

PLUGGED IN

Q: What payment options does Walton EMC offer?

A: It's your bill. Pay it your way. With several convenient options, Walton EMC gives you the power to choose.

myWaltonEMC App

Online bill payment is a breeze! Actively manage your account with monthly logins and manual payment, or set it and forget it with stored payment methods and recurring automatic payments by bank draft or credit card. Download the app from the App Store or Google Play.

Online Quick Pay

If you prefer quick and easy, no-frills online payment, this is the option for you. From the waltonemc.com home page, click on "Pay My Bill." Then, simply enter your account number to view all current balances and simple payment options.

Phone

Call 770.267.2505 anytime, day or night, and pay by credit card. You will need your electric bill account number, your credit card information (16-digit number, expiration, CV2 number, etc.), and know the amount you wish to pay.

Autopay

Sign up for our automatic payment plan to have your Walton EMC bills paid directly from your bank or credit card account.

PrePay

This option allows you to pay for service before charges are incurred, eliminating late payment and reconnection fees. Refill your account balance via app, online, phone, mail or in person. Eligibility requirements apply.

Mail

Mail check or money order to: Walton EMC, P.O. Box 1347, Monroe, GA 30655.

In Person

Pay by cash, check, money order or credit card at one of our offices during regular business hours.



This question answered by
Brad Stephenson
Business Analytics
Specialist

My WaltonEMC App

• SIMPLE – make payment with 3 simple steps:

1. Select "Pay Now" button.
2. Select payment method.
3. Confirm.

• ON THE GO – make payments, check balance/usage from anywhere

• AUTOPAY – sign up for autopay

• ALERTS – sign up for account alerts

• LOCATIONS – find office locations

• BILLING HISTORY – past bills/payments

• VIEW BILL – view actual bill

• OUTAGE MAP – view/report outages

• RESET PASSWORD



To learn more about any of our payment options, call 770.267.2505 to speak with a Walton EMC customer care representative, Monday through Friday, 7A–7P. Or, visit waltonemc.com/my-account/ways-to-pay.

WaltonEMC
Customer-Owned Electric Power

realite

NOV '22

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Natural Gas Affecting Electricity Prices

Your cooperative is feeling the pinch from record-high natural gas prices. Natural gas prices are currently at a 14-year high, up 525 percent since June 2020. Besides other factors, inflation is also impacting natural gas prices.

WHERE YOUR POWER COMES FROM

Most electricity – more than 60 percent in Georgia and 38 percent nationwide – is now generated by natural gas. Not that long ago, natural gas provided less than 10 percent of our state's power.

Why the change? Environmental concerns have caused a shift away from coal for power generation. Now, only five percent of our state's electricity is generated by coal.

Walton EMC has contracts for most of the power we purchase on the wholesale market. Our power supplier buys the rest on a day-to-day basis. This method makes sense so that we don't over purchase on days with low electricity demand.

Some contract and most day-to-day power is generated with natural gas. That's because gas-fired plants can be brought in and out of service quickly.

WHY IS GAS GOING UP?

The U.S. Energy Information Agency lists several factors that affect natural gas prices: weather; supply and demand; imports and exports; storage levels; and production levels.

What Walton EMC pays for wholesale electricity has risen dramatically in the past few months because:

- Pipeline capacity, supply and demand – with no new pipelines being built in the U.S. for quite some time, the current capacity to transport natural gas is inadequate. With recent demands for more liquefied natural gas, more natural gas for power generation, and traditional uses like home heating, pipeline companies are charging a premium to move the commodity.
- Weather, supply and demand – much of the U.S. experienced a heat wave this past summer, causing an increased demand for natural gas-produced power.
- Exports, supply and demand – the U.S. has greatly increased its exports of natural gas to Europe to counter the Russian shortfall, decreasing supplies here at home. U.S. exports have risen more than 1000 times the amount as compared to 2015.

— continued inside

WaltonEMC
waltonemc.com

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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

Facebook facebook.com/waltonemc

Twitter twitter.com/waltonemc

Youtube youtube.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

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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.

Natural Gas Affecting Electricity Prices

— continued from front

• **Storage levels, supply and demand** – since summer natural gas demand was higher and exports have risen, very little natural gas was put into storage for this fall and the coming winter.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Consumers can expect electricity bills to rise modestly over the next few months.

The largest part of your power bill is the wholesale electricity we've been discussing here. Walton EMC does a great job at controlling all the other parts of your bill, having some of the lowest overhead expenses in the nation.

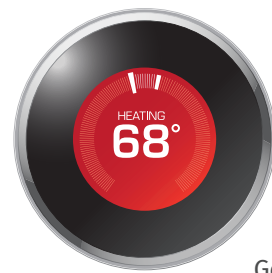
“One benefit of being not-for-profit is that we only charge customer-owners the actual cost of doing business,” said Walton EMC's Greg Brooks. “They can rest assured that we do all we can to keep what they pay as low as possible. Any excess is returned to them in capital credit refunds on their December bill.”

