

Easy does it

Tired of the same old mealtime grind? Spark up your kitchen routine with these versatile electric countertop appliances that speed meal prep and reduce cleanup.

Pizza maker. Make homemade pizza with a compact, countertop appliance like the Betty Crocker Countertop Pizza Maker (\$52). It's an inexpensive alternative to a brick oven and uses less energy than a traditional oven. Use it to make hot sandwiches, omelets, quesadillas and crepes, too.

Combination cooker. It's a one stop shop for dinner with this appliance that combines multicooker, oven and air fryer. Tops in the category is the Ninja Combi (\$180) that can simultaneously cook proteins, veggies and pasta/grains to get a meal on the table in just 15 minutes.

Breakfast station. Tired of early morning chaos in the kitchen? Try an all-in-one breakfast cooker like the Nostalgia Family Size Breakfast Station (\$70) that bakes or toasts, grills and makes coffee simultaneously.

With these electrifying appliances, you'll have family meals on the table, quick and easy.



ENERGY SAVERS
DO A LITTLE, SAVE A LOT

HELP CONTROL ENERGY COSTS

Inspect and clean or replace air filters regularly to optimize heat pump and HVAC efficiency.

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FEB '24

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Barn benefits

LOGANVILLE HIGH LIVESTOCK PROGRAM TEACHES LIFE SKILLS

Vocational agriculture teacher Sean Bryant believes teens can develop better life skills in the barn. A School EmPOWERment Grant from Walton EMC is helping him prove his point.

Bryant is the FFA advisor at Loganville High School, a suburban school where few students live on a farm. That hasn't stopped the instructor from finding a way for teens to learn by caring for livestock — goats, specifically.

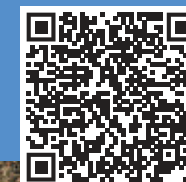
After more than a decade without a livestock program, FFA members at the school began raising and exhibiting goats six years ago. The experience teaches responsibility, work ethic, critical thinking and communication — skills that can be applied to many careers beyond agriculture.

"Livestock exhibiting is hard work," Bryant said. "There are a lot of failures and struggles involved in getting an animal that will perform in the showing."

—continued inside



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Barn benefits

—continued from front

The program received a significant boost with the opening of a 728-square-foot livestock barn constructed with a \$20,000 EmPOWERment grant. Previously, students had to drive to Loganville Middle School to care for their goats at a shared facility.

Having a barn on school grounds opens the door for more teens to participate in the goat program. Students typically spend one to two hours daily caring for their animals.

Loganville FFA members are busy preparing for the 2024 Georgia Junior National Livestock Show occurring this month. Bryant is optimistic that having a new facility within easy reach will help them build on last season's showing successes.

"It was our best year ever with all our students making it to the showmanship finals," he said about results from the 2023 state show. "I think this year is going to be even better."



ON THE COVER:

Pictured from left: Conner Brooks, FFA student advisor and 10th grader, assists 9th grader Carsyn Chadwick with her goat. Chadwick is a member of the chapter's goat show team. At right is agricultural science teacher Sean Bryant. The opening of a new 728-square-foot on-campus livestock barn, funded by a \$20,000 EmPOWERment grant, has provided a significant boost to the program. Previously, students traveled off-site to care for project goats. The new facility allows daily on-campus access and learning opportunities.

STORM PREP:

Have the right supplies

February 6–10 is Georgia Severe Weather Preparedness Week. Walton EMC urges our customer-owners to be prepared for severe weather. Visit our Storm Center to know what to do in the event of a storm-related outage.

LIGHT

Secure flashlights, battery-powered lanterns and extra batteries. Avoid light sources that require a flame or fire.



WATER

If you depend on a well, fill bathtubs or other large containers with water for household use. Fill clean pitchers or jugs for drinking water. If you have livestock or poultry, secure a standby generator to run the well.

Flush toilets when the water is off by lifting the lid and filling the tank to the fill line marked on the inside. The toilet will operate as normal. You'll need to repeat the process each time you want to flush.



FOOD

Nonperishable foods that don't need cooking are ideal, like canned fruit, powdered milk, peanut butter, bread and crackers. Don't forget a manual can opener.

If there's room, keep plastic containers (e.g., rinsed-out milk jugs) filled with frozen water in your refrigerator and freezer. In case of a power outage, your food will stay colder longer.



HEAT

Have blankets, sleeping bags and extra clothes, including hats.

If you have a fireplace, stock up on kindling and a good supply of wood. Be extremely careful when using alternate heating sources. Some are not approved for indoor use and could be a fire or carbon monoxide hazard. Check that your fire extinguisher is charged and working.



INFO

Get a portable AM/FM radio with extra batteries for local information and a NOAA weather radio for weather warnings. A wind-up or battery-powered alarm clock may be handy. Cordless landline phones don't work without power, so have at least one wired phone available. Buy an external power pack or car charger for your cell phone and an extra battery for your laptop. Purchase a power inverter so you can run a laptop from your car's cigarette lighter.



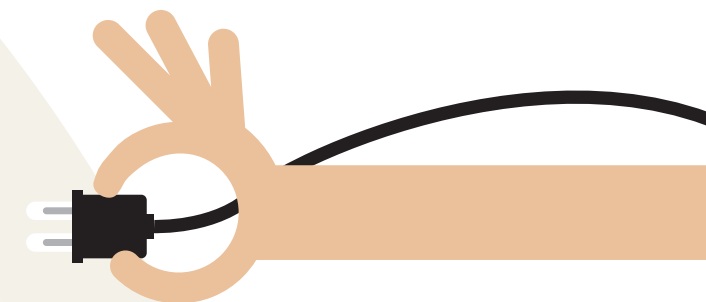
MEDICAL

Have a contingency plan for patients who have a medical necessity for electricity. This includes backup power, extra medical supplies, or an alternate location until the outage is over. Make sure supplies of prescription drugs are adequate and have a first-aid kit on hand.



BACKUP POWER

Start and run your generator monthly. If you're not able to exercise the generator regularly, drain the fuel tank and run the engine until it stops. Have a supply of fresh fuel on hand. Install a generator transfer switch.



PLUGGED IN

Q: Does Walton EMC distribute capital credits to deceased members?

A: When the unfortunate passing of a member happens, survivors are entitled to receive any remaining balance in the deceased's capital credit account.

As a not-for-profit cooperative, any revenue Walton EMC collects above what it takes to operate the business is returned to the co-op's customer-owners in the form of capital credits. To receive payment, a representative of the estate should contact the co-op to request a refund application. A completed application, along with a certified copy of the deceased's death certificate and other documents, must be submitted. Allow about eight to 12 weeks to receive the capital credits refund.

Dealing with the loss of a loved one can be very trying, so we try to make the capital credit refund process as easy as possible. To request an application or additional information, call us at 770-267-2505.



Question answered by
Amy Clark
Accountant

waltonemc.com/news/storm-center