

Employee Team Raises \$40,000 to Fight Cancer

A group of Walton EMC employees just finished a yearlong journey in the fight against breast cancer.

Their journey began last October, just after the 2014 Atlanta 2-Day Walk for Breast Cancer, and ended after completing a 30-mile trek in this year's walk. Along the way, they raised \$40,000 that will go to local breast health and breast cancer programs, including several organizations within the 10 counties served by Walton EMC.

Their fundraising efforts included the annual Walton EMC Charity Sporting Clays Shoot, the largest single source of revenue for the team. Growing larger each year, this year's shoot brought in \$14,000. 132 shooters from across the state participated.



The Walton EMC Pink Power Team recently raised \$40,000 that will go to several local organizations to help those fighting breast cancer. Pictured are, front from left, Tammy Johnson, Monica Walker and Kristi Hubbard. Back row, Tassie Osborne, Debra Jackson, Kathy Ivie, Jessica Gunter and Kami Smith.

Walton EMC
Customer-Owned Electric Power

Realite

NOV 2015

The news you need to know in 5 minutes!

Walton EMC
waltonemc.com

NOV 2015 Volume 66, No. 11

THE *Rundown*

inside: hiring an electrical contractor, energy saving tips, unclaimed refunds
on the back: team raises \$40,000, Georgia Proud cutting board

Crew Awards Demonstrate Reliability

For the ninth year in a row, Walton EMC underground crews have been recognized for their care in avoiding expensive and inconvenient utility outages.

Two crews recently received the Golden Backhoe Award presented by the Georgia Utilities Coordinating Council for outstanding dedication to damage prevention of underground utilities. Both went an entire year without an at-fault utility cut.

"It's amazing when you consider the number of tickets [jobs] we do in a year," said Larry Johnson, line crew supervisor. The feat proves co-op crews practice safe work habits and extreme attention to detail.

99.99%
WALTON EMC'S
AVERAGE
RELIABILITY

The underground crew of, from left, Ryan Mitchell, Reed Gogan, Larry Johnson, Arthur Thomas, Matthew Bradford, Brandon Waters, Ryan Glosson and Jerry Miller were recently honored with the Golden Backhoe Award for their care in avoiding underground utility cuts.



"One of our goals, day-in and day-out, is to provide the most reliable electric service possible," said CEO Ronnie Lee.

"When most people think of power outages, they think of damaged overhead power lines. But preventing outages over the thousands of miles of underground lines across our grid is just as important," said Lee.

Also receiving the Golden Backhoe was the underground crew of, from left, Tripp Mealor, Matt Britt, Keith Kirk, Brandon Brooks and Preston Roberts.

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

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
Board Chair Dan Chelko
Board Vice Chair Michael Lowder
Board Sec./Treas. Johnny Allgood
Board Members
Tommy Adcock, Billy Ray Allen, Warren Few,
Sam Simonton, Dawn Taylor, Jim Whitley

Community and Public Relations Director
Greg Brooks, MCC
Communications Coordinator
Savannah Chandler, MCC
Design by mPrint Design Studio

NEED NATURAL GAS SERVICE?
770.GAS.HEAT > waltonemcgas.com

NEED SECURITY SERVICE?
770.963.0305 > 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.

GEORGIA PROUD Walton GAS

Lock in a low, two-year fixed rate and get this premium Georgia Proud cutting board. Not already a Walton Gas customer? You'll receive the cutting board and a \$25 credit. Or donate your credit to charity and we'll match it!

Call 770-Gas-Heat or go to
WaltonGas.com/Save today!