Customer-owners can always find ways to save on energy bills through our Home Energy Evaluation at waltonemc.com. This free service provides a step-by-step video and comprehensive checklist to improve the energy efficiency of any home.

Other services, like leveled billing and payment arrangements, can help consumers having a difficult time paying their bill. We also offer referrals to community assistance agencies if that's needed.

Whatever the case, talk to us.

“Our customer service representatives want to help,” said Brooks. “Call us if you need us.”



Manage auxiliary mode to heat for less

Heating systems throughout northern Georgia will be getting a workout over the next few months. But that doesn't mean your electric bill has to soar, says Rigs Santos, a Walton EMC residential energy advisor.

“Savings can be found in how often the heat strips in your electric heat pump are activated,” he said. Heat strips provide supplemental heat. They require more energy to function than the normal operations of your system.

Though it's necessary for a heat pump to use heat strips to perform some tasks, here are actions you can take to reduce how frequently they automatically switch on:

- **Keep the thermostat set at 68 degrees.** Keeping your house at a lower, regulated temperature will reduce the amount of heat your heat pump has to create, which reduces its need to rely on heat strips.
- **Raise the temperature gradually.** If you lower your home's temperature while you're away, bring the heat up in two-degree increments. More than two degrees at a time may make the system fall back on the heat strips for support.
- **Don't use the emergency setting.** Even if temperatures plunge, don't change the thermostat from the HEAT setting. In the emergency mode, only the electric heat strips are operational. Relying on heat strips for any extended amount of time can drive up your electric bill. Use the emergency setting only when there's an actual emergency, such as when the heat pump compressor fails.

Wired for success

WALTON EMC HOSTS CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT FOR LOCAL STUDENTS

Students put their knowledge of wiring and electricity to use during a recent competition where a lucrative career can be the ultimate prize.

High School students from Monroe Area, Morgan County, Social Circle and Oconee County participated in the Agricultural Electrification Career Development Event that promotes the safe, efficient use of electricity and offers scholarships.

JR Dickens, Oconee County High School, came in first place and Leyton Morris, Morgan County High School, placed second.

This competition, sponsored by Walton EMC and FFA, is designed to teach students about wiring and the national standards for safe installation while developing skills that can lead to rewarding careers. It also creates a pipeline of apprentice linemen for rural electric cooperatives that bring power to consumers across Georgia.

Each participant takes a multiple-choice written exam, gives an oral presentation describing necessary steps to complete a specific electrical task, and completes a timed, real-life wiring problem testing their knowledge of the National Electric Code.



JR Dickens from Oconee County High School wires his way to first place at an FFA career development event hosted by Walton EMC.

Find out more at waltonemc.com> community.

Use small appliances for the Thanksgiving win

ENERGY-EFFICIENT COOKING IS EASY AS PIE

POWERFUL GADGETS



Between pots boiling on the burners and turkey roasting in the oven, preparing Thanksgiving dinner can gobble up a lot of electricity. But there may be an energy-saving solution already sitting in your pantry. Pull out those small kitchen appliances for a meal prep strategy that saves electricity and eases cooking chores.

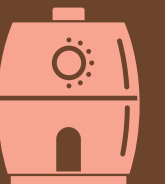
PRESSURE COOKER – Using an electric pressure cooker, such as Insta Pot, can save as much as 70 percent of energy compared with electric stovetop or oven cooking.

It's ideal for making many classic Thanksgiving foods – even the turkey. Use it to make feast staples like cranberry sauce, cornbread, sweet potato casserole and green beans. It's also handy for quickly churning out giblet gravy.

SLOW COOKER – With a roasting turkey in the oven, the slow cooker is an energy-efficient way to make side dishes. Cooking food in a slow cooker for 8 hours uses a similar amount of energy as running the average oven for 35–55 minutes.

A slow cooker is perfect for making stuffing, casseroles and any grain or rice-based side dish. If you're willing to forgo the look of a golden roasted turkey, look for recipes to cook a flavorful turkey breast in a slow cooker.

AIR FRYER – An air fryer can be your secret weapon for cooking Thanksgiving dishes. Similar to a small convection oven, it uses less than half the energy of a standard, full-size oven because it takes less time to preheat, cooks food faster and uses less electricity during cooking. Potatoes, Brussels sprouts, green beans, rolls and even apple pies can be cooked in an air fryer. For energy-efficient turkey preparation that has oven-roasted flavor, try a split turkey breast prepared in the air fryer.



Agriculture tax exemption



The Georgia Agriculture Tax Exemption (GATE) card is issued to farmers and producers who are exempt from state sales tax on the inputs used in the production of their commodity.

To find out what has changed or apply for a GATE card, visit forms.agr.georgia.gov/GATE/

To continue receiving this sales tax exemption from Walton EMC, producers must submit renewed cards to us no later than Dec. 31.

Copies of your renewed GATE card can be mailed, faxed or emailed to the following:

MAIL: Walton EMC, Attn: Connie Bentley, P.O. Box 260, Monroe, GA 30655

FAX: 770.267.6479

EMAIL: cbentley@waltonemc.com

