

ICE STORM - continued from page 1

ees returned sick as a result but has not taken a day off since returning to Grady EMC and is continuing to work because of his dedication to the members he serves. As stated in the beginning, they left on Saturday, January 29 and returned to Grady EMC on Thursday, February 3.

A letter from Washington EMC in Sandersville, Ga. and another letter from a member of Washington EMC was received at Grady EMC expressing their thanks to the dedicated employees and hard work they had done in helping get power restored to their homes and businesses. Those two letters follow:

I just wanted to take a minute to tell you all how thankful we are that you came and gave "all" towards our last power outage. I am a "used to be lineman" and I know how hard it is to even keep up with your own territory, much less someone else's.

I met some of you but never did we exchange names, except one young man that got my beef jerky recipe.

I hope that your co-op realizes what a big piece of the puzzle of "life" that you'll play in keeping the "machines" working. Don't ever let us that don't have a clue on how much is involved in the work that you do, deter you from doing your job in a safe and timely manner, "walk that mile and then we will talk"! I have been down that road and I appreciate your commitment to the cause.

I hope that the citizens of your community will hear this message or at least acknowledge the fact that they are a few or many selfless men and women working for the better of this great country.

So with that, I will end, but don't think that the citizens of Washington and surrounding counties don't appreciate your hard work.

I would like to thank Grady E.M.C for their much needed assistance during the ice storm last week. I had the opportunity to work with the Grady Crew (Scott Taliaferro, Lamar Keen, Mike Smith, Beau Boyett, and Jason Smith) a great bunch of guys. I was highly impressed with their dedication to duty, strict observance of safety rules, workmanship and teamwork. These men are true examples of professional linemen. If the need should ever arise again, I shall look forward to working with this crew. Again thanks to everyone at Grady E.M.C for their assistance in our time of need.

ENERGY USE IN YOUR HOME - continued from page 3

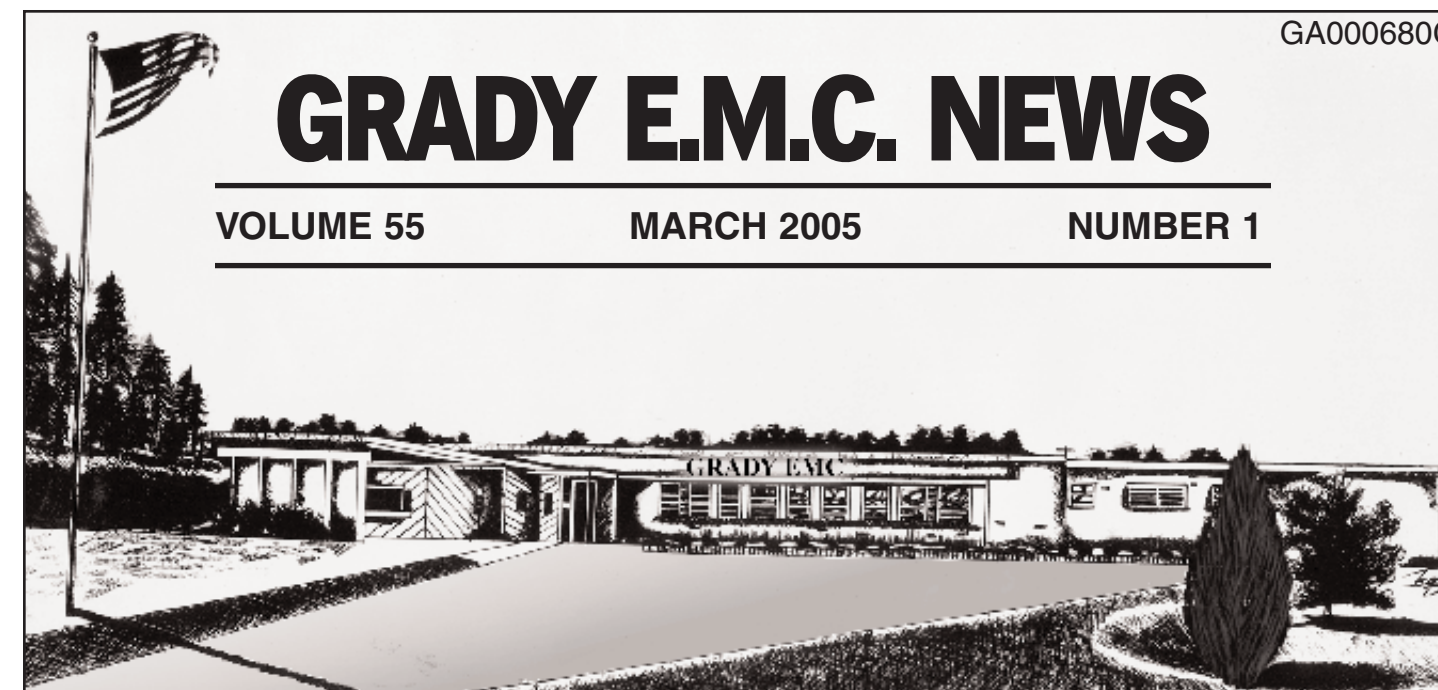
If your baseload electricity consumption is above the average in this table, you should think about some energy saving measures. Your baseload electricity consumption can be affected by older inefficient appliances, a high demand for hot water or unusual loads such as a swimming pool.

