

Call Before You Dig

Want to avoid digging headaches? A simple call to 811 can keep you out of trouble.

SEWER & DRAIN LINES

ELECTRIC LINES

PROPOSED EXCAVATION

GAS, OIL, STEAM OR PETROLEUM

COMMUNICATION LINES

DRINKING WATER

RECLAIMED WATER

TEMPORARY SURVEY

Every type of utility has its own color for marking underground lines.



Know what's below. Call before you dig.

GEORGIA 811 FAQs

What is Georgia 811? Georgia 811 is a free system to request that utilities mark their underground lines before you begin any digging or excavation.

Why should I contact Georgia 811? State law requires that utility lines be marked before digging. But more importantly, having lines marked can help you avoid injury or an expensive repair bill.

How do I contact Georgia 811? Simply dial 811 or visit georgia811.com and click eRequest.

What projects require contacting Georgia 811? Any home improvement requiring digging or excavation. This might include:

- Landscaping
- Digging fence post or mailbox holes
- Planting trees
- Anchoring deck or swing set supports
- Removing tree roots
- Installing a retaining wall

If you're unsure about requirements for a specific job, call 811 for information.

When should I contact Georgia 811? At least two, but no more than 10 working days before beginning your project.

What does it cost to have my utility lines marked? Nothing. It's free!

MORE FAQs bit.ly/wemc811

Coming next month...

Walton EMC
Customer-Owned Electric Power

80th Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 18, 2016

Walton County Ag Ed Center
Monroe, GA 30655

- featuring...
- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| • Prizes including a recycled pickup truck! | • Health Fair |
| • Entertainment | • Ice Cream and Soft Drinks |
| • Children's Activities | • Exhibits |
| | • Co-op Business Session |
- Check your postal mail next month for the official notice, prize coupon and other information.

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.

- Abrahams, Simone; Agee, James; Armstrong, Michelle; Bailey, Patrice E.; Belknap, Raymond W.; Campbell, Keith M.; Collins, Carolyn; Dickerson, Gavina; Dix Const. Inc., Bldr.; Flagg, Quinton M.; Frazier, Sonya Y.; Garcia, Maria; Healthier U 4 Ever; Jones, Catherine; Lane, Juanita; Las Granite; Marilla, Marilyn; McCance, Tricia A.; McCauley, David G.; McDuffie, Brooke J.; MCTech Group, Inc.; Menard, Cathy M.; Mondragon, Prescillano; Newell, Stephanie R.; Nunez, Randolph A.; Peets, Ramique; Richardson, Matthew; Smalls, Willie J.; Smith, Justin W.; Spsychalski, James L.; Strozer, Dorian; Torres, Cenobio J.; Vizi, Teresa L.; Wang, Xiansheng; Wilson, Richard A.; Yes Companies Exp., LLC; Zou, Chuanfen

Walton EMC
Customer-Owned Electric Power


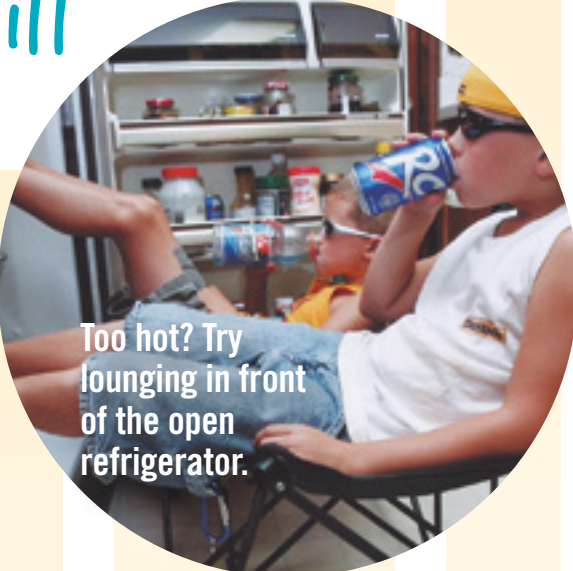


Realite

THE *Rundown* } **inside:** electrical safety quiz, scholarship awards, hb next inspections
on the back: call before you dig, annual meeting, unclaimed refunds

The news you need to know in 5 minutes!

MAY 2016

WANT TO SPEND MORE ON ELECTRICITY? 10 tips for a high summer electric bill



- 1 Don't ever change your air conditioner's filter. The repairman will thank you for helping put his kids through college.
- 2 Pile tools, junk and debris on and around your outdoor air conditioning unit. It helps hide that ugly piece of equipment.
- 3 Run a hot shower 30 minutes before you intend to get in. The heat creates a sauna effect and the sound of falling water provides a soothing, stress-relieving escape.
- 4 Do heavy baking and cooking on hot summer afternoons. Maybe the house will get hot enough to make the family suggest dining out.
- 5 Set the thermostat as low as it will go. It'll get you conditioned for the coming winter.
- 6 Leave doors and windows open as much as possible. That's more convenient than having to go outside to see what the temperature's like.
- 7 Run your pool pump 24/7.
- 8 Find and use old incandescent bulbs. 90 percent of the energy they use produces heat, not light, and they bring back memories of "the good old days."
- 9 Make sure every light in the house is on. Maybe someone who sees them will write a country song about you.
- 10 See how much dust the coils on your refrigerator and freezer can accumulate. Your appliances will be less efficient, but it's worth the bragging rights.

Too hot? Try lounging in front of the open refrigerator.

thank you!

