

THE *Rundown* } **inside:** unclaimed refunds **inside flap:** new recipe
on the back: watch out for utility scams

DIGGING? DO IT SAFELY!



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

REAL STORIES

from an Underground
Repair Crew

See inside

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."

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



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NEED NATURAL GAS SERVICE?

770.GAS.HEAT > waltonemcgas.com



NEED SECURITY SERVICE?

770.963.0305 > emcsecurity.com



RECIPE

Swap

Snickerdoodle Cookies

DOUGH BALLS:

- ½ cup shortening
- ½ cup butter
- 1 ½ cups granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 ¾ 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



A good cookie with a funny name

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.

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.*

Share! your great recipe. If we use it, you'll win a Walton EMC cookbook!

Mail to Walton EMC, Attn: Recipes, P.O. Box 260, Monroe, GA, 30655 or email to recipes@waltonemc.com.

Over 650 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

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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

Violation: Damage to underground utility from careless digging with hand tools.

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 damage.

That means seven years of no damage while completing thousands of underground wiring installations and repairs.

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.



Pictured are, front, from left, John Spence, Brandon Waters, Ryan Mitchell, back, from left, Tommy Maddox, Jerry Miller, Arthur Thomas and Larry Johnson.



ELECTRIC



SEWER



GAS, OIL, STEAM



WATER



COMMUNICATION
CATV



TEMPORARY
SERVICE MARKINGS



RECLAIMED WATER,
IRRIGATION



PROPOSED
EXCAVATION

Underground Cable Colors:

Ever see all sorts of different 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:

Walton 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 afterschool programs. The purpose of the CDE is to prepare students for an electrical career in the agriculture field.

Justin Morrell from Oconee County earned top honors at the competition. Dylan Philips, 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.



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

where are you? Unclaimed Refunds

Please look at these Walton EMC customer-owners 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 770.266.2519.

Adcock, Willie M.; **Adrian**, Co. The Bldr.; **Alex Custom Homes**, LLC; **American Express Financial**; **Anderson**, Hermon; **Bailey**, Courtney; **Baker, Jr.**, Henry G.; **Barber**, Shakita; **Baum**, Patricia J.; **Bektassoba**, Alfiya; **Bell**, Darothy A.; **Better Weigh, Inc.**; **Blackwell**, Joseph; **Bonilla**, Roberto; **Boswell**, Ednie; **Boyd**, Carole S.; **Bradshaw**, Albert W.; **Brown**, Grover L.; **Brown**, Fred C.; **Browning**, Chalaundria; **Bryant**, Buford H.; **Burrige**, Peter D.; **Butler**, Inez H.; **Byers**, Bryan; **Campbell**, Hillary; **Carey**, Joseph N.; **Carr**, Chad B.; **Cartwright**, William; **Colbert**, George; **Colfin AI-GA1, LLC**; **Crawford**, James B.; **Crawford**, Leslie; **Daniel**, Boyzie; **Davis**, Roosevelt; **Drake**, George W.; **Earn Safely While You Learn**; **Edmond, Jr.**, Willie; **Edwards**, Ronald A.; **Ehlers**, Gregory J.; **Erin Communication**; **Ford**, Tania; **Fraro**, Sandra; **Frazier**, Jamella Z.; **Ga. Communications, Inc.**; **Ganschow**, Lesley R.; **Greene**, Peggy V.; **Greene**, Tom E.; **Gregg Drilling and Testing**; **Griffin**, Tiffany H.; **Hale**, Laura M.; **Hale**, Robert O.; **Hall**, Byron W.; **Hamilton**, Henry; **Hammock**, Ronald B.; **Hanson**, Reanee; **Hardigree**, Marilyn M.; **Harp**, Stephen G.; **Harrison**, Sandra F.; **Henry**, Ruth P.; **Hill**, Ashley C.;

Huey, Maudell; **Hughes**, Wanda; **Hunnicut**, Lois E.; **Hurdle**, James M.; **Hutcheson**, Marty; **Ivie**, Yvonne C.; **Jasso**, Fabiola; **Johnson**, Della M.; **Johnson**, Earl B.; **Jones**, Phillip G.; **Jordan**, Holly V.; **Kaigler**, James, S.; **Kassam**, Mirza; **Kenamer**, James; **Killa Smoke Shop**; **Killian Rdg. Homeowner**; **Kindred**, Terica; **Knight**, Lawrence; **Knowlton**, Jerry A.; **Lane Realty Construction**; **Latimer**, Tiffany; **Law**, Toby; **Leal**, Mario; **Lee**, Brian J.; **Leonard**, Gary; **Maddox**, Stacey; **Malone**, Whitley N.; **Martinez**, Laura; **McDaniel**, Kevin L.; **McGaha**, Claude H.; **Mitchell**, Lanelle H.; **Morberger**, Emory L.; **Munoz**, Evette; **O'mara**, Dennis J.; **Oneal**, Elizabeth B.; **Osborne**, Janet L.; **Payne**, Dennis L.; **Payne**, Eric; **Pearson**, John N.; **Peart**, Kerrol; **Peppers**, Robert P.; **Perry**, Joe; **Pitts**, Robert H.; **Poorak and Assoc.**; **Pope**, Charles; **Principe**, Leo P.; **Puckett**, Mark A.; **Raleigh**, Robert C.; **Riley**, Jill; **Ritche**, Robert; **Roberts**, Harold B.; **Roberts**, Linda H.; **Romer**, Frederick D.; **Sapp**, David C.; **Scent**, John C.; **Scott**, Danny D.; **Sharma**, Deepak; **Sirva Relocation**; **Smith**, Debbie W.; **Smith**, Sandra M.; **Solomon**, Khalil; **St. German**, Tracy; **Steele**, Andrea G.; **Stephens**, Wendell B.; **Stephens**, Ralph D.; **Stewart**, Deborah R.; **Stewart Team Reo**; **Stone**, Richard; **Struharik**, Mildred M.; **Sullivan**, Nancy; **Taber, Jr.**, George P.; **Thacker**, Pam F.; **Viera**, Heribert A.; **Vinson**, Leonard C.; **Walls**, Scott D.; **Watson**, Dominique L.; **Wendt Bldrs**; **Willett**, John; **William**, Chase; **Williams**, Doris C.; **Witter**, Elizabeth R.; **Young**, Randall T.

Watch Out for Utility Scams!



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.



IF YOU'RE CONTACTED BY A SUSPICIOUS CALLER:

- Get the caller's name, phone number from caller ID and any other information you can.
- **DO NOT** give the caller any personal or financial information.
- Call us at 770.267.2505.

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.

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 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.

Currently, some of the fixed 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.

TYPE OF SERVICE	OLD CHARGE	NEW CHARGE
Residential	\$15.00	\$17.00
Residential TOU	\$18.00	\$20.00