

# Santa Surprise

Walton EMC employees, from left, Kimberly Willoughby, Kathy Ivie and Kristi Hubbard, show off a few of the dozens of toys donated at the recent Santa Surprise Golf Tournament. The Christmas tournament, run by employees, benefits needy families in Walton EMC's service area. Its format is kept secret until tee off, thus the "surprise" element.



## Apply Now for Walton EMC's Youth Tour

### OPEN TO HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS

Every year, Walton EMC sends four local high school sophomores or juniors, all-expense paid, to represent our co-op and learn valuable leadership skills on the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

Delegates from all across the country interact with our nation's leaders and experience our nation's capital. Don't delay; apply now!

#### To Qualify

- Be a high school sophomore or junior.
- Live or attend a school in WEMC's service area.
- Have your parent's permission to enter.
- Commit to making the trip on June 9–16 if you win.

#### Follow These Steps

1. Complete and send the entry form, parent's authorization and student commitment. Walton EMC must receive this by 5 p.m., Friday, Feb. 12.
2. You'll get study material in the mail.
3. Study!
4. Take a written test covering the study materials on Monday, March 7.
5. The eight contestants scoring the highest on the written test will advance to a short interview.
6. Judges choose four winners and two alternates.



Last year's Walton EMC Youth Tour delegates, from left, Alyssa Forrest, Alexandra Marlette, Devneet Singh and Jenny Choi, spent eight jam-packed days with 111 new Georgia friends that included seeing Washington's iconic sights and meeting with our state's Senators and Representatives.

#### Three Ways to Get an Entry Form

- Go to [waltonemc.com](http://waltonemc.com)
- Email [jbroun@waltonemc.com](mailto:jbroun@waltonemc.com)
- Call 770-266-2572

#### Learn More

See videos here!

[www.youtube.com/user/georgiaemcyouthtour](http://www.youtube.com/user/georgiaemcyouthtour)

Entries due  
Feb. 12



**THE Rundown** } **inside:** prepare for el niño, home & garden show coupon, unclaimed refunds  
**on the back:** santa's surprise, walton emc's youth tour

## Here Comes MORE Sun!

As promised, Walton EMC is bringing more cooperative solar power.

Our first one-megawatt project that came online earlier this year quickly sold out. But you kept calling and asking to be put on a waiting list. That patience will soon be rewarded!

Your co-op was able to find a suitable piece of land to build another 2 1/2 megawatts of cooperative solar a few miles south of Monroe.

It took a few months to get the groundwork laid, which included purchasing and closing on the land, getting approval and rezoning from the county and signing a construction contract with our contractor, Radiance Solar.

Site preparation is now underway and construction should begin around mid-January.

"Our second project will make another 1,875 blocks of cooperative solar available to our customer-owners," said CEO Ronnie Lee. "We expect the new site to be producing electricity somewhere around an April–May timeframe."

Most of the blocks of the new project have been spoken for, with less than 400 remaining. Customer-owners can sign up for those blocks by calling Walton EMC at 770-267-2505.

Each block costs \$25 per month and is expected to produce between 180 and 260 kilowatt-hours. Those kilowatt-hours are deducted off the total energy used for that month.

"We appreciate the enthusiasm and participation of our customer-owners in our cooperative solar project," said Lee. "These projects are good for them, good for their co-op and good for their environment. Everyone wins."

The news  
you need to  
know in  
5 minutes!

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### QUICK GUIDE

**IF YOUR POWER IS OUT**  
 770.267.2505  
[waltonemc.com](http://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](http://waltonemc.com)  
**Facebook** [facebook.com/waltonemc](https://facebook.com/waltonemc)  
**Twitter** [twitter.com/waltonemc](https://twitter.com/waltonemc)  
**YouTube** [youtube.com/user/emctv](https://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  
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**Design by** mPrint Design Studio

**NEED NATURAL GAS SERVICE?**  
 770.GAS.HEAT > [waltonemcgas.com](http://waltonemcgas.com)

**NEED SECURITY SERVICE?**  
 770.963.0305 > [emcsecurity.com](http://emcsecurity.com)

©2015. Walton EMC is a customer-owned power company. That means our cooperative focuses on service, not profit. We serve more than 124,000 accounts in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, DeKalb, Greene, Gwinnett, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Rockdale and Walton Counties. Our subsidiaries supply natural gas and security services.