If your heating consumption or cooling consumption is above the kWh in this table, you should think about some energy saving measures. Your electrical heating consumption depends on insulation levels, air leakage and heating efficiency. Your air-conditioning electricity usage is determined by window shading, attic insulation, air leakage and air-conditioning efficiency.

Once you understand how your home uses energy, you can go to work installing energy efficiency measures. ■

Source: John Krigger, Saturn Resource Management, www.srmi.biz

GA000680G



GRADY EMC CREW RESPONDS TO CALL FOR HELP IN NORTH GEORGIA **ICE STORM**

On Saturday January 29, 2005, Grady EMC received a call from the EMCs in North Georgia requesting help to restore power to thousands of people as a result of the ice storm that ravaged their area. In just a matter of minutes, a team of volunteers from Grady EMC volunteered to go and assist in the storm restoration effort. Grady EMC's crew consisted of Scott Taliaferro, Lamar Keen, Mike Smith, Beau Boyett, and Jason Smith. Working power outages is always a dangerous situation in your own, familiar territory, but the danger elevates even more when you are working in an unfamiliar system complicated even more by working in an icy, sub-freezing temperature environment. These guys will tell you this was some of the most hazardous work they have done in their careers and definitely the coldest weather they have had to work in for a continuous period of time. One of the employ-



Pictured above (l-r) are Scott Taliaferro, Jason Smith, Beau Boyett, Lamar Keen, and Mike Smith.

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Prepare Your Central Air Conditioner for Summer

Spring is a good time for maintaining your air conditioner. If you keep the coils of your air conditioner clean, it will improve your comfort and reduce your electricity costs this summer.

Start by inspecting the outdoor condensing unit. The large outdoor coil - it looks like a car radiator - is where heat is dissipated from your home. The fan in the condensing unit has to move a whole lot of air through the coil, so make sure that there are no air-flow restrictions around the condensing unit. Cut nearby grass, shrubs, and tree branches so they are at least 3 feet away at the sides and 5 feet away overhead.

Most condenser coils are loaded with pollen and dust, even when you can't see it. The longest a condenser should go without cleaning is 2 or 3 years, depending on how much it operates during the summer. If your cooling season is 4 months or more, annual cleaning is an

excellent idea. Turn off the power to the unit, and remove any visible grass and lint from the fins and/or louvers with an old hairbrush or whisk broom. Then put on a pair of rubber gloves and spray biodegradable outdoor coil cleaner into the coil. Wait five or ten minutes and flush the coil with a gentle water spray.

