

## 5 Days of Staycation Fun

Don't have the time or funds to take a big vacation this summer? Enjoy a staycation instead.

Here are some ideas for planning day trips to family-friendly locations within or near the Walton EMC service area. Each activity is free or inexpensive.



3

Score an afternoon of fun looking at Georgia Bulldogs sports memorabilia at the Butts-Mehre Heritage Hall on the university's main campus in Athens.



5

Soak up sun and fun at Hard Labor Creek State Park's lakeside beach near Rutledge.



1

Take a bike tour through Walton County. Project Road Share has mapped routes ranging from a short ride around Social Circle to full-day treks that wind throughout the county.



2

Find hidden treasures near Watkinsville. Explore Elder Mill covered bridge, the Iron Horse sculpture and Scull Shoals Historic Site.



4

Get in touch with your wild side at Bear Hollow Zoo and Sandy Creek Nature Center, both in Athens.

Find details for checking out all of these places in this month's Walton EMC blog at [waltonemc.com/blog](https://waltonemc.com/blog).

## IS THIS YOUR MONEY? *Unclaimed Refunds*

If you know someone on this list, please have them contact us at 770.266.2519.

ACH Athens LLC Athens Apartment Residences; Burgess, Camaren; Carlyle, Brittany; Christian, Vaughn; Davis, Tyresha; Domus Novus Borrower 1, LLC; Et-2Lp; Galloway, Robert; Greenway, Betty; Gwinning Together, LLC DbA TW; Hampton, Sharolyn; Hires, Heath; Livingston, Sefarin; Martin, Charles; McCoy, Rachel; Mcmillian, Kim; Mendez, Maribel; Mumzy's Beauty Salon; Newman, Tamari; No Pain Tiger Training; Price, Tanisha; Progress Atlanta, LLC; Progress Residential 2016-1; Progress Residential; Property Owner 7, LLC; Renu Property Management; Resibuilt Homes, LLC; Salgado, Benigno; Smiley, Michelle; Synergy Realty East, Inc; Yamasa Co Ltd.

Walton EMC  
Customer-Owned Electric Power

# realite

JULY '22

> linemen: dressed for success  
> REACH scholarship  
> 5 days of staycation

## Thinking about buying (EV) an electric vehicle?

Be sure to do your homework first to determine if it's the right choice for you and your lifestyle. Here are some questions you should answer before heading to the dealership.



### Does the battery have enough range?

The average standard EPA-estimated driving range of 2022 mid-price EVs is 200 to 300 miles on a full charge. Range will be affected by speed, driving habits, weather and the car's climate control.



### How long does it take to charge?

Fully charging a car can be done in just 30 minutes with fast charging, or it may take 6 to 12 hours using the most common Level 2 charger.



### Will I be able to charge it at home?

Yes, but you'll likely want to have an electrician install 240-volt service in your garage to accommodate Level 2 charging.



### How much does it cost to fuel an EV?

At current prices, a gas-powered vehicle costs five times more to fuel than the average EV that is replenished along Walton EMC lines.



### Are there public charging stations where I live, work and shop?

Georgia currently has almost 1,500 publicly available EV charging stations, boasting more than 3,500 individual outlets. The new federal infrastructure bill includes \$135 million to build more charging stations within the state.



### Will I still need a gas-powered backup?

If you frequently travel beyond your car's range, yes. Or you can simply rent a conventional car for longer trips.



Give any EV you're considering a thorough test drive to see if it drives to your liking, is comfortable and you find its controls easy to operate.

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REALITE JULY 2022 VOLUME 72, NO. 7

### quick guide

IF YOUR POWER IS OUT

770.267.2505

waltonemc.com > Report an Outage

WHEN WE'RE AVAILABLE

Power Outages and Emergencies > 24/7

Contact Center > M-F, 7A-7P

Business Offices > M-F, 8A-5P

### find us

Monroe 842 US Hwy. 78

Snellville 3645 Lenora Church Rd.

Watkinsville 2061-D Hog Mountain Rd.

Web [waltonemc.com](https://waltonemc.com)

Facebook [facebook.com/waltonemc](https://facebook.com/waltonemc)

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Youtube [youtube.com/emctv](https://youtube.com/emctv)

### our leaders

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COO Ron Marshall

Senior VP Corporate Services Russell DeLong

Senior VP Power Supply Robert Rentfrow

CFO/Senior VP Finance Marsha Shumate

VP Walton Energy and External Affairs  
Jim Bottone

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### walton gas

NEED NATURAL GAS SERVICE?

770.GAS.HEAT or waltongas.com

### emc security

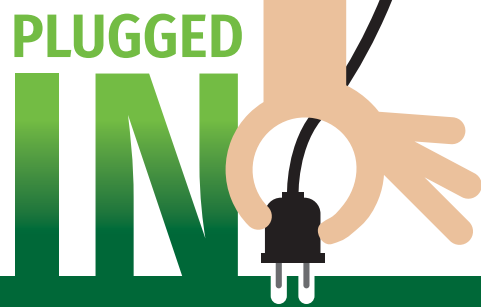
NEED SECURITY SERVICE?

