Residential Service Charges Changing

One of the charges included in your monthly bill is a base service charge. The base service charge partially covers the fixed costs of delivering your electric service. Among these fixed costs are reading your meter; generating, delivering, and billing; and performing other tasks necessary to ensure keeping your power flowing; and maintaining the equipment used in meter; generating, delivering and maintaining the equipment used in meter reading. These changes to more accurately allocate these costs, both fixed and energy, to their true sources.

The service charge does not include the cost of servicing your account. The costs of servicing your account are recovered through what you pay for electricity. We are making these changes to more accurately allocate these costs, both fixed and energy, to their true sources.

Overall, this change will affect your bill very little. Your cooperative has some of the most favorable rates in the state and country. Because we’re a cooperative, we’ll never charge you more than it costs to deliver your electric service. If you’re over 65 and have a household income of less than $15,000, please call us at 770.267.2505 to apply for our Senior Citizen-Low Income Assistance discount.

### TABLE OF SERVICE

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Don’t fall victim to a phone scam targeting some Walton EMC customer-owners.

THE TRICK GOES LIKE THIS: A caller claims to be a Walton EMC representative. The scammer goes on to say that in order to avoid immediate disconnection of electric service, the consumer must furnish a credit or pre-paid card number for payment. Any unsuspecting consumer who complies will have his credit card fraudulently charged or lose the money spent on a pre-paid card.

Some of the scams also involve a toll-free number that consumers are directed to call. We do notify customer-owners of pending disconnection, but know these facts about our process:

- We don’t dictate the payment method you must use. In some instances, we may require certified funds.
- Customer-owners whose accounts are in danger of disconnection will receive notice on their bill. We will also attempt an automated courtesy call two days before disconnection.
- Courtesy calls from Walton EMC concerning delinquent accounts are placed during normal business hours.
- Service disconnections are only made during regular business hours.

Watch Out for Utility Scams!

Don’t ever give information to any person you’re not sure about. If you’re ever in doubt, hang up and call us at 770.267.2505.

What everyone needs to know about Georgia’s “Call Before You Dig” law:

- Everyone – including homeowners – must request to have underground utility locations marked. Contact Georgia 811 at least two business days before beginning any mechanized digging.
- Even if you’re hand digging, your project is small or you’re unsure, it’s always best to contact Georgia 811.
- It’s recommended that the actual person doing the digging submit the utility location request. If you’re a homeowner and have a contractor working on your property, the contractor should contact Georgia 811.
- Requests should not be submitted more than 10 working days before digging.
- After contacting Georgia 811, you must wait at least 48 hours before digging.
- The location markings are good for 21 days. If the project goes longer, the request must be renewed.
- The marks on the ground may not exactly correspond to the location of the wires or pipes. Two feet on either side of the utility is considered a “tolerance zone.”

Whether you’re using a shovel to plant a tree or a bulldozer to move a mountain, you need to call 811 first!

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Real Stories from an Underground Repair Crew

INCIDENT 1:
Location: Front yard
Description: Homeowner planting trees with shovel nicked all three service wires coming to the home, causing them to fail. Homeowner had not called for lines to be marked prior to planting.

Time to Repair Damage: Four hours
Materials Required: 10 feet of underground primary wire, two wire splices
Violations: Failure to submit a request for re-stake if excavation will continue beyond 21 days; failure to notify both Georgia 811 and the affected utility owner/operator after damage.

REAL EXCELLENCE: Underground Crew Earns Seventh Award
Walton EMC’s Monroe underground crew has quite a streak going.

For the seventh consecutive year, the Georgia Utilities Coordinating Council has recognized the group with the Golden Backhoe award for their diligence in avoiding underground utility cuts. That means seven years of no damage while completing thousands of underground wiring installations and repairs.

Snickerdoodle Cookies

DOUGH BALLS:
½ cup shortening
¾ cup butter
1 ½ cups granulated sugar
2 eggs
2 ½ cups plain flour
2 teaspoons cream of tartar
1 teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla flavoring

COATING:
4 tablespoons sugar
2 tablespoons cinnamon

Beat shortening, butter, sugar and eggs in a large bowl with mixer until blended. Gradually add flour, cream of tartar, baking soda, salt and vanilla flavoring until mixture is blended. Chill 30 minutes. Roll dough into balls (about a tablespoon of dough for each ball).

