

operation round up

Operation Round Up closing in on \$5,000,000

With these latest grants from Operation Round Up, Walton EMC customer-owners have given almost \$5 million since the program's inception in 1997.

Every penny of that \$5 million has gone to needy individuals or worthy organizations. That's because Walton EMC covers all administrative costs of the program.

Brain Injury Association of Georgia

(entire WEMC territory) – \$2,500
Funding to hold their Camp BIAG, a four-day camp for survivors and caregivers impacted by brain injury.

Cancer Foundation of Northeast Georgia

(entire WEMC territory) – \$6,000
Money for the Foundation's financial assistance program that provides emergency assistance to cancer patients who need help with living expenses, medication and transportation.

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

(entire WEMC territory) – \$5,000
Funds for their video remote interpretation service.

Eagle Ranch

(Barrow, Clarke, Greene, Gwinnett, Newton, Oconee, Walton) – \$7,000
Money for their leadership exploratory class.

Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia

(entire WEMC territory) – \$6,000
Funding for the Direct Delivery project that serves girls who may not have the financial resources to participate in the program.

Penfield Christian Homes

(entire WEMC territory) – \$10,000
Funds for Operation Compassion that provides assistance to those who can't afford substance abuse treatment.

Sankofa House

(Gwinnett, Rockdale) – \$2,500
Money for Project Backpack that provides food to children who face food insecurities at home on the weekends.

Four Families – \$19,346

Help for families who find themselves in emergency situations.

WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION ROUND UP?

Go to the "Community" tab at waltonemc.com and click on the Operation Round Up link. Do it today!



Walton EMC employees helped feed hundreds of local school children this summer by volunteering with the Fish 4 Kids program in Monroe.

The program seeks to fill the nutrition gap that summer creates when children aren't receiving meals at school. Volunteers pack sack lunches and distribute them over several routes throughout the city every weekday.

"The kids from babies up to 18 are so appreciative, and it gives you a warm feeling that they know everyone else in the community cares," said Fish 4 Kids Director Sally Coniglio.

Activities like this fulfill the cooperative principle "concern for community," which is one of seven principles that guide Walton EMC.

Employees Fish 4 Kids

See a video about Fish 4 Kids at bit.ly/wemc_fish

Walton EMC
Customer-Owned Electric Power

Realite

SEPT 2017

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Walton EMC
waltonemc.com

SEPT 2017 Volume 68, No. 9

THE Rundown

inside: how cooperative solar works, WEMC's culture of safety, J.D. Power results **on the back:** operation round up, fish 4 kids

Solar

PRODUCTION TO ALMOST DOUBLE

The popularity of our Cooperative Solar program means we're expanding again!

With two solar facilities already online, there's still a waiting list of customer-owners who want to participate in the program.

Construction is about to begin on Walton EMC's third solar project. Located at the intersection of Gratis Road and Mountain Creek Church Road, three miles north of Monroe, the three-megawatt output of this project will almost double Walton EMC's total solar electricity production from 3.5 to 6.5 megawatts. Panels at the third facility will stretch across 20 acres.

"Walton EMC's Cooperative Solar program allows customer-owners to participate in solar electricity production without the expense and maintenance of owning their own solar systems," said CEO Ronnie Lee. "It's also a way for renters and those who live in developments with covenants prohibiting solar arrays to support sun power."

If you want to get in on solar power, act fast! The waiting list already includes customer-owners who didn't get in on the second project – blocks are expected to be snapped up quickly. Call 770-267-2505 today.

PRICING AND ENERGY PRODUCTION Blocks of solar capacity are \$25 each per month. Each block is expected to produce between 180 and 260 kilowatt-hours of solar energy monthly. Energy output will vary due to the sun's angle, the time of year, the number of cloudy days in the month and other factors.

AVAILABILITY You will be able to sign up for up to two blocks of solar capacity. Requests for more than two blocks will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Only residences served by our electric grid can participate.

SIGN UPS Sign-ups are open now on a first-come, first-served basis. Call us at 770-267-2505 to apply. We are not able to take online requests. If capacity is sold out, a waiting list is available.

BILLING You will be billed \$25 for each block of solar capacity. The kilowatt-hours produced by your block in each calendar month will offset the same number of kilowatt-hours on your bill.

If your block produces more kilowatt-hours than you use during your billing period, you will receive a credit for the excess. You will be informed of any price change at least 30 days in advance.

LENGTH OF COMMITMENT You can discontinue your solar energy commitment at any time by notifying us. If you leave the program, Walton EMC cannot guarantee there will be availability if you decide to rejoin.

Walton EMC
Cooperative Solar



SIGN-UPS NOW OPEN!

LOOK INSIDE TO SEE HOW COOPERATIVE SOLAR WORKS >>

MORE ABOUT OUR COOPERATIVE SOLAR PROJECT AT WALTONEMC.COM.

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

YouTube youtube.com/emctv

WHEN WE'RE AVAILABLE

Power Outages and Emergencies > 24/7

Contact 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

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Design by mPrint Design Studio

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©2017. Walton EMC is a customer-owned power company. That means our cooperative focuses on service, not profit. We serve more than 125,000 accounts in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, DeKalb, Greene, Gwinnett, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Rockdale and Walton Counties. Our subsidiaries supply natural gas and security services.



exploring our LANDMARKS

How well do you know Walton EMC's service territory? Take a look around your co-op's 10-county area and you'll find some interesting, beautiful, historic and just plain cool spots. Some of the locations we choose may be hard to identify, but we think they're worth knowing about.

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



email your guess with the subject line "SEPT. LANDMARKS CONTEST" no later than Oct. 7 to landmarkscontest@waltonemc.com for your entry to qualify.

