, the process reverses. The heat pump draws hot air away from your home to the outdoors, cooling your home economically even during the hottest months of summer.

Because the electric heat pump returns more energy than it consumes, it generates a phenomenal 200-300 percent efficiency. To learn more about electric heat pumps, call Sumter EMC today at 800-342-6978 or 229-924-8041.

May is National Electric Safety Month

As warm weather allows you more time outdoors for work and play, please be mindful of overhead power lines. When electricity is isolated from the ground, it will always look for the most direct path back to earth. It can be through the air, a wire, a ladder, your body or any other conductive material. Stay safe - don't get in its way!

Bring your payment stub with you and list the account number on your check

When you mail your payment, or pay at one of our offices or collection agents, please mail or bring your payment stub with you and list your account number on your check. Including the payment stub and writing your account number on your check makes it much easier for us to credit your account quickly and accurately. We appreciate your help and look forward to serving you.

Info Bullet

Sumter EMC offers \$200-\$300 rebates to individuals and builders who build new total electric homes or apartments served by Sumter EMC. Call today for details and be sure to ask about our FREE WATER HEATER program, too!

(229) 924-8041 or (800) 342-6978

Enjoy the Peace of Mind of Outdoor Lighting



Why come home to a dark yard? For just pennies a day, you can enjoy the safety, security and peace-of-mind that comes from outdoor lighting. Sumter EMC has a wide variety of outdoor lighting to suit any need. Call us today at 1-800-342-6978 or 229-924-8041 for more information. Be sure to ask how you can get the first three months service FREE!