Walton EMC
waltonemc.com

Realite

MAY 2016 Volume 67, No. 5

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/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
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Sr. VP Corporate Services Russell DeLong

Sr. VP Engineering & Operations Ron Marshall
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NEED NATURAL GAS SERVICE?
770.GAS.HEAT > walgas.com

NEED SECURITY SERVICE?
770.963.0305 > emcsecurity.com

©2016. 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.



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 “MAY LANDMARKS CONTEST” no later than June 6 to landmarkscontest@waltonemc.com for your entry to qualify.

LAST MONTH'S LANDMARK: The Oconee Veterans' Memorial is located in front of Veterans' Park on Georgia Highway 53 in Oconee County.

MARCH WINNER: Bob Stevenson of Loganville.

May is Electrical Safety Month

INDOORS

Question: Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters detect electrical current that “leaks” out of an electrical circuit and shut off if a fault is detected. Which outlets should be protected by these life-saving devices?

- A. Outlets located near sinks
- B. Outlets located in bathrooms
- C. Outlets located in garages
- D. All of these

Answer: D. The National Electrical Code requires that GFCI's be used in all of these instances.

Question: Which of these are signs of an overloaded electrical circuit?

- A. Breakers trip frequently
- B. Lights dim, blink or flicker
- C. Doorbell rings unexpectedly
- D. A and B

Answer: D. If you experience these, contact a licensed electrician for advice.

Question: Electrical devices may carry what mark to certify they've been tested for safety?

- A. Underwriter's Laboratory
- B. Department of Unified Mechanical Businesses
- C. Practitioners of Home Electrical Wiring
- D. Office of Universal Current Handlers

Answer: A. Look for the UL logo when you buy electrical devices.

True or False: A heavy reliance on extension cords indicates you probably need more outlets.

Answer: True. Extension cords are meant to be temporary wiring.

Test your electrical safety knowledge with this quiz.

OUTDOORS

Question: How close to power lines should you plant trees?

- A. Anywhere you want
- B. At least five feet from the base of poles
- C. Far enough so the mature tree can't reach the power line if it falls
- D. Just outside the power line right-of-way

Answer: C. Any planting should be far enough away not to cause problems with our power lines. Even low-growing shrubs may be damaged if planted directly under power lines.

Question: Which of these can conduct electricity when in contact with a power line?

- A. Metal ladder
- B. Kite strings
- C. Wooden board
- D. All of these

Answer: D. Even wood will conduct electricity at power line voltages.

True or False: It's okay to touch a person in contact with a live power line.

Answer: False. Do not touch a person in contact with a power line or use objects like boards or sticks to reach them.

True or False: There is no danger in letting children play on and around underground transformers, guy wires and other utility equipment.

Answer: False. Stay away from all utility equipment.

HB Next Inspections Begin in Snellville, Grayson

HB Next, a Walton EMC contractor, is now working in the Snellville and Grayson areas.

For the next three years, HB Next will be inspecting Walton EMC's facilities around your home. The project increases the accuracy, reliability and safety of your electric service.

When the technician arrives on your property, there will be an attempt to make contact at your door. If no one is home, a card will be left informing you of their visit. During the inspection, technicians look at meters, meter enclosures, electrical services and security lights. If issues are found, they report those to us for further action.

Contact us if you have any questions regarding contractors working for your cooperative.



Walton Electric Trust Awards \$179,000 in Scholarships

Students from across Walton EMC's 10-county service area have received the latest round of Walton Electric Trust Scholarships for 2016.

Over 200 students applied for the scholarship that helps fund post-secondary education at a college or vo-tech school. Applicants were evaluated on work ethic, triumph over obstacles, community service and extracurricular activities. The scholarship committee also reviewed recommendations from teachers and other adults involved in the students' lives.

Of those, 33 students were selected to receive scholarships of \$4,000. Another 29 were awarded runner-up scholarships of \$1,000.

The Trust has awarded 378 scholarships worth \$1,013,000 since the program began in 2009. The scholarships are funded by unclaimed refunds to former Walton EMC customer-owners. After all efforts are exhausted to find the rightful owners, the money goes into an endowment provided for by Georgia law.



Students from across Walton EMC's 10-county service area receiving a Walton Trust Scholarship are, front row, left to right: Kaitlin Elena Rose, North Oconee High School; Sarah Cagle, Morgan County High School; Bryson Harrison, Walnut Grove High School and Josie Roser, Walnut Grove High School. Second row: Abbey Browning, Loganville Christian Academy; Nicholas Weddington, Druid Hills High School; John Edelen, Oconee County High School and Eva Delaplane, Westminster Christian Academy. Third row: Lucas Udell, Social Circle High School; Autumn Darracq, Loganville High School; Zachary Ware, Prince Avenue Christian School; Mary Faith Kaswinkel, Parkview High School and Allison Browning, Loganville Christian Academy. Fourth row: Savannah Hayes, Rockdale County High School; Elizabeth Shuford, Oconee County High School; Rachel Brannen, Prince Avenue Christian School and Grant Colquitt, North Oconee High School. Fifth row: Ethan Hollis, North Oconee High School; Seth Irwin, Athens Christian School; Reyann Miller, Walnut Grove High School; Masyn Power, Brookwood High School and Kate Marlowe, Prince Avenue Christian School. Sixth row: Brendon Machado, Gwinnett School of Math, Science and Technology; Michael Adeola, Brookwood High School; Al-Hasan Idrees, North Oconee High School and Jacob Lancaster, Walnut Grove High School. Back row: John Andrew Jehle, Grayson High School; Nicholas Partain, Shiloh High School and Matthew Downs, Oconee County High School.

Not pictured: Michael Bowler, Brookwood High School; Anthony Heard, George Walton Academy; Matthew Whiteman, DeKalb Early College Academy and Joshua Shields, Parkview High School.