OPERATION ROUND UP GRANTS

$131,770
TO COMMUNITY

operation round up

During times like these, the generosity of Operation Round Up is more important than ever. Here are the latest grants.

These agencies that provide emergency food, shelter and medical needs received funds from unclaimed capital credits:

ACTION – $10,000 for the Full Plate Rescue program.

Atlanta Community Food Bank – $10,000 for food purchase and distribution.

Faith in Serving Humanity – $15,000 for their children's feeding program.

Partnership Against Domestic Violence – $7,500 for their children's shelter.

Salvation Army, Athens – $15,000 for their emergency feeding and shelter program.

Salvation Army, Gwinnett – $15,000 for their emergency feeding and shelter program.

Step by Step Recovery – $15,000 for their homeless shelter.

These agencies and families received funds from rounding up customer-owners' bills to the next dollar:

Georgia Options, Inc. – $5,000 for communication devices and software for developmentally disabled.

Loganville Police – $4,000 for their Drug Abuse Resistance Education program.

Skye Precious Kids – $5,000 to support families with children facing life-threatening illnesses.

United Home Scholars – $1,500 for a soccer program for home and private school students.

United Way of NE Georgia – $4,550 for their Dolly Parton Imagination Library that provides books for children from birth to age five.

Six families – $24,220 for emergency needs.

Want to Help?

Go to the "Community" tab at **waltonemc.com** and click on the Operation Round Up link. Every customer-owner's donation helps those in need. Walton EMC covers all administrative costs of the program.

Marshall Named COO

Ron Marshall, senior vice president of engineering and operations, has been named Walton EMC's chief operating officer.

A 31-year veteran of Walton EMC, Marshall has 38 years of experience in the electric cooperative industry. He began his career at Colquitt EMC in Moultrie and rose to district operations engineer before being named Walton EMC system engineer in 1989. In 1994, Marshall was promoted to manager of engineering and operations, the equivalent of today's senior vice president of engineering and operations.

During Marshall's tenure, the number of accounts on Walton EMC's system has grown by 224 percent and the miles of line maintained by 178 percent. His division is consistently recognized for excellence, evidenced by championships at the Georgia Linemen's Rodeo and top

awards for safe digging by the Georgia Utilities Coordinating Council.

"Ron is well prepared for this role as he has 31 years of service in progressively responsible positions," says CEO Ronnie Lee. "He has continually demonstrated his commitment to our cooperative principles and corporate objectives, which will be core to his new position."

As COO, Marshall will oversee ongoing business operations within the co-op and assist CEO Lee with daily operations.

Marshall and wife Melanie live in Oconee County and have two daughters and four grandchildren.
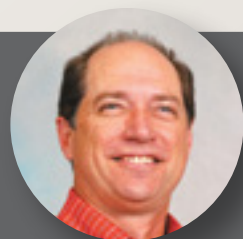
Walton EMC
Customer-Owned Electric Power

realite

MAY '20

> cleaning tips

> operation round up grants

> new COO

PROVIDING RELIABLE ELECTRICITY

Co-op Faring Well During Pandemic

Although it's certainly not business as usual, your electric service has remained reliable as usual during the COVID-19 outbreak.

"There have been no issues with electricity delivery due to the current pandemic," says Chief Operating Officer Ron Marshall. "Our employees have even been able to help restore power to other EMCs that were hard hit by spring storms."

Walton EMC sent crews to both Snapping Shoals EMC in Covington and Hart EMC in Hartwell over the past few weeks when their systems sustained major damage from high winds and trees. The damage was especially heavy at Hart EMC when almost 45 percent of their customer-owners were without power at the height of April's severe weather outbreak.

Regular work, like responding to outages, streetlight repairs and service installations have continued, with crews practicing social distancing while performing these tasks.

"Our employees have adapted well to changes in the workplace," says Marshall. "They took the measures we implemented to protect their health seriously and understand that our customer-owners depend on them to keep their essential electric power flowing."

The co-op had implemented all of Governor Kemp's requirements for critical infrastructure businesses even before his executive order was issued. Plans are to keep many of the practices in place for the foreseeable future.

"We will return to normal business operations as soon as possible, but not before it's safe for our customer-owners and employees," says Marshall.

The co-op has also taken these measures to help customer-owners who are financially affected by the crisis:

Suspending disconnections.

Expanding payment arrangements.

Providing expanded communication regarding billing and payment resources.

To see complete information on these subjects, pandemic FAQs and other relevant information, visit our website, **waltonemc.com**.

Keep up with the latest news and events by following us on

Employees Helping Out

FISH Kids is working overtime to make sure students have lunch. They normally deliver meals during summer break, but they began early this year when schools closed. Walton EMC Customer Care Supervisor **Lunette Edens** is doing her part to make sure the meals are delivered.

CFO/Senior VP Finance **Marsha Shumate**, rear, works in her spare time to sew cloth masks for healthcare workers.

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quick guide

IF YOUR POWER IS OUT
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waltonemc.com > Report an Outage

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Power Outages and Emergencies > 24/7
Contact Center > M–F, 7A–7P
Business Offices > M–F, 8A–5P

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emc leaders

CEO Ronnie Lee

COO/Senior VP Engineering and Operations Ron Marshall

Senior VP Corporate Services Russell DeLong

Senior VP Power Supply Robert Rentfrow

CFO/Senior VP Finance Marsha Shumate

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8
Tips For Cleaning to Protect Against Coronavirus

Spring cleaning is taking on a new urgency this year. Heeding coronavirus prevention guidance from Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other health authorities, we're all intensely cleaning and disinfecting our Georgia homes and workspaces, as well as personal items, in an effort to stem the spread of the virus.

