

All the Buzz About COOPERATIVES

At Walton EMC, we're more than just your local electricity provider – we're a member-owned cooperative that puts you first. Unlike investor-owned utilities, electric cooperatives like us are owned and controlled by the people they serve.

All cooperatives operate under the seven guiding principles illustrated below.

That's the cooperative spirit that makes Walton EMC special, and it's what drives us to keep powering your life day after day.

- 1 VOLUNTARY & OPEN MEMBERSHIP**
- 2 DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL**
- 3 MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION**
- 4 AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE**
- 5 EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION**
- 6 COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES**
- 7 CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY**

Knowledge is
POWER



5 COMPANIES
THAT YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T
KNOW ARE CO-OPS:



realite

MAY 2024

Walton EMC
INVESTING *energy* IN WHAT MATTERS MOST

reliability members safety employees community service

2024 ANNUAL meeting

**SATURDAY
JUNE 15**
8–11:00 AM
North Oconee High School
1081 Rocky Branch Rd
Bogart, 30622

We are offering two convenient ways to participate: **drive-through** and **in-person**.

All registered attendees will be eligible for a grand prize retired pickup truck or one of many \$50 bill credits. Please note that no additional door prizes will be awarded at the drive-through or in-person option. Visit waltonemc.com/annualmeeting for traffic flow instructions and more.

live music! by Jeff and Sheri Easter

Jeff and Sheri have been honored with nine Dove Awards, two career Grammy nominations and the 2021 Singing News Fan Award for Trio of the Year. They have also been featured performers in the Gaither Homecoming video series since 1993.



free gift!

Bucket Organizer



	DRIVE-THRU	IN-PERSON
Vote for Directors	✓	✓
Bucket & Free Gift	✓	✓
Eligible for Bill Credit Drawings	✓	✓
Eligible for Grand Prize Retired Pickup Truck	✓	✓
Attend Business Meeting		✓
Live Entertainment		✓
Kids Coloring Contest		✓

Look for a scannable registration code and ballot in your May billing envelope.

Scan here

FOR THE REALITE ONLINE



Step 1 Point your phone camera at the QR code.
Step 2 Tap the screen to access Walton EMC news online.

Walton EMC
waltonemc.com

REALITE MAY 2024 VOLUME 74, 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

- President and CEO** Ron Marshall
- Senior VP Corporate Services** Russell DeLong
- CFO/Senior VP Finance** Marsha Shumate
- Senior VP Walton Energy and External Affairs** Jim Bottone
- VP Engineering and Operations** Tim Morris
- VP Power Supply** Hudson Kingery
- Board Chair** Michael Lowder
- Board Vice Chair** Jason Sidwell
- Board Secretary/Treasurer** Billy Ray Allen
- Board Members** Tommy Adcock, Dan Chelko, Stan Pitts, Sam Simonton, Dawn Taylor, Jim Whitley
- Public Relations** Savannah Chandler, Morgan Spivey
- Design** mPrint Design Studio

walton gas

NEED NATURAL GAS SERVICE?
770.GAS.HEAT or walgongas.com

emc security

NEED SECURITY SERVICE?
770.963.0305 or emcsecurity.com

©2024 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.

Great News for Walton EMC Customer-Owners

As a Walton EMC customer-owner, you'll be pleased to know that you're paying less for your electricity than the average Georgia consumer. The latest Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) Residential Rate Survey, conducted twice yearly, confirms this good news.

The winter survey, which uses January rates, shows that Walton EMC customer-owners using 1,500 kilowatt-hours (kWh) – the closest level to the average residential usage of 1,536 kWh in January – paid 7% less than the statewide average and 15% less than Georgia Power customers. In fact, Walton EMC bills were \$84.23 lower than the state's highest-charging utility.

Walton EMC customer-owners also enjoyed below-average rates for both lower (1,000 kWh) and higher (2,000 kWh) electricity usage levels.

"Because Walton EMC is owned by its customers, providing reliable service at the lowest possible cost is our main focus," said CEO Ron Marshall. "First, every employee works hard to keep our expenses down to provide the most value for our customer-owners. Second, we continually seek out the best price for wholesale power to keep rates low."

As a customer-owned cooperative, Walton EMC remains committed to delivering affordable, reliable electricity to its members.

To view the complete PSC Residential Rate Survey, visit psc.ga.gov.

In January, Walton EMC bills were **\$84.23 LOWER** than the state's highest-charging utility.

