

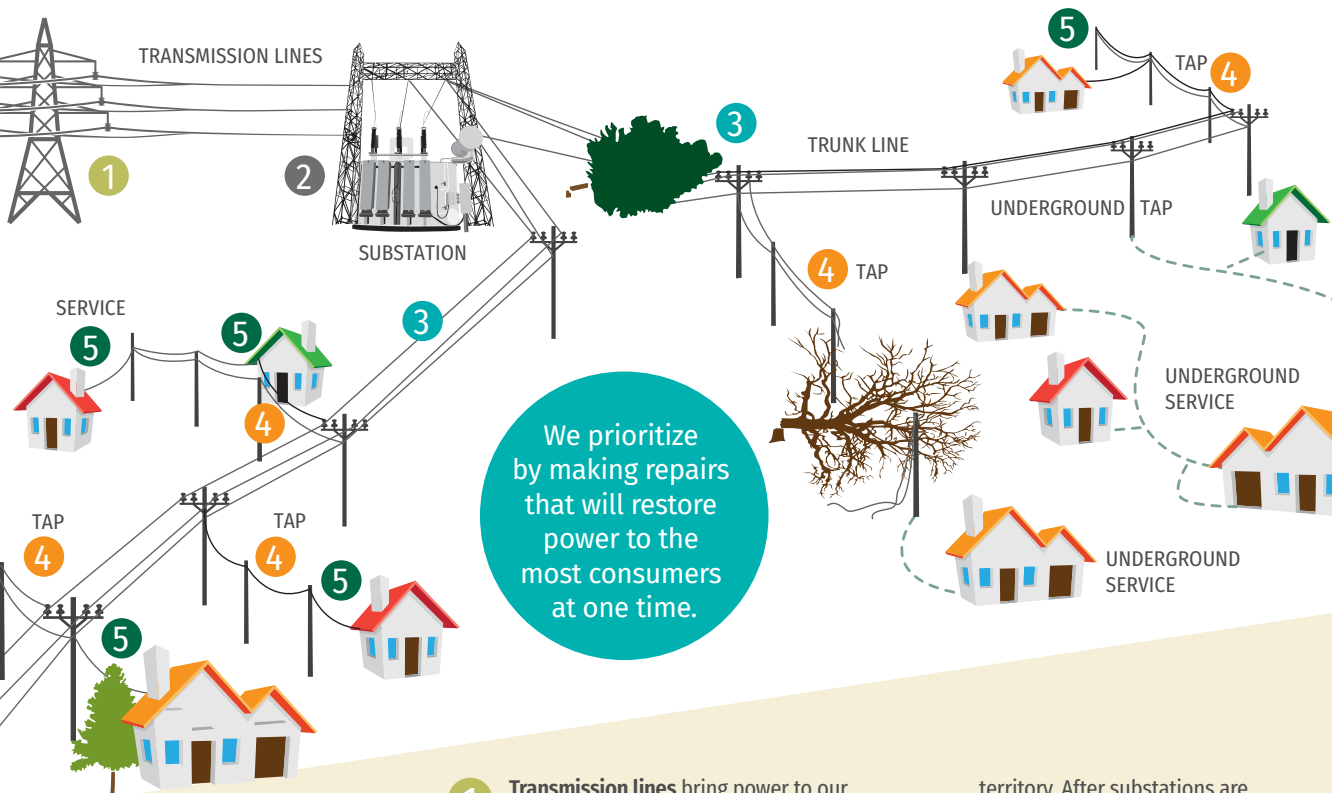
Restoring your power

HOW WALTON EMC PREPARES FOR AN OUTAGE

The work needed to quickly restore service after a large power outage begins long before it ever occurs.

- Our comprehensive storm plan is reviewed and revised every year to make sure Walton EMC is prepared to restore power quickly.
- Most outages occur when trees or branches fall on power lines due to high winds or frozen precipitation. Our right-of-way contractors keep trees and other growth trimmed away from power lines. That prevents outages and gives Walton EMC workers easier access to problem areas.
- Our computerized outage reporting system can handle thousands of reports an hour and aids our system control in allocating resources.

- Substations and parts of our grid are remotely monitored by computer. The system automatically alerts us to many problems on our system.
- All Walton EMC employees are cross-trained to help with outages.
- The EMCs of Georgia have agreements in place for mutual aid in times of crisis. We can quickly get extra manpower to assist in power restoration.
- Our system control constantly keeps an eye on weather radar and current forecasts to have crews standing by for fast response.



HOW WE RESTORE YOUR POWER

- 1 Transmission lines** bring power to our system from generating plants. Walton EMC does not repair transmission lines.
- 2 Substations** interface transmission lines with the backbone of Walton EMC's grid and must be functioning before any other part of our system can carry power. Substations are Walton EMC's first priority in restoring power.
- 3 Trunk lines** serve as the backbone of our grid and carry electric power from substations throughout our service territory. After substations are functioning, we turn our attention to the backbone of our grid.
- 4 Taps** feed off of the backbone of our grid and carry electricity out to smaller numbers of consumers. Repairs on taps begin after the backbone of our grid is functioning.
- 5 Service wires** supply power to only one or two locations. Repairs to service wires come last.

