# Customer-Owned Electric Power

# Fall Digging Projects? CALL 811 BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Georgia 811 helps prevent injury, damage, fires and cuts to underground utility lines resulting in costly outages.

Simply dial 811 or go online at Georgia811.com to provide details about your planned project. Once a technician marks the area to designate underground wires, you are ready to begin.

# **COMMON PROJECTS** THAT REOUIRE 811:

- Building a deck
- Installing a fence
- Planting a tree
- Installing a mailbox

# Is This Your Money? Unclaimed Refunds

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

Accu Rent LLC; Adesanya, Afeez; Aldana, Helmer R.; Ali, Anisah; Allen, James; ATL 4 SF LLC; Barnes, Melvin J.; Barrett, William; Bayne, Shon; Beard, Micaiah; Berry, Robert E.; Bey, Shaun Q.; Bryan, Kaylyn; Catlin, Ronald; Ceballos, Miguel; Clark, Kimberly; Craig, Catherine; Cunningham, Callie; Davis, Linda J.; Daydream Property Development; Dideum, Rebecca A.; Domus Novus Borrower 1 LLC; DR Homes; Ellis, Bailey; Ellis, Washonva; ET-2LP; GA Home Coverage; Gurunz, Ram B.; Holt, Zelig A.; Jager Real Estate Investment; Jana's Fitness LLC; Johnson, Alethia; Johnson, Tyeisha C.; Jones, Karina; Lewis, McArthur; Lockridge, Melissa; Marin, Luis; Mayabb, Nicholas; Mazza, Abigail K.; Miller, Michele; Moore, Johnathan; Moreno, Dulce; Nyirongo, Dorothy; Patton, Robert A.; Presley, Katrina; Progress Atlanta LLC; Progress Residential Broker; Quiling, Christopher A.; RB Ventures LLC; Reeves, Megan; Rhodes, Marshall A.; Rivers, Xavier D.; Robinson, Jovita; Robinson, Tawana; Roos, Arthur B.; Roux, Carmen; Saniya Salon & Spa; Sears, Jazmen; Second Avenue Property Mgmt; Seo, Hwa S.; Singleton, Amy M.; Smart Learners LLC; Steed, Navar; Stephenson, Dona; Stine, Keith K.; Stinger, Jonnell; Turner, Damon; Velasco, Audrey; Washburn, Carol L.; Weaver, Caridad A.; Yamasa Co Ltd; YCS Monroe Inc.

# WE'RE RFADY

BE

The 2022 tropical storm season is predicted to peak this month. If severe weather heads our way, rest assured Walton EMC is ready to respond.

"Even though we're 200 miles from the Atlantic coast, Walton EMC's electrical distribution system can be damaged by wind and rain spinning off from these destructive storms," said Tim Morris, vice

president of engineering and operations. "Your co-op team is constantly training and preparing so that we're ready to PREPARED guickly and safely restore power."

# **ARE YOU PREPARED**?

Read this month's Walton EMC blog for tips and guides to safeguard you, your family and your property if a severe storm interrupts electric service.

# waltonemc.com/blog

# WALTON EMC'S STORM PLAN

### MANPOWER

- Extensive power restoration training.
- Cross-train office personnel for logistics support.
- Tree-clearing crews standing by.
- Line crews from other electric co-ops ready to mobilize.

# MATERIAL

• Stockpile poles, wire and transformers for repairs.

# **EQUIPMENT**

- Line repair vehicles and equipment fueled and ready.
- Stockpile fuel sources.

# COMMUNICATION

- Backup communication plan (if telecommunications are down).
- Outage reporting via phone, website or myWaltonEMC app.
- Storm Center website for customer-owner information and resources.

# SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

# **SEPT** 22

> generating comfort > report an outage > sensor lightbulbs > call before fall digging > is this your money?







# **Walton** EMC

# REALITE SEPT 2022 VOLUME 72, NO. 9

# 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 Hwv. 78 Snellville 3645 Lenora Church Rd. Watkinsville 2061-D Hog Mountain Rd.