Combine sugar and cinnamon. Roll dough balls in cinnamon and sugar mixture until coated.

Place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake in 400° F oven for 8–10 minutes. Allow cookies to cool at least 3 minutes before removing. Makes 3 dozen.

Thanks to Marsha Cunningham of Lawrenceville for sharing her recipe. Featured recipes are not independently tested, so we depend on the accuracy of the cooks sending them. Always use safe food handling, preparation and cooking procedures from recognized experts.

Snickerdoodle Cookies

Over 50 recipes! To get your copy of Through the Years, the Walton EMC cookbook, visit our offices, mail a check for $12.95 ($10 plus $2.95 shipping) to Cookbook, Walton EMC, P.O. Box 260, Monroe, GA 30655 or call 770.266.2332 to use your credit card.

Snickerdoodle Cookies

REAL STORIES from an Underground Repair Crew

INCIDENT 2:
Location: Barn
Description: Contractor installing water line hit Walton EMC primary electric line. There were no paint marks on the ground indicating utility lines were marked. Property owner could not provide a utility location request ticket number. Upon further investigation, the lines had been previously located and marked but the ticket had expired.

Time to Repair Damage: Four hours
Materials Required: 10 feet of underground primary wire, two wire splices
Violations: Failure to submit a request for re-stake if excavation will continue beyond 21 days; failure to notify both Georgia 811 and the affected utility owner/operator after damage.

Wallon EMC Helps Students Gain Career Skills

FFA members from Monroe Area, Oconee County and Morgan County high schools recently competed in the Sub-Region FFA EMC Electrification Career Development Event (CDE) at Walton EMC’s Monroe headquarters.

To prepare for the CDE, students participated in agricultural mechanics classroom training courses and after school programs. The purpose of the CDE is to prepare students for an electrical career in the agriculture field.

Juston Morrell from Oconee County earned top honors at the competition. Dylan Phillips, also from Oconee, placed second and Jacob Malcom from Monroe Area placed third. Other participants included Monroe Area’s Kolby Matthews and Morgan County’s Mitchell Hawk and Liam Tewksbury.

One student from each school competed in the North Region competition. The top competitor at the state level receives a college scholarship.

Sponsored annually by Walton EMC, the CDE includes a wiring problem in which participants translate a wiring diagram, select the necessary wiring materials for the problem and then install a complete electric circuit. They must also answer questions based on their understanding of the National Electric Code and explain the components of an electrical wiring task before a panel of judges.

Snickerdoodle Cookies

Unclaimed Refunds

Please look at these Walton EMC customer-owned who discontinued service. We mailed refunds of deposits and/or membership fees, but they were returned by the Post Office.

If you know someone on this list, please have them contact us at 770.266.2319.

Haley, Maudell, Hughes, Wanda; Hummel, Lois E.; Hunt, James M.; Huston, Marty, Jr.; Yonnie C.; Jass, Fathie, Johnson, Delia M.; Johnson, Earl B.; Jones, Philip (Jordon), Holly V.; Kjaer, James S.; Kasant, Mickey; Kemmer, James R.; Kidd, Sandy; Kline, Edward B.; Lawton, Linda; Lawton, Mattie; Lawrence, Charles; Lawson, Norma; Levy, Mark; Leen, Brian; Leonard, Gary; Maddox, Stacey; Malone, Whitey R.; Martinez, Laura; McDaniel, Kevin L.; McGaha, Claude H.; Mitchell, Lanele H.; Morberger, Emily L.; Mizner, Evelyn; O’Dare, Dennis J.; O’Neal, Elizabeth B.; Osborne, Joseph, Payne, Dennis L. Payne, Eric; Pearson, John N.; Pearl, Kerrel; Peppers, Robert P.; Perry, Joe; Pitts, Robert H.; Poors; and Assoc.; Pope, Charles; Prince Jr., Lee P.; Puckett, Mark R.; Raleigh, Robert C.; Riley, Jill R., Ritchie, Robert; Roberts, Harold B.; Roberts, Linda R.; Roman, Frederick D.; Sapp, David C.; Scott, John C.; Scott, Danny D.; Sharma, Deepak; Sirca Rechtsch, Smith, Debbie W.; Smith, Sandra M.; Solomon, Khalil; St. German, Tracey; Steene, Andia G.; Stephens, Mandell B.; Stephens, Ralph D.; Stewart, Deborah R.; Stewart Team Ref. Stone,休闲; Strahm, Wildlin M.; Sullivan, Nancy; Taber, Jr., George P.; Thacker, Pam V.; Viera, Herbe B.; Visson, Leonard C.; Watts, Scott D.; Watson, Donnemeckler L.; Westdahl, Willet, John; White, Ashley C.;槐,;"
Snickerdoodle Cookies

