

Georgia Power offers tips, tools and resources for customers during Summer’s extreme heat

With afternoon high temperatures soaring into the mid-90s and above this week across the state, Georgia Power is focused on helping customers minimize the impact of the higher temperatures on electric bills and providing simple tips to use around the house.

Tips, tools and resources

Georgia Power offers efficiency tips and tools that can help all customers save money and energy throughout the year. The company’s My Power Usage program, a free service available for many Georgia Power online accounts, allows customers to track their daily energy use online, project their monthly bill and stay within a set energy budget. Simple Summer tips to save money and energy include:

- Think Thermostat – Heating and cooling costs make up nearly half of your average power bill. Set manual thermostats to 78°F in the Summer for peak efficiency and make the most of programmable thermostats, which help decrease energy use based on your lifestyle.
- Use your Fans – A ceiling fan costs only about \$1.50 a month to operate and will help you feel cooler without having to adjust your thermostat.
- Clear Air Vents – To maintain consistent temperatures throughout your home, keep air vents and return-air registers clear of obstructions such as furniture, curtains and rugs.
- Trim Plants and Change Filters – To ensure your unit receives proper air flow, change filters once a month, or every three months for pleated filters and trim plants around your outside units.
- Caulk and Strip – Replace cracked or peeling caulk or weather stripping around doors and windows to save up to 10 percent on energy use.
- Use Blinds and Curtains – Cover sun-facing windows with blinds or curtains to help limit direct sunlight and heat from en-

- tering your home.
- Unplug Certain Electronics – Electronics account for 5-10 percent of household electricity use. Save up to \$100 a year by either using an advanced power strip or unplugging electronics when not in use.
 - HVAC System Tune-Up – Hire a technician to ensure your HVAC equipment is working properly and schedule an equipment tune-up if necessary.

Other programs to help Georgia Power customers save money and energy throughout the Summer months include:

- A Free Online Energy Checkup – Take a quick and easy online energy checkup that provides a customized energy usage report and ways to save money. Visit www.GeorgiaPower.com/EnergyCheckUp to get started.
 - Home Energy Improvement Program (HEIP) – The Home Energy Improvement Program (HEIP) helps Georgia Power customers reduce energy use, save on energy costs and improve the comfort of their homes. Residential customers can earn rebates from Georgia Power for implementing and installing qualifying energy savings improvements. Learn more at www.GeorgiaPower.com/HomeImprovements.
 - HomeEnergyEfficiencyAssistanceProgram (HEEAP) – The HomeEnergyEfficiency-Assistance Program helps eligible income-qualified customers make free energy efficiency improvements in their home. At no cost to the customer, a program contractor performs the recommended energy efficiency upgrades. Customers can learn more and apply at www.GeorgiaPower.com/HEEAP.
- Georgia Power is committed to helping customers save money on their energy bills and these programs and services can make homes more energy efficient while keeping residents comfortable through Summer’s heat. Find dozens of other energy tips, whether you own a home or rent at www.GeorgiaPower.com/save.

Congressman Bishop calls on Congress to tackle Hydrilla in the 2022 WRDA

Last week, Congressman Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA-02) supported the approval of H.R. 7776, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2022. This bill reauthorizes and increases environmental projects, overseen by the Army Corps of Engineers, that address water, wastewater, water supply, and stormwater management. The legislation also includes provisions requested by Congressman Bishop that will improve water infrastructure in Middle and Southwest Georgia.

It was approved by the U.S. House of Representatives with overwhelming, bipartisan support.

“This year’s Water Resources Development Act makes great strides in improving our efforts to tackle the perennial problem of Hydrilla, an invasive species plaguing Lake Seminole,” said Congressman Bishop. “The Albany community remembers the tragedies of two disastrous ‘500 year’ floods in the 1990s. This bill supports Albany’s floodplain improvement projects as well as

water quality projects to mitigate stormwater overflow and protect clean drinking water.”