Web waltonemc.com **Facebook** facebook.com/waltonemc Twitter twitter.com/waltonemc Youtube voutube.com/emctv

# our leaders

**CEO** Ronnie Lee 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 VP of Engineering and Operations Tim Morris Board Chair Dawn Taylor Board Vice Chair Michael Lowder **Board Secretary/Treasurer** Billy Ray Allen Board Members Tommy Adcock, Johnny Allgood,

Dan Chelko, Jason Sidwell, Sam Simonton, **Jim Whitley** 

**Public Relations Director** Greg Brooks, MCC

**Communications Coordinator** Savannah Chandler, MCC

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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

lton EMC is a customer-owned power com 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.

# Generating Comfort

# CUSTOMER-OWNERS WEIGH IN ON WHOLE-HOUSE GENERATORS

Betty Fields knows the misery of being left in the dark.

"No lights, no refrigerator, no freezer — everything was ruined. It was awful," the Lilburn retiree remembered about losing power for a week while living in New Jersey.

That memory spurred Fields to act guickly when she read about Walton EMC's standby generator program in the January 2021 Realite. The co-op partners with two Georgia-based electrical solutions companies, **GRESCO and Anderson Power** Services, to make it easy for Walton EMC customer-owners to purchase and install a quality home standby generator at a competitive price.

**John and Linda** 

Helms rely on a

Generac whole

home generator.

## **CREATING A 'FOREVER HOME'**

A whole-house standby generator guarantees uninterrupted power should the Walton EMC system ever experience an electrical outage. Fueled by natural gas or propane, it can power everything in a home at once. This includes critical hard-wired systems like air conditioning, heat, sump pumps, well pumps, security systems and large appliances.

The generator can also be a backup power source for electricity- and battery-dependent assistive technology and medical devices. This feature prompted John and Linda Helms to have a whole-house generator installed at their Monroe home last year. It's among several home improvements they've made to comfortably age in place.

"We don't ever want to go into a nursing home," John said. "So we wanted to make this house where we could stay here. This is our forever home."

# **GOOD FOR BUSINESS**

Investing in a generator was a good business decision for Warren and Lynda Gilbert of Convers. Along with their daughter, Kathy Bullington, they operate a home-based company that depends heavily on computers and other electric office equipment.

Investing in a generator eliminates costly downtime resulting from a power outage. "No power. No work. No income," Bullington said.

Whether for business or residential use, a whole-house generator is worth every penny of investment, assures John Helms. He summarized: "It gives us peace of mind."

### **INTERESTED IN A WHOLE-HOUSE GENERATOR?**

Call 770.222.1315 to schedule a free, no-obligation site survey by Anderson Power Services.



A whole-house standby generator guarantees uninterrupted power should the Walton EMC system ever experience an electrical outage.



A: Outages sometimes occur, especially during the fall storm season. If your power goes out and you've determined it's not isolated to your home, making an electronic report is the fastest way to summon help.

Online reports receive the same priority as reports by phone and take much less time. Our electronic reporting system is monitored 24/7 by Walton EMC personnel.

You can use the myWaltonEMC app on your mobile phone to make an electronic report. Download the free app at Google Play or Apple's App Store.

If your home computer is operational during the outage, you can go to waltonemc.com

# Shedding light on sensor bulbs

Sensor-equipped LEDs are making it easy to upgrade safety and security just by changing a lightbulb.

These sensor bulbs are compatible with most existing fixtures, have no timer to set and don't require a hub, app or even Wi-Fi. Manufacturers such as GE and Philips offer sensor bulbs that can be screwed into existing indoor and outdoor fixtures.

Dusk to dawn bulbs turn on automatically when a photocell detects low ambient light. Expect to pay about \$8 to \$10 for a bulb that has a lifetime of around 20,000 hours.

Motion sensing bulbs turn on temporarily when triggered by movement at night or in unlit rooms. Bulbs equipped with a passive infrared sensor detect humans or animals in a limited field of view. More expensive radar sensor bulbs detect movement in a wider range and through walls, doors and windows. Pay \$10 to \$17 per bulb (depending on sensor type) for about 25,000 hours of lighting.

LEDs with built-in sensors are available at most area home improvement stores.



**Q:** What's the best way to report an outage?

and tap the OUTAGE button at the top of the home page to make an electronic report.

To make an electronic report, you'll need one of these identifiers: (1) phone number on file with Walton EMC, (2) your account number, or (3) your meter number. It's also helpful if you provide the name on your electric account, the street address where the outage is occurring, a phone number where you can be reached and the cause of the outage (if you know).



This question answered by Kelsea Walton EMC Customer Care Representative