Walton EMC
Customer-Owned Electric Power

realite

MAY '23

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- > gadgets mom will love
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JUNE 17 ANNUAL MEETING ROLLS IN

We will conduct our annual business with a drive-through meeting at our headquarters in Monroe on Saturday, June 17, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

At this event, you can pick up the traditional bucket of gifts, vote on directors and approve the minutes of the 2022 meeting.



IMPORTANT!

The official notice and registration barcode are attached to your May billing statement. Paperless customers will receive a hard copy.

Bring the entire sheet to be entered in a drawing for one of many \$50 bill credits and a retired pickup truck

The gift bucket is limited to the first 3,500 customer-owners who bring this card to the drive-through event.

Customer-owners must be present to receive gift buckets.



Visit waltonemc.com/annualmeeting for the annual report, a map of the meeting site and more.

Walton EMC
waltonemc.com

REALITE MAY 2023 VOLUME 73, NO. 5

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 Ron Marshall
Senior VP Corporate Services Russell DeLong
CFO/Senior VP Finance Marsha Shumate
VP Walton Energy and External Affairs Jim Bottone
VP Engineering and Operations Tim Morris
VP Power Supply Hudson Kingery
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
Design mPrint Design Studio

walton gas

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©2023 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.

PLUGGED IN

Q: Does Walton EMC offer a way to monitor my electricity use?

A: With the unofficial start of summer kicking off with Memorial Day weekend, this is a timely question. Understanding how much power you're using, and when you're using it, is the first step to better managing your summertime energy consumption. Your co-op offers the **free myWaltonEMC app** to track and manage your energy use from any mobile device. You can check your home's energy use by the hour and day. You can also use the app to see how weather affects your energy bill. Download the mobile app from the App Store or from Google Play. You can also link to the service at waltonemc.com. For more energy-saving ideas from Walton EMC's energy advisors, check out s.coop/summersavings.



Answered by
Sirredia Huff
Senior Customer Care Representative



A fresh take



WALTON EMC TO SUPPLY POWER FOR GOTHAM GREENS' HYDROPONIC GREENHOUSE IN MONROE

A food company with a fresh take on growing produce is opening its first Southeast location within Walton EMC's service area.

New York-based Gotham Greens is putting the finishing touches on a 210,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art hydroponic greenhouse in Monroe's Piedmont Regional Industrial Park. The new Walton EMC industrial customer-owner expects to begin shipping from the local facility this summer, says a company representative.

The company's product portfolio includes greenhouse-grown leafy greens and herbs, along with a line of refrigerated salad dressings, dips and cooking sauces. The products are sold in roughly 3,000 grocery stores nationwide, including Whole Foods Market, Sprouts Farmers Market and Kroger locations.

Locating a regional greenhouse in Georgia helps solve some supply chain challenges by reducing the need for long-distance refrigerated transportation. The Monroe greenhouse will also give local consumers access to a fresher product,

said Gotham Greens co-founder and CEO Viraj Puri. He notes that 98% of lettuce grown in the United States comes from California and Arizona.

"By the time it reaches most parts of the country, it has lost quality, taste and nutritional value, and has a much shorter shelf life," he said.

Gotham Greens currently grows and harvests produce at greenhouses in New York, Illinois, Rhode Island, Maryland, Colorado, Virginia and California. After new projects in Georgia and Texas are completed this year, the company will own and operate 13 high-tech, climate-controlled hydroponic greenhouses, totaling more than 40 acres across nine states.

Gotham Greens' hydroponic greenhouses use up to **95% less water** and **97% less land** compared to conventional farming, the company reports.



ENERGY SAVERS DO A LITTLE, SAVE A LOT

Keep your refrigerator and freezer as full as possible. A half-empty appliance uses more energy.

Gadgets mom will love!

Mother's Day arrives on May 14. This year, show mom how much you care with a gift that is indulgent but also useful. We found these great electronic gadgets sure to make mom smile.

Sleeping Mask with Bluetooth Headphone Speakers

The ultimate pampering gift for mother or grandmother, these wireless headphones block out noise, play mindful music and serve as a sleep mask. Musicozy sleep headphones get a thumbs up for being hand washable and lasting 8 to 10 hours on a single charge. **Buy it: Walmart or Amazon, \$20.**



Facial Brush

The new Foreo Luna 4 uses soft silicone touchpoints and T-sonic pulsations to gently massage the skin and remove dirt, oil and makeup residue. **Buy it: Sephora or Ulta Beauty, \$129.**



Humidifier/Aromatherapy Diffuser

Help mom relax with the dual benefits of moist air and a calming aromatic spray. We found a wide variety of these gadgets, varying by water tank capacity. **Buy it: Home Depot, \$30 and up.**



Towel Warmer

Treat mom to the luxury of a spa-like warm towel. Sharper Image's SpaStudio is a compact, portable warmer that heats towels, robes and more during a 20-minute cycle. **Buy it: sharperimage.com, \$130.**



Ultrasonic Jewelry Cleaner

This small appliance uses ultrasonic waves to clean dirty jewelry, eyeglasses, watches, utensils and more. The Magnasonic brand is a top-rated model. **Buy it: Amazon, \$40.**



Mother's Day is May 14