770.963.0305 or emcsecurity.com

©2022 Walton EMC is a customer-owned power company. That means our cooperative focuses on service, not profit. We serve more than 135,000 accounts in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, DeKalb, Greene, Gwinnett, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Rockdale and Walton Counties.

Our subsidiaries supply natural gas and security services.





**Q:** When I move this summer, do I have to come to your office to start, stop or transfer my electric service?

**A:** We understand nobody wants to try to settle into a new place without air conditioning or hot water. To smooth the move for our customer-owners, Walton EMC offers easy online connect, disconnect and transfer service requests.

Visit [waltonemc.com](http://waltonemc.com) and click on the Start/Stop Service option at the top of the page to complete a request form. Requests are normally completed Monday through Friday. Service requests cannot be processed on weekends or holidays.

Current customer-owners who are moving within Walton EMC's service area can request a service **TRANSFER** from their current address to their new address – effective as soon as the next business day.

For **DISCONNECTIONS**, please allow a minimum of three business days' notice and provide your forwarding address.

**NEW SERVICE APPLICATIONS** require a credit check and payment of fees. A minimum of 24 hours is required.

**SERVICE REQUESTS** can also be handled by calling 770-267-2505, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



This question answered by  
**Crystal Peters**  
Training and Quality Support Specialist,  
Contact Center

## Line Technicians: Dressed for Success

Journeyman Line Technician Preston Roberts knows the importance of dressing correctly for the job.

It takes a lot of equipment to work on power lines while they're still energized with electricity. Gone are the days when Walton EMC disrupts the power supply to make repairs or improvements. Now, most work is done so that the consumer never notices the slightest blink.

Besides the personal protection equipment you see on Preston below, crews also rely on insulated bucket trucks and other devices to help them accomplish their tasks. It takes years of specialized training to do a journeyman line technician's job competently and safely.



Journeyman  
Line Technician  
Preston Roberts



### HARD HAT

Protects head from bumps and drops and serves as insulator from electrical contact.



### EYE PROTECTION

Shields eyes from objects and debris.



### FLAME RESISTANT (FR) CLOTHING

Protects lineman who are exposed to the risk of fire or electrical arcs.



### RUBBER SLEEVES

Insulates lineman from electrical contact on shoulders and arms.



### RUBBER GLOVES

Insulates lineman from electrical contact on hands.



### LEATHER GLOVE PROTECTOR

Protects rubber gloves from punctures as well as lineman's hands from injuries.



### CLIMBING BELT

Supports lineman's weight while on pole and provides an attachment point for climbing lanyard.



### FALL ARREST DEVICE

Protects lineman from falls on the pole by automatically tightening in case of a slip.



### LINEMAN BOOTS

Protects feet, ankles and lower legs and provides support for climbing.



### RUBBER OVERSHOES

Insulates lineman from electrical shock by blocking the electrical path to ground.



### STEEL CLIMBERS

Sharp spikes allow lineman to climb wooden poles.



### SHOTGUN STICK

Insulated stick with maneuverable hook that allows lineman to manipulate line hardware.

## Charity Committee Awards Donation to REACH Scholarship

The Walton EMC Charity Committee recently awarded Oconee County School System \$2,500 for their REACH (Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen) scholarship.

"The REACH program targets seventh graders who are potential first-generation college students with a financial need," said Beth Parks, director of career, technical, and agricultural education.

REACH strives to ensure that Georgia's low-income, academically promising students have the academic, social and financial support needed to graduate from high school, access college and achieve postsecondary success. Students meet with a mentor regularly to discuss goals, personal life and academics.

"We have to have consistent community partners like Walton EMC to do the heavy lifting for Oconee's REACH scholarship program," said Superintendent Dr. Jason Branch.



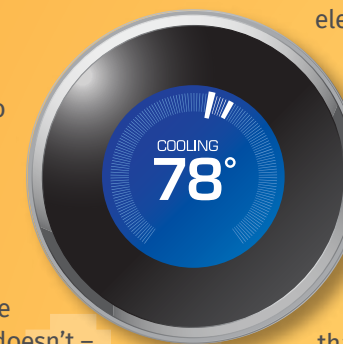
Walton EMC employees (left to right, wearing red) Jeff Paul, Paul Nichols, Darlene Butler, Preston Roberts and Kathy Ivie present the REACH scholarship donation to Oconee County School System Superintendent Dr. Jason Branch and Beth Parks, director of career, technical and agricultural education.

For more information, visit [reachga.org](http://reachga.org).

## Is it Time to Replace Your Thermostat?

Baby, it's hot outside! Is your thermostat up to the challenge of efficiently keeping your home cool and comfortable?

A home's thermostat should be upgraded about every 10 years to avoid efficiency drops that come with age. Older units become less and less able to accurately detect the temperature levels in your home. The dead zone – that temperature range where the thermostat should activate, but doesn't – gradually becomes wider and wider. The



worn-out unit's poor performance will both affect your comfort levels and cost more in electricity to operate.

Before you start experiencing the negative effects of an old thermostat, consider giving your HVAC system an upgrade with a smart thermostat. These high-tech thermostats can "learn" your family's temperature preferences and daily routines, and adjust the temperature for you rather than relying on manual changes or complicated programming.

In this month's Walton EMC blog we break down why new smart thermostats are the best choice for comfort, convenience and savings.

POWERFUL  
GADGETS