**DOUGH BALLS:**
- ½ cup shortening
- ¼ cup butter
- 1 ½ cups granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 ½ cups plain flour
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla flavoring

**COATING:**
- 4 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons cinnamon

Beat shortening, butter, sugar and eggs in a large bowl with mixer until blended. Gradually add flour, cream of tartar, baking soda, salt and vanilla flavoring until mixture is blended. Chill 30 minutes. Roll dough into balls (about a tablespoon of dough for each ball).

Combine sugar and cinnamon. Roll dough balls in cinnamon and sugar mixture until coated.

Place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake in 400° F oven for 8–10 minutes. Allow cookies to cool about 3 minutes before removing. Makes 3 dozen.

**Win a Walton EMC cookbook!**

Attn: Recipes, Share!

Win a Walton EMC cookbook! There were no paint marks on the ground indicating utility lines were marked. Property owner could not provide a utility location request ticket number. Upon further investigation, the lines had been previously located and marked but the ticket had expired.

**Time to Repair Damage:** Four hours

**Materials Required:**
- 10 feet of underground primary wire, two wire splices

**Violations:**
- Failure to submit a request for re-stake if excavation will continue beyond 21 days; failure to notify both Georgia 811 and the affected utility owner/operator after damage.

**REAL STORIES from an Underground Repair Crew**

**INCIDENT 1:**

- Location: Front yard
- Description: Homeowner planting trees with shovel nicked all three service wires coming to the home, causing them to fail. Homeowner had not called for lines to be marked prior to planting.

**Time to Repair Damage:** Four hours

**Materials Required:**
- 12 feet of underground service wire, nine wire splices

**Violations:**
- Failure to provide a utility location request ticket number. Upon further investigation, the lines were marked by an authorized utility owner/operator after damage.

**REAL EXCELLENCE:**

**Underground Crew Earns Seventh Award**

Walton EMC’s Monroe underground crew has quite a streak going. For the seventh consecutive year, the Georgia Utilities Coordinating Council has recognized the group with the Golden Backhoe award for their diligence and care in avoiding accidental underground utility cuts. Here’s what that means seven years of no damage while completing thousands of underground wiring installations and repairs.

**INCIDENT 2:**

- Location: Barn
- Description: Contractor installing water line hit Walton EMC primary electric line. There were no paint marks on the ground indicating utility lines were marked. Property owner could not provide a utility location request ticket number. Upon further investigation, the lines had been previously located and marked but the ticket had expired.

**Time to Repair Damage:** Four hours

**Materials Required:**
- 10 feet of underground primary wire, two wire splices

**Violations:**
- Failure to submit a request for re-stake if excavation will continue beyond 21 days; failure to notify both Georgia 811 and the affected utility owner/operator after damage.

**ELECTRIC**

- Underground Cable Colors: Ever see all different of color paint marks on the ground? They are not abstract art. They are vitally important in preventing dangerous and expensive underground utility cuts. Here’s what each color means:

**GAS, OIL, STEAM**

**COMMUNICATION CATV**

**RECLAIMED WATER, IRRIGATION**

**SEWER**

**WATER**

**TEMPORARY SERVICE MARKINGS**

**PROPOSED EXCAVATION**

**Walton EMC Helps Students Gain Career Skills**

FFA students from area schools compete a real life electrical wiring exercise at Walton EMC’s Monroe headquarters. The career development event is sponsored annually by the cooperative.