Your indoor coil might also need cleaning, even though you can't easily see it. If your air conditioner's filter or blower is dirty, then your indoor coil is probably dirty, too. Cleaning the indoor coil is usually a job for professionals, unless you have easy access, as with a central heat pump. To help keep your indoor coil clean, make sure your filter fits well, is easy to change, and that you change it regularly. Have your air conditioning contractor make improvements to the filter, if needed, so it is easy to get to. Change the filter often to help keep your indoor air conditioner coil clean and reduce energy consumption. ■



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Electrification Administration Statement of Nondiscrimination

Grady Electric Membership Corporation has filed with the Federal Government a Compliance Assurance in which it assures the Rural Electrification Administration that it will comply fully with all requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, all requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, all requirements of the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, all requirements under the Americans Disabilities Act of 1990 and all requirements of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to the end that no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color or national origin, of solely by reason of such person's disabilities or on the basis of age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the conduct of its program or the operation of its facilities. Under this Assurance, this organization is committed not to discriminate against any person on the ground of race, color or national origin, solely by reason of such person's disabilities, or on the basis of age, in its policies and practices relating to applications for service or any other policies and practices relating to treatment of beneficiaries and participants including employment, rates, conditions and extensions of service, admissions or access to or use of any of its facilities, attendance at and participation in any meetings of beneficiaries and participants or the exercise of any rights of such beneficiaries and participants in the conduct of the operations of this organization. The person in this organization responsible for coordinating the nondiscrimination compliance efforts of this organization is Pat Reed.

Any individual, or any specific class of individuals, who feel subjected by this organization to discrimination prohibited by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, by the Age Discrimination Act, by the Americans Disabilities Act or by the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture may personally or through a representative, file with the Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; the office of the Administrator, Rural Electrification Administration, Washington, D.C. 20250; The Office of Advocacy and Enterprise, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or this organization, or all, a written complaint. Such complaint must be filed no later than 180 days after the alleged discrimination, or by such later date to which the Secretary of Agriculture of the Administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration extends the time for filing. Identity of complaints will be kept confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of the rules and regulations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Understanding Energy Use in Your All-Electric Home

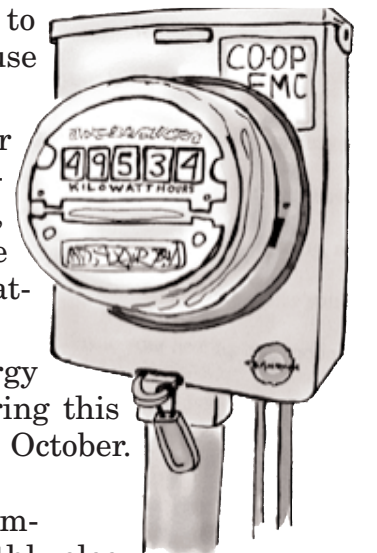
Would you like to reduce your electricity consumption? As you plan to improve your home's efficiency, it helps to understand where you use electrical power.

The first step in understanding your electricity usage is to separate your annual electricity consumption into heating, air conditioning, and baseload uses. Baseload uses include water heating, lighting, refrigeration, laundry, and other uses that don't vary much from month to month. Once you have an estimate of your baseload usage, you can estimate your heating and cooling costs in order to see if they fall above or below average.

Look at your spring or fall electric bills to estimate your baseload energy use, since you probably use little or no heating or air conditioning during this time. This is usually the months of April and May, or September and October. Calculate your average monthly electricity usage for these months in kilowatt-hours (kWh). This is the unit of consumption that your utility company uses, and it should be listed on your bill. Multiply that average monthly electricity usage by 125% to get a rough estimate of your monthly baseload. Then multiply this monthly baseload by 12 to estimate your annual baseload in kilowatt-hours.

To compute cooling electricity, subtract your average monthly baseload from the kilowatt-hours used for each summer month. For heating electricity, subtract the monthly baseload from the kilowatt-hours used each winter month.

The table below shows typical yearly electric consumption for 1600 square-foot homes; in the northern homes, mostly heating, and in the southern homes, mostly cooling. If your home is much larger or smaller than 1600 square feet, the column labeled kWh/ft² will help you rate your home on a per-square-foot basis by multiplying the kWh/ft² times your floor area to arrive at typical consumption for baseload heating and cooling.



Type of Use	Northern climates			Southern climates		
	Annual kWh	%	kWh/ft ²	Annual kWh	%	kWh/ft ²
Baseload	11,000	57%	6.9	9,650	63%	6.0
Heating	7,335	38%	4.6	3,370	22%	2.1
Air Conditioning	965	5%	0.6	2,300	15%	1.4
Total	19,300	100%	12.1	15,320	100%	9.5

kWh - kilowatt hours • From the Energy Information Administration

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