JULY WINNER AND LANDMARK: Jeannie Walters of Snellville who correctly identified the Snellville Veterans' Memorial near City Hall.



Walton EMC recognized for culture of safety

For the 17th consecutive time, Walton EMC has earned safety accreditation from the Electric Cooperative Safety Accreditation Program of Georgia.

To earn accreditation, Walton EMC employees complete a rigorous inspection process. This includes a multi-day, on-site visit by inspectors who evaluated employees' adherence to stringent safety regulations from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The inspection process also includes evaluation of public rights-of-way and utility poles as well as overhead and underground wiring to ensure the safety of the general public.

Earning the award highlights the cooperative's commitment to saving lives, time and money through safe work practices. The accreditation process takes place every three years.

"Our first priority is the safety of our employees, customer-owners and the general public," said Loss Control Director Brad Adcock. "Going through the safety accreditation process assures we're maintaining our focus on that goal."



Our highest J.D. Power score ever!

Our co-op achieved its highest score ever in the latest J.D. Power and Associates Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study.

Walton EMC scored 783, only six points behind the top-scoring utility and ranking us fourth in the nation. Our index score is well above the national average of 719, placing us in an elite group of electric utilities.

In specific categories nationally, we placed first in corporate citizenship, second in billing and payment, third in communications, fourth in price and seventh in power quality and reliability.



The study, now in its 19th year, measures customer satisfaction with electric utility companies by examining six factors: power quality and reliability; price; billing and payment; corporate citizenship; communications; and customer service. The study is based on responses from 99,145 online interviews conducted from July 2016 through May 2017 among residential customers of the 138 largest electric utility brands across the country.

In 2014, J.D. Power ranked Walton EMC "Highest in Customer Satisfaction among Midsize Utilities in the South." The company also ranked Walton Gas "Highest in Residential Customer Satisfaction with Retail Gas Service Three Years in a Row" from 2011 through 2013, the year the gas market study was discontinued.

solar electricity 101 cooperative solar



COOPERATIVE SOLAR is a cooperative effort to produce solar power. Customer-owners join together to support a large-scale solar project. They reap the benefits without many of the hassles of owning and maintaining their own solar system.

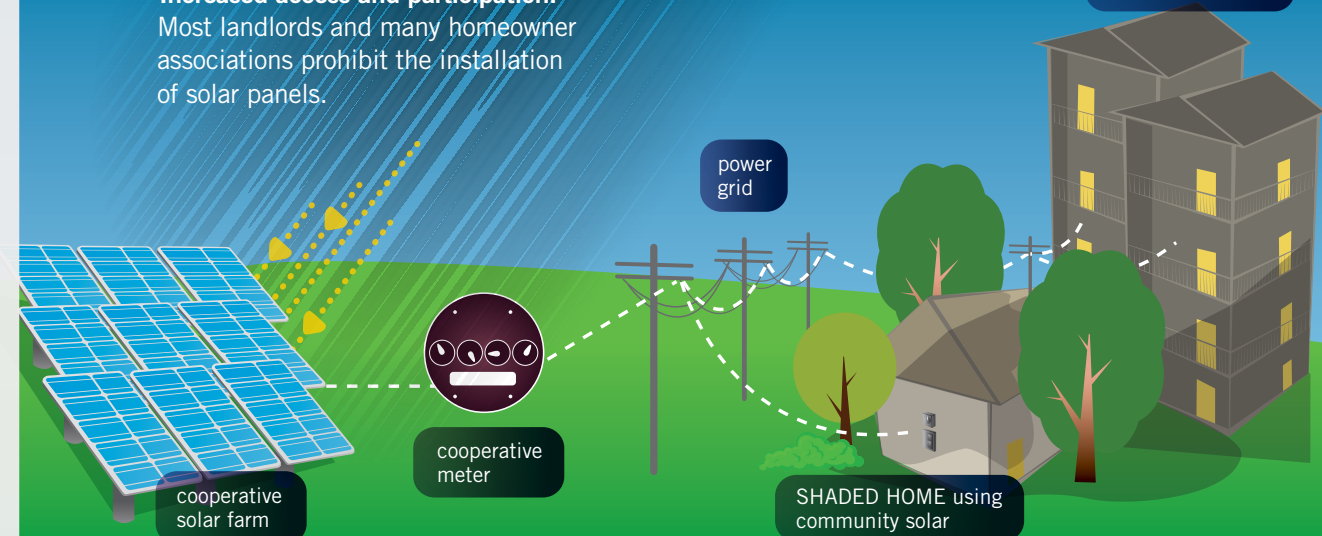
COOPERATIVE SOLAR ADVANTAGES

- **Reduced installation cost.** Economies of scale in a cooperative project bring the price of solar panels down.
- **No maintenance cost or worries.** Walton EMC provides all upkeep.
- **No roof intrusion.** There are no holes needed to accommodate solar panel mounting hardware.
- **Home orientation, shading and aesthetic concerns vanish.** The home doesn't have to face a certain direction, nor do trees have to be cut to participate.
- **Increased access and participation.** Most landlords and many homeowner associations prohibit the installation of solar panels.

HOW COOPERATIVE SOLAR WORKS

1. Walton EMC builds and maintains the solar farm.
2. Customer-owners purchase blocks in the facility according to their needs.
3. The cooperative meters and delivers solar electricity to the power grid.
4. Participants receive a credit on their electric bill according to the level of participation in the project and the output of the solar panels.
5. Participants enjoy a greener home and lifestyle.

APARTMENT BUILDINGS with several community solar participants



According to a 2008 study by the National Renewable Energy Lab, only 22 to 27 percent of residential rooftop area in the United States is suitable for an onsite solar photovoltaic system.