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If you know someone on this list, please have them contact us at 770.266.2319.

- Acosta, Willie M.; Adam; Co. The Builder; Alex Custom Homes, LLC; American Express Financial; Andersen, Hennes; Bailey, John,; Barker, Henry G.; Bartter; Shakti; Baum, Patricia J.; Bentkowski, Allie; Bell, Darby A.; Beeman, Min; Blackwell, Jordan; Bonilla; Roberto; Bonilla; Alfiya; Better Call; Bell, Joe; Byrnes, Bryan; Campbell, Hillary; Carey, Joseph N.; Carr, Chad A.; Cartwright, William; Colbert, George; Collins; Ali Gah; LLC; Crawford, James B.; Crawford, Leslie; Daniel, Wayne; Davis, Travis; Drake, George H.; Carr Safety While You Learn, Edmond, Jr.; Willie; Edwards, Ronald A.; Ebers, Gregory J.; Eri; Communication Farm, Tadina.
- Franz, Sandra; Frazier, Jamie L.; Ga Communications, Inc.; Ganschow, Lesly R.; Greene, Peggy V.; Greene, Ten E.; Gregg; Dilling and Testing; Griffin, Tiffany H.; Hale, Laura M.; Hale, Robert D.; Hall, Byron W.; Hamilton, Henry; Hammock, Ronald B.; Hansons, Reuben; Hardigre, Mary H.; Harp, Stephen G.; Harrison, Sandra F.; Henry, Ruth P.; Hill, Ashley C.; Huynh, Mustard; Hughes, Wanda; Hummick, Lois E.; Hurtle, James M.; Hutchinson, Marty, Ida; Yoon, C.; Jass, Fabian; Johnson, Delia M.; Johnson, Earl B.; Jones, Phillip G.; Jordan, Holly V.; Kazier, James, S.; Kassaus, Michael; Kea, Diana; Kids; Davies; Williams; Hill, William,; Johnson, Robert C.; Kline, Scott; Kline, Denny D.; Scharma, Deepak; Scharma, S.; Lillie, R.; Luck; McGaha, Claudia H.; Mitchell, Leneille H.; Werbach, Eric M.; Nylon, Robert; O’Neill, Dennis J.; O’Neal, Elizabeth B.; Osborne, Janet D.; Payne, Denis L.; Payne, Eric; Pearson, John P.; Paul, Kent; Pettey, Robert P.; Perry, Joe; Pitts, Robert H.; Poorak and Assoc.; Pope, Charles; Pringle, Leon P.; Plackett, Mark A.; Raleigh, Robert C.; Riley, Jill; Ritchie; Roberts, Robert; Roberts; Harold B.; Roberts; Linda H.; Roder; Frederic D.; Saps, David C.; Scott, John; C.; Scott; Denny, D.; Scharma, Deepak; Scharma, S.; Smith; Debbie W.; Smith, Sandra M.; Solomon, Khalil S.; St. German, Tracy; Steene, Andrea G.; Stephens, Mendel B.; Stephens, Ralph D.; Stewart, Deborah H.; Stewart Team Ren; Stone, Richard; Strohbach, Wilden M.; Sullivan, Nancy; Tabor, Jr., George P.; Thacker, Pam F.; Viera, Herbert A.; Vinson, Leonard C.; Watts, Scott D.; Watson, Dominique L.; Westfield, Welford; Colonel, William,; Wilson, Carter,; Winters, Doris C.; Witter, Elizabeth R.; Young, Ramon T.;
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Among these fixed costs are reading your meter, generating, delivering and processing your bill; buying and maintaining the equipment used in keeping your power flowing; and performing other tasks necessary to ensure a reliable electric distribution system. The service charge does not include the cost of the actual electricity you use.

The service charge is changing because the costs of servicing your account are rising. In addition to increased costs, we’re also adjusting the service charge so it more accurately reflects the actual fixed costs it’s designed to cover.

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