Earlier in the year, Congressman Bishop offered testimony in front of the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to urge his colleagues to include measures in the bill that help improve invasive species management of Hydrilla, include a sewer overflow study and a floodplain study in Albany, and include a feasibility study for a forecast informed reservoir operations system on the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basin.

Congressman Bishop has hosted town halls and community meetings in Southwest Georgia about the Hydrilla problem in Lake Seminole. He regularly gets community input and solicits feedback from the Army Corps of Engineers.

Last November, the Congressman sent a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers in support of a focused effort to manage the invasive species.

Burn ban now in effect in city limits

Effective June 23, 2022 the Donelsonville Fire Rescue Department is issuing a burn ban inside of the city limits of Donelsonville. Due to the extensive heat and the lack of rainfall, the possibility of any outside fire spreading to other materials and / or structures is highly likely.

This burn ban is in effect until further notice from the Donelsonville Fire Rescue Department.

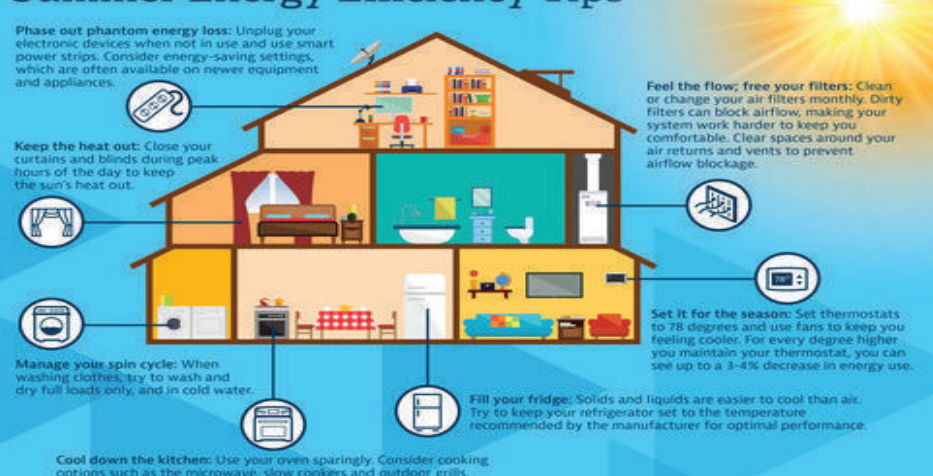
For more information call 229-524-2117.

CITY WIDE



BURN BAN IN EFFECT

Summer Energy Efficiency Tips



Phase out phantom energy loss: Unplug your electronic devices when not in use and use smart power strips. Consider energy-saving settings, which are often available on newer equipment and appliances.

Keep the heat out: Close your curtains and blinds during peak hours of the day to keep the sun's heat out.

Manage your spin cycle: When washing clothes, try to wash and dry full loads only, and in cold water.

Feel the flow, free your filters: Clean or change your air filters monthly. Dirty filters can block airflow, making your system work harder to keep you comfortable. Clear spaces around your air returns and vents to prevent airflow blockage.

Set it for the season: Set thermostats to 78 degrees and use fans to keep you feeling cooler. For every degree higher you maintain your thermostat, you can see up to a 3-5% decrease in energy use.

Fill your fridge: Solids and liquids are easier to cool than air. Try to keep your refrigerator set to the temperature recommended by the manufacturer for optimal performance.

Cool down the kitchen: Use your oven sparingly. Consider cooking options such as the microwave, slow cookers and outdoor grills.



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We are excited to welcome a new Board Member to PeoplesSouth Bank



PEOPLESOUTH BANK



Scott was born in Dothan, Alabama and was raised in southwest Georgia. After receiving his bachelor’s degree from the University of Georgia in 1994, he founded Brookins Elderserve, a senior living development company. Brookins Elderserve and its affiliated entities have developed assisted living facilities and memory care facilities in Florida and Alabama. He currently owns and operates Grand South Senior Living in Dothan, Alabama.

Scott and his wife, Jennifer, have three children and have lived in Tallahassee, Florida since 1996.

M. Scott Brookins

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