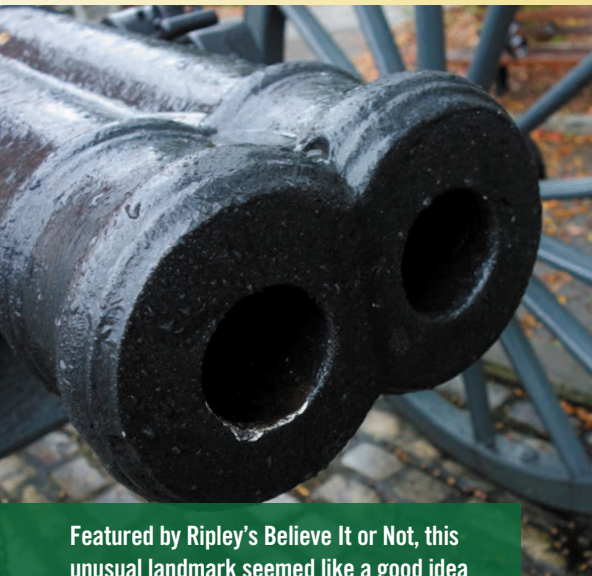




exploring our LANDMARKS

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.



Featured by Ripley's Believe It or Not, this unusual landmark seemed like a good idea on the drawing board. After finding it uncontrollable during testing, it was taken to its permanent home and pointed north as a sign of defiance.

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

LAST MONTH'S LANDMARK: Nolan Store was built around 1905 and sits at the intersection of Georgia Hwy. 83 and Nolan Store Road south of Bostwick. A church was removed down Highway 83 to make way for the store and became known as Flat Rock Baptist Church.

SEPTEMBER WINNER: Michelle Martin of Bogart.



NEED AN ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR? do your homework!

Ms. Smith, a Walton EMC customer-owner (whose real name is disguised), noticed dimming lights and problems with the large appliances in her home. She called an electrical contractor and, fortunately for her, Walton EMC.

The contractor arrived first. He informed Ms. Smith that she needed \$4,200 in repairs to her electrical system. When our crew arrived shortly after, they found the problem was one of the co-op's underground wires that needed replacing – not anything in Ms. Smith's wiring system.

"Unfortunately, Walton EMC employees finding instances of dishonest contractors recommending thousands of dollars of unnecessary electrical work are becoming more common," says Brad Adcock, Walton EMC loss control director. "You should call us first if you have a major electrical problem."

"You should call us first if you have a major electrical problem."

—Brad Adcock,
Walton EMC loss control director

MAJOR PROBLEMS CAN INCLUDE:

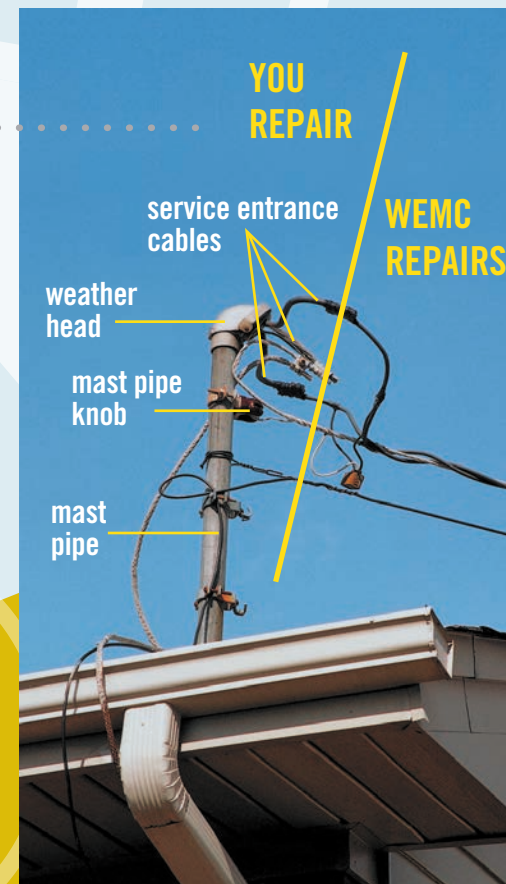
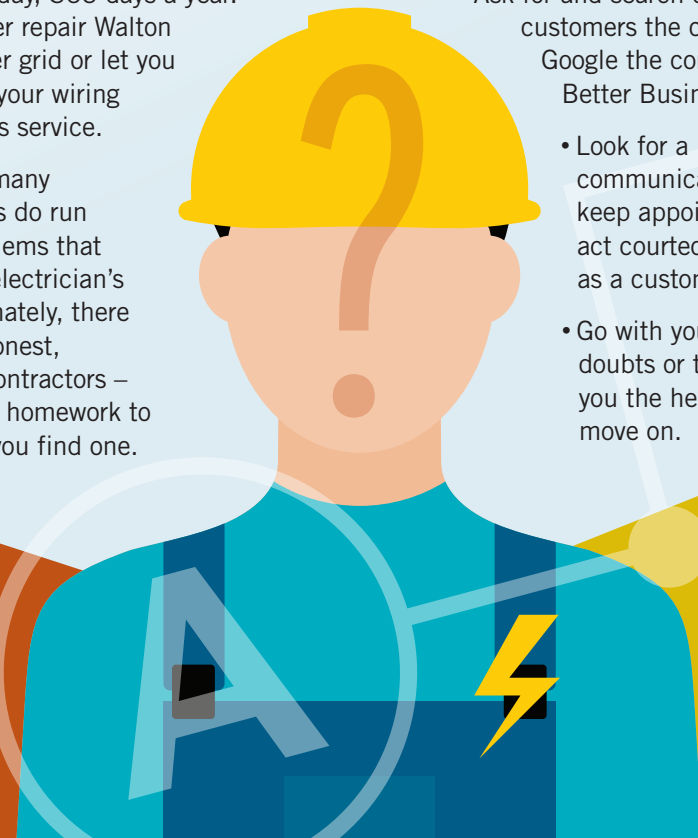
- Dimming or flickering lights
- Light bulbs blowing frequently
- Power in only part of your home
- Multiple large 240-volt appliances – like stoves, ovens, and dryers – not working