By now, we've all read or heard the admonishments to wash our hands thoroughly and observe social distancing to control the outbreak. But transmission of the virus can also occur by touching infected surfaces. The coronavirus is transmitted via respiratory droplets, and the CDC says that current evidence suggests it "may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials."

To continue to beat the bug, it's time for some deep cleaning. This includes regularly disinfecting electronics and electric appliances that are getting more use. To help Walton EMC customer-owners do a thorough job, we've compiled these tips from experts.

To continue to beat the bug, it's time for some deep cleaning.

1 Identify all "high-touch" areas.

The CDC suggests you clean and disinfect all commonly touched hard surfaces, which can be a breeding ground for germs.

- **GENERAL** — light switches, doorknobs/handles (interior and exterior), stair rails, countertops, all bathroom fixtures.
- **ELECTRIC APPLIANCES** — refrigerator, microwave, oven and dishwasher handles/doors; coffee maker.
- **ELECTRONICS** — TV remotes, phones, tablets, laptops, gaming devices.
- **HOME OFFICE** — desk, keyboard, mouse, printer, phone.

Note the areas you need to clean, so you won't forget any. The CDC recommends disinfecting frequently touched surfaces daily.

2 Know the difference between sanitizing and disinfecting.

Sanitizing (reducing the number of germs) is not the same as disinfecting (killing germs). Different cleaning products require different amounts of "wet" (cleaning product in a liquid stage) time on a surface to reduce or kill germs. Rule of thumb: Sanitizing usually takes less time — sometimes just 30 or 60 seconds — while disinfecting can take up to 10 minutes, depending on the product.

3 All cleaning products are not created equal.

There are plenty of options out there for cleaning and disinfecting, but not all will kill the coronavirus, advises the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In general, you can count on anything with the brand name Clorox or Lysol to do the job. Other options:

- **Bleach** is effective but harsh, so be careful when using it. To make a diluted bleach solution: Use 1/3 cup of bleach in one gallon of water or 4 teaspoons of bleach in one quart of water.
- **Hydrogen peroxide**, used directly from the bottle, can be used on hard, nonporous surfaces.
- **Rubbing alcohol** that is at least 70 percent alcohol is safe for all surfaces.

DO NOT USE
- Distilled white vinegar (or vinegar-based products).
- Vodka or other distilled spirits.
- "Magic" remedies advertised online or TV – This is a scam; there is no such thing currently available.

4 Clean, then disinfect.

No product can adequately sanitize or disinfect a dirty surface, so make sure you clean — even with plain soap and water or detergent — before you disinfect.

5 A quick swipe isn't enough.

To decontaminate a surface, you can't just swipe it. You've got to scrub it until the entire surface is wet, and then let it dry on its own.

It's critically important to use enough of the disinfectant and give it time to work. For instance, here's how Clorox says to disinfect hard, nonporous surfaces with its wipes: "Use enough wipes for treated surface to remain visibly wet for 4 minutes. Let surface dry."

Check all cleaning product labels to know how long hard, nonporous surfaces must stay wet for the most effective germ killing. Because liquids evaporate, you may have to reapply a product multiple times to disinfect.

6 Be careful.

In your zeal to rid your home of germs, don't forget these safety measures:

- **Wear disposable gloves** and throw them out after each use.
- **Never combine** disinfecting/cleaning products.
- **Follow manufacturer's instructions** for application and proper ventilation.
- **Rinse food contact surfaces** with clear water and dry after disinfecting, unless the product label specifically says it's not necessary.
- **Don't use** expired products.

7 Prioritize phone sanitizing.

Because you probably touch it more than anything else, your smartphone is a high-potential carrier of the virus. Sanitizing it should be a priority.

Cleaning your phone thoroughly is not easy, though. There are all sorts of nooks and crannies, delicate glass and intricate protective cases. Plus, any sort of moisture could interfere with your phone's function.

Apple recommends a gentle wipe with a product that has 70 percent isopropyl alcohol. Remove the case so you can clean the entire phone. Then, sanitize the case too (FYI, some cases can be placed in the dishwasher.) After you've wiped down the components, allow them to thoroughly dry before reassembling.

8 Wipe down your workspace.

If you'll be working from home for a while, take the time to thoroughly clean your new workspace. Some research suggests the average desk is contaminated with more germs than what's found in the average public toilet.

To properly disinfect your desk area, power down and unplug all electronics. Disconnect peripherals from the computer.

Unless otherwise noted, use disinfectant wipes for cleaning. Before use, squeeze wipe to remove any excess liquid that could drip down into openings and damage circuitry.

- **Desktop:** Clear all items, then thoroughly wipe down the entire surface. Allow cleaning solution to dry before moving items back into place.
- **Keyboard:** Clear loose crumbs and dust from the keyboard by gently shaking it upside-down over a trashcan or spraying compressed air between keys. Wipe on and between keys. Pay extra attention to often-used keys such as the space bar and Enter key.
- **Mouse:** Clean all sides and the scroll.
- **Laptop:** Swipe across the touchpad.
- **Monitor:** Wipe the display with a microfiber cloth dampened with a diluted solution of mild dish soap and warm water. Rinse the cloth with clean water, squeeze out excess moisture, then wipe again to remove any soapy residue. Avoid using paper towels, cleaning rags, glass cleaners and other harsh chemicals.
- **Accessories:** Wash your coffee cup or water bottle in hot water daily. Use disinfectant wipes to clean items such as your stapler, tape dispenser, scissors and most-used pens. Don't forget to clean all sides.

From the CDC to Clorox, we've collected advice from experts to help you sanitize and disinfect your home, personal items and workspace.