Walton EMC  
Cooperative Solar



Second location  
proposed site plan





# THE ATHENS HOME & GARDEN SHOW

**Saturday, Feb. 20**

10 a.m.–5 p.m.

**Sunday, Feb. 21**

12 p.m.–5 p.m.

Exhibits      Appliances  
Decorating    Door Prizes  
Remodeling   Giveaways  
Landscaping

## SPECIAL OFFER

Walton EMC customer-owners  
present this coupon for  
**\$1 off admission**  
at the Athens Home  
& Garden Show

Presenting Sponsors:

**Walton EMC**  
Customer-Owned Electric Power

**JACKSON**  
ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION™

**EMC Security**  
a Jackson/Walton EMC Service



Exploring Our  
Landmarks returns  
next month

**LAST MONTH'S LANDMARK:** Carruther's Mill Dam sits just north of the Highway 78 bridge spanning the Apalachee River on the Oconee-Walton County line.

**NOVEMBER WINNER:** Sandra Page of Loganville.



# Ice? Snow? Significant flooding? Severe weather?

## Prepare now for unpredictable El Niño effects

El Niño is throwing a tantrum.

"Whether we're more likely to have an ice storm, snow storm, significant flooding or severe weather outbreak, it's all up for grabs."

That's what the meteorologists at the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Atlanta are saying about the coming winter.

It's due to a record-breaking El Niño that's already cranked and running. "El Niño had been dragging its feet the last year and a half," says NWS Meteorologist Adam Baker. "But it looks like it's more than making up for its previous lack of presence."

Just what is El Niño? It's abnormally warm seas in the tropical Pacific that trigger a shift in nearby weather circulations, including the jet stream pattern across the U.S.

Walton EMC plans for large outages and maintains its power lines all year long. We urge you to plan for catastrophes, too.



Your disaster plan should include  
these provisions in case the power goes out:

### LIGHT

- Use flashlights and battery-powered lanterns. LED models conserve batteries.
- Have extra batteries.
- Avoid flames for light sources.

### FOOD

- Stock up on non-perishable foods that don't require cooking.
- Have a manual can opener.
- Don't use charcoal indoors.

### WATER (if you're on a well)

- Fill tubs for household use.
- Fill pitchers and jars for drinking.

### HEAT

- Gather heavy clothing, gloves, sock hats, blankets and sleeping bags.
- Close off one room and stay there.
- Get wood now if you have a fireplace.



### INFORMATION

- Get a battery-powered radio.
- Get a car charger for your cellphone.
- Log on to [waltonemc.com](http://waltonemc.com) or use our mobile app to report outages and get updates.

### MEDICAL

- Have a first aid kit.
- Have a several days' supply of prescriptions.
- Make contingency plans for patients who depend on electricity for medical devices. This may include moving the patient to another location.

### GENERATOR

- Operate away from house and garage to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Use proper connections to your home's electric system.

## where are you? Unclaimed Refunds

Take a look at these Walton EMC customer-owners who discontinued service. We mailed refunds of deposits and/or membership fees, but the Post Office returned them.

If you know someone on this list, please have them contact us at 770-266-2519.

**A2Z** Field Services; **Abdulla**, Wilma; **Barfield**, Adam D.; **Barrett**, David R.; **Couch**, Alice R.; **Dailey**, Michael; **Garza**, Arturo G.; **Jame**, Zeynba; **Jay's** Machining Services; **Johnson**, Ellen; **Mitchell**, Steve; **Nash**, Todd P.; **Powley**, Peter; **Radcliff**, Carolyn D.; **Sloop**, Jimmy L.; **Triana**, Tannia; **Tukpah**, Madisynn J.; **Wavez** Caribbean Bakery; **Wong**, Carlos

**AMBASSADOR™**  
**WRN**  
WEATHER-READY NATION