Our crews stand ready to assist you 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. They'll either repair Walton EMC's power grid or let you know if it's your wiring that requires service.

Of course, many homeowners do run across problems that require an electrician's help. Fortunately, there are many honest, reputable contractors – just do your homework to make sure you find one.

STEPS TO GET YOUR REPAIRS ON THE RIGHT TRACK:

- Define the project. Is it simply a bad outlet that needs replacing or does your breaker panel need an upgrade?
- Ask people you know for recommendations. They're likely to give you an unbiased opinion.
- Get at least three estimates.
- Ask to see proof of licensing, worker's comp insurance and general liability insurance.
- Ask for and search out references. Get names of customers the contractor has worked for. Google the company and check with the Better Business Bureau online for complaints.
- Look for a professional attitude and communication. Does the contractor keep appointments, look professional, act courteous and show a desire to please you as a customer?
- Go with your gut feeling. If you have doubts or the contractor gives you the heebie-jeebies, move on.



Typical overhead wiring at a customer-owner's home. Both the homeowner and Walton EMC have responsibility for different parts of the installation.

Tips for holiday cooking efficiency

Have Your Cake and Save Energy Too

Kitchens all over are about to get busy.

Nothing says Thanksgiving and Christmas like good food and sweet treats shared with family and friends. The energy you buy to do all that cooking doesn't have to mean New Year's electric bill blues.

Check out these tips to save money in the kitchen this holiday season:

REFRIGERATOR Upgrade. Replacing a 1980s model can save as much as \$100 a year on your energy bill. Getting rid of a 1970s model can save a whopping \$200 a year!

STOVE Match the pan to the size of the burner. Water boils faster by using a lid. Use the right type of cookware. Keep the bottom of pots and pans clean.

OVEN There's no need to preheat when cooking a large piece of meat. Do preheat when baking smaller dishes. Use the microwave to heat or reheat.

DISHWASHER Run with full loads. Use auto cycles that detect the amount of cleaning needed. Use the sanitize setting sparingly. Clean the filter.

LIGHTING Replace old-fashioned incandescent bulbs with LEDs whenever possible.

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.

Bagett, Emily; Barrett, Taanisha; Berry, Sherae; Britt, Darryl; Bush, Kelly D.; Chichester, Bernard B.; Cook, Paul A.; Cooper, Nathaniel E.; Denney, Jr., Gary D.; Esparza, Mario; FreO Georgia, LLC; Gonzalez, Ronny D.; Harrell, Henry H.; Kibe, Ami E.; King, Michele R.; Matters, Michael D.; Millenium Place HOA, Inc.; Rayborn, Ricky E.; Rhem, Aliya S.; Watson, Kym D.; Williams, Brianna K.