Walton EMC

INVESTING *energy* IN WHAT MATTERS MOST

As a cooperative, it is our responsibility to be a trusted energy partner for our customer-owners today – and tomorrow. Walton EMC invests time and resources in these key areas to move us forward, always building on a legacy of distributing safe, reliable, affordable and responsible electricity.

reliability

We are committed to providing reliable energy for our members who are increasingly dependent on electricity to power their lives and livelihoods. Through investment and innovation, Walton EMC consistently achieves 99.99% dependability.



members

Walton EMC is owned and democratically controlled by those we serve. Every co-op member is not simply a customer, but a customer-owner with a personal stake and decision-making power.

As a not-for-profit cooperative, we put people before profit. Electricity is delivered to members at the cost of service. Any revenue remaining after expenses is returned to members.



safety

Employees and customer-owners alike benefit because safety is a top priority at Walton EMC.

A focused safety program safeguards individual well-being and promotes cooperative efficiency and production.

We prioritize electrical safety education to protect employees, members and the public. Resources are allocated for equipment that keeps employees safe while they work.



employees

Our commitment to Walton EMC members begins with our commitment to co-op employees who demonstrate our values of service, integrity and excellence.

We foster a diverse and equitable workplace where all employees feel welcomed. Emphasis is placed on respect and dignity for all.

Along with competitive compensation and benefits, Walton EMC offers opportunities that position employees to succeed for our members as well as themselves. We champion growth through continuing education, progressive work-life policies and community service.

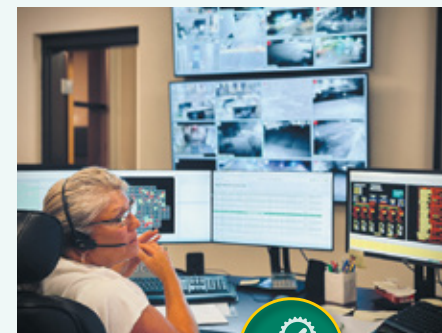


community

Walton EMC supports community resiliency and economic opportunity by providing reliable, affordable and responsible electricity. We work to improve the quality of life in our communities by supporting youth development programs, underwriting scholarships and sponsoring local events.

service

Prioritizing service to members over profit has consistently earned Walton EMC recognition as best in customer satisfaction among the nation's electric utilities. We exceed performance expectations by responding to members' interests and needs with products, services and personalized assistance.



Walton Electric Trust Scholarships Help Local Students Pursue College Dreams

At Walton EMC, we believe in investing in the future of our communities by supporting the educational aspirations of our young people. That's why we're excited to announce this year's recipients of the Walton Electric Trust Scholarship.

Each year, the Walton Electric Trust awards up to 32 \$4,000 scholarships to deserving high school seniors from Walton EMC customer-owner families. We also provide \$1,000 scholarships to a group of talented runners-up. These scholarships are funded by unclaimed capital credit refunds that are placed into a special endowment.

Our scholarship committee carefully evaluates each applicant based on their ability to triumph over obstacles, strong work ethic, dedication to community service and involvement in extracurricular activities. This year's scholarship winners have truly inspired us with their resilience, leadership skills and commitment to making a positive difference in the world around them.

To learn more about the Walton Electric Trust Scholarship and other youth programs, visit our website or give us a call. We're here to support you and your family.



- | | |
|---|---|
| Archer High School
Jaida Person | Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School
Elizabeth Grace (Gracie) Johnson |
| Bethlehem Christian Academy
Jack McDevitt | North Oconee High School
Elizabeth (Liza) Shepherd
Yehyun Hong
Charles Anthony "Cam" McCullers, Jr.
Amy Shan |
| Brookwood High School
Aamir Vikhar Syed | Oconee County High School
Juliana Lee Bluhm
Bethanie Jenkins
Cassidy Ruiz |
| Cedar Shoals High School
Ben Montgomery | Parkview High School
Jordan Seymour |
| George Walton Academy
Amelia Shipman | Paul Duke STEM High School
Triston Gibson |
| Loganville Christian Academy
Camryn Fleming | Prince Avenue Christian Academy
J. Austin Head |
| Loganville High School
Remington Sky Allgood
Chloe Sherrill
Rebecca Oji
Yancey Quinn Richardson | Shiloh High School
Jayleen L. Frazier |
| Monroe Area High School
Josephine Heidel
Carlton "Trae" Kirk
Maria Mondragon Munoz
Addalyn Perkins
Mason Wyatt Salyer | South Gwinnett High School
Afomia Giday |
| Morgan County High School
William Jackson Ward | Tandem EDU
Jonathan Hill |
| | Walnut Grove High School
Anna Franklin
William Joseph Jarzen |