

Wicked Weather Skirts WEMC

Although forecasts looked bleak, your co-op escaped major damage from the ice storm that occurred during the week of Feb. 16.

At the height of the outages, about 5,000 customer-owners were out of power. Ice-laden limbs and trees that fell across power lines caused most outages. The northern fringe of our service territory was hardest hit. Southern areas saw little to no ice.



To restore service as quickly as possible, crews from Okefenoke EMC in Nahunta, Snapping Shoals EMC in Covington, Tri-County EMC in Gray and Georgia Right-of-Way assisted for two days. As soon as the work was completed here, those crews, along with several Walton EMC crews, traveled to hard-hit EMCs in North Georgia to assist with their restoration efforts.

Our crews went to neighboring Jackson EMC, where they experienced the largest outage in the co-op's history. As it turns out, massive devastation occurred only a few miles north of Walton EMC.

To see current outages, read storm preparation tips or learn how we restore your power, log on to the Storm Center at waltonemc.com anytime.

Even in this modern age of machinery, some tasks still require plain, old-fashioned muscle. Walton EMC line technicians work to hoist a downed line back to a pole in Barrow County following February's ice storm.

Youth Tour Delegates Selected

Walton EMC recently held its annual Washington Youth Tour Contest where local students compete to earn a spot in this annual leadership event. These eight students scored the highest on a written test and then went on to an interview session where four delegates and two alternates were chosen to represent Walton EMC on the tour.

Pictured are, front row, left to right, Jenny Choi, Devneet Singh and Lillian Wang; second row, John Golden, Alyssa Forrest, Susannah Couch and Kusona Fortingo; third row, Alexandra Marlette.

Choi, a junior at Brookwood High School; Marlette, a junior at Parkview High School; Forrest, a homeschooled junior and Devneet, a sophomore at Gwinnett School of Math, Science and Technology, were selected as delegates and will join students from EMCs across the state in Atlanta to kickoff the tour this June.



THE *Rundown*

inside: your low electric rates **inside flap:** exploring our landmarks
on the back: ice storm update

solar *made* easy

Walton EMC is removing barriers to solar power

Walton EMC
Community Solar



“Our project allows customer-owners who live under every rooftop to participate in solar energy production.”

Your co-op is in the process of making solar power readily available without the obstacles of owning your own system.

Walton EMC is building a community solar farm adjacent to its Monroe headquarters. Construction is slated to begin this month with the first solar-generated electricity flowing by July 1.

“The National Renewal Energy Laboratory estimates only about 25 percent of the residential rooftops in our country are suitable for onsite solar electricity generation,” said CEO Ronnie Lee. “Our project allows customer-

owners who live under **EVERY** rooftop to participate in solar energy production.”

As a Walton EMC customer-owner, you can receive the output from the solar facility according to your needs and interest. Every month, the energy output of your portion will be calculated and credited to your bill. This solar energy will offset energy produced from traditional fuels.

The completed project will be among the seven largest community solar installations in the country and the largest in the eastern half of the U.S.



Look inside for more about Walton EMC Community Solar >>>

Walton EMC is ranked “Highest in Customer Satisfaction among Midsize Utilities in the South” —J.D. Power

QUICK GUIDE



IF YOUR POWER IS OUT

770.267.2505
waltonemc.com > Report an Outage

FIND US

Phone 770.267.2505

In person Monroe – 842 US Hwy. 78

Snellville – 3645 Lenora Church Rd.

Watkinsville – 2061-D Hog Mountain Rd.

Web waltonemc.com

Facebook facebook.com/waltonemc

Twitter twitter.com/waltonemc

YouTube youtube.com/user/emctv

WHEN WE'RE AVAILABLE

Power Outages and Emergencies > 24/7

Call Center > M–F, 7A–7P

Business Offices > M–F, 8A–5P



EMC LEADERS

CEO Ronnie Lee

Sr. VP Corporate Services

Russell DeLong

Sr. VP Engineering & Operations Ron Marshall

Sr. VP Power Supply Robert Rentfrow

Sr. VP Finance Marsha Shumate

Board Chair Dan Chelko

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Greg Brooks, MCC, CCC

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Walton EMC received the highest numerical score among midsize utilities in the South in the proprietary J.D. Power 2014 Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction StudySM. Study based on 104,460 online interviews ranking 30 providers in the South (AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, NM, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA). Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed in July 2013–May 2014. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com.



exploring our LANDMARKS

Take a look around the 10 counties in your co-op's service area and you'll find some interesting, beautiful, historic and just plain cool spots.

How well do you know Walton EMC's service territory? Some of the locations we choose may be hard to identify; some may be easy. But all are worth knowing about.

Guess the location of this scene found somewhere within the 10 counties of Walton EMC's service territory and you could win a prize. We'll draw from the winners of all correct guesses for a \$25 gift card.



This fire hydrant, located next to a 9/11 memorial, never runs out of water.

Email your guess to landmarkscontest@waltonemc.com with the subject line "APRIL LANDMARKS CONTEST" no later than May 5. Entries that do not follow these guidelines will be disqualified.

LAST MONTH'S LANDMARK: The famous Iron Horse sculpture on Hwy. 15 in northern Greene County was originally erected on the University of Georgia campus in 1954. It was moved because of repeated student vandalism.

FEBRUARY WINNER: Dawn Calhoun of Monroe.

©2015. Walton EMC is a customer-owned power company. That means our cooperative focuses on service, not profit. We serve more than 122,000 accounts in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, DeKalb, Greene, Gwinnett, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Rockdale and Walton Counties. Our subsidiaries supply natural gas and security services.

Solar Made Easy, continued from front

FAST FACTS

Total electricity output of project:
APPROX. 2 MILLION KWH/YR

Number of panels: **APPROX. 4,200**

Panel type: **CANADIAN CS6-P**

Panel output: **300 WATTS**

Panel tilt: **20°**

Construction company: **RADIANCE SOLAR, ATLANTA**

Land area: **SIX ACRES**

Energy availability: **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED**

WALTON EMC COMMUNITY SOLAR ADVANTAGES

- Walton EMC operates and maintain panels
- Economies of scale bring panel costs down
- No holes in your roof
- No solar siting issues (roof direction, shading, etc.)
- Renters can participate
- Homeowners under restrictive covenants can participate

The completed project
will be among the seven
largest community solar
installations in the country and
the largest in the eastern
half of the U.S.

**SOLAR
SITE**
coming
summer
2015

HOW DO I SIGN UP?
Sign ups will begin in the coming months. Log on to waltonemc.com and watch our newsletter.

MONROE HEADQUARTERS

WAREHOUSE

**HWY
78**

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?
Pricing plans will be available soon. Log on to waltonemc.com and watch our newsletter for information.

Your electric rates are low

According to the Georgia Public Service Commission Winter 2015 Electric Rate Study, the average Walton EMC customer-owner paid \$36.80 less in January compared to the same amount of electricity from Georgia Power.

Figures are based on the closest survey level, 2,000 kWh, to the actual average electricity use of Walton EMC customer-owners in January. The semi-annual survey covers all 94 customer-owned, government-owned and investor-owned electric utilities and includes all charges to give a true picture of what customers actually paid.

\$166.10
\$202.90
\$214.73
\$300.40

January 2015 Electric Bill

What **Walton EMC Customer-Owners** Paid

What Customers of **Georgia Power** Paid

What Customers of the **Average Georgia Utility** Paid

What Customers of the **Highest Georgia Utility** Paid

Of 94 utilities in Georgia, Walton EMC is the fourth lowest!