



LEADERSHIP IN ACTION: STUDENTS EXPERIENCE THE 2026 WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR

For more than 60 years, electric cooperatives have invested in developing the next generation of leaders through the Washington Youth Tour. Since its creation in 1964, the program has provided thousands of high school students from across the country with the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C., learn about American history and government, and gain a deeper understanding of the cooperative principles that power their communities. Sponsored by electric cooperatives, the Washington Youth Tour continues to inspire students to become informed citizens and future leaders. (78893001)



This June, Tri-County EMC proudly sponsored Cayden Burner of Putnam County and Tripp Arnold of Jones County (Pictured above). Alongside more than 100 delegates representing electric cooperatives from across Georgia, the pair spent a week exploring the nation's capital while building friendships, expanding their leadership skills, and experiencing history firsthand.

[Read more on Page 2...](#)

WHAT'S NEXT AT TCEMC?

9/1

Operation Roundup
September Deadline

Non-profits can apply for
grants up to \$15,000.

9/22

Directors' Election Opens

Ballots are sent out by mail or email
for members to cast their vote.

GO PAPERLESS THIS DIRECTORS' ELECTION

Save paper, and vote online!

If you wish to opt out of receiving a paper ballot and vote online during this year's directors' election, complete an online form at the link below or call us at 1.866.254.8100.

www.tri-countyemc.com/voting.cms

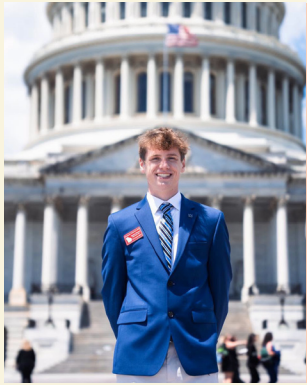
Instead of receiving a ballot by mail, your login information for the voting website will be emailed to you. If you have opted out before, there is no need to do so again unless your email address changes. If we do not hear from you before August 30, you will automatically receive a voting packet in the mail in September.

Results of the election will be announced at the annual meeting scheduled for October 22 at 2 PM at Tri-County EMC's Gray office.

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION: STUDENTS EXPERIENCE THE 2026 WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR ...Continued from Page 1

Among the many highlights of the trip was Capitol Hill Day, where delegates had the opportunity to meet with members of Georgia's congressional delegation and learn more about the legislative process. The experience gave students a firsthand look at how decisions made in Washington affect their communities back home. (75053003)

One evening, delegates enjoyed a scenic riverboat cruise along the Potomac River, providing a chance to relax, connect with fellow students from across Georgia, and take in spectacular views of the Washington skyline. Throughout the week, the delegates formed lasting friendships with peers who share a commitment to leadership, service, and making a positive difference in their communities.



"The experience of meeting other Georgia delegates is really what makes the trip so impactful. The people that I shared this trip with, who I now call friends, were amazing."

Cayden Burner, Putnam County



The Washington Youth Tour is much more than a sightseeing trip. It is an opportunity for students to grow in confidence, broaden their perspectives, and return home with a greater appreciation for civic engagement and public service. By interacting with students from across the state and experiencing the nation's history where it happened, delegates leave with memories and lessons that will stay with them for a lifetime.

Tri-County EMC encourages high school students to consider applying for next year's Washington Youth Tour. Whether your interests lie in leadership, history, government, or simply exploring new opportunities, the experience offers something for everyone. "Seize this opportunity without hesitation," commented delegate Tripp Arnold. "I return inspired to maintain a rigorous awareness of municipal governance and to actively contribute to the welfare of my community, mirroring the civic-minded philosophy that defines our electric cooperatives."

For more information about the Washington Youth Tour, visit www.tri-countyemc.com/washington-youth-tour. The application for the 2027 trip will open in December.



POWERING EDUCATION: TRI-COUNTY EMC PROGRAMS FOR LOCAL STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

Every school year brings new opportunities. Tri-County EMC is proud to invest in the next generation through scholarships, leadership experiences, classroom grants, and other educational programs. To learn more about each of the below opportunities, please visit us at www.tri-countyemc.com.

FALL



APPLICATIONS DUE OCTOBER 15

Bright Ideas Education Grants

Local teachers can apply for grants for classroom innovative projects in grades Pre-K through 12th grade. Certified public or private school teachers in Baldwin, Jones, Putnam, Jasper, Twiggs, and Wilkinson Counties qualify.

Operation Roundup Scholarship

The Tri-County EMC Foundation offers \$2,000 scholarships to students, especially non-traditional scholars, to help pay their college costs.

ARTWORK DUE IN NOVEMBER

Christmas Card Art Contest

Tri-County EMC invites Kindergarten through 5th grade students to design the company Christmas card. Winners receive a cash prize, and their artwork is featured in the December issue of Current Lines.

WINTER



APPLICATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 1

Walter Harrison Scholarship

Georgia EMC, Georgia's statewide electric cooperative organization, awards \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors and undergraduate students.

APPLICATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 15

Washington Youth Tour

Tri-County EMC sponsors three high school students to represent Georgia on the Washington Youth Tour, a week-long adventure in Washington, D.C.

SPRING



APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 15

Cooperative Scholarship

Tri-County EMC awards four \$2,500 scholarships to students residing within the cooperative's service area. Applications are judged based equally on academics, financial need, and community involvement.

Lineman Scholarship

To honor the trade that is the backbone of our business, Tri-County EMC awards two \$3,000 scholarships to individuals interested in becoming electric linemen.

Operation Roundup Scholarship (See above)



Tri-County
EMC

P.O. Box 487, Gray, GA 31032 | 478.986.8100
TCEMC is an equal-opportunity employer.

Ray Grinberg, CEO

Board of Directors

Brenda P. Green, Chairman

Sammy Hall, Vice Chairman

Dan Greene, Secretary/Treasurer

Buck Comer, Chap Nelson, Marion Nelson,

Cecil Patterson, Mike Rainey, Ed Walker



Three account numbers are hidden in parentheses in this issue of Current Lines. If you find your FULL account number, call 478.986.8126 to claim a \$50 bill credit.

BROWN BUTTER GA MOUNTAIN TROUT

Courtesy of Georgia Grown

- 4 Trout fillets, skin on
- 6 tbsp butter, divided
- 6 fresh sage leaves
- ½ cup apple cider
- ¼ cup bourbon
- 2 cups sliced apples, skin on
- 3 cups sliced shiitake mushrooms
- Salt and pepper

Heat 4 tbsp of butter in a cast iron skillet over medium high heat. Season trout fillets with salt and pepper. When the butter turns light brown, add trout fillets skin side up and sage leaves. Cook 1 – 2 minutes until golden. Turn fillets over and cook additional 2 – 3 minutes or until fish flakes slightly. Remove trout fillets and sage leaves from pan, set aside and keep warm.

Add sliced apples and mushrooms to pan. Cook, stirring occasionally until mushrooms turn light brown. Add bourbon and cook about 30 seconds. Add apple cider to pan, stirring to incorporate. Simmer uncovered until the liquid reduces by half. Stir in remaining butter a small amount at a time until emulsified into a glossy sauce. Spoon mixture over trout fillets. Serves 4.

DID YOU KNOW?

Your recipe is worth \$20 if chosen! Send your best recipes to annas@tri-countyemc.com or mail to P.O. Box 487, Gray, GA 31032.

AVOID FINES... DON'T SHOOT THE LINES!

As dove hunting season approaches, Tri-County EMC reminds hunters to keep safety at the forefront of their minds. Power lines and fiber-optic cables often provide convenient perches for doves, making them a common sight in hunting areas. While it may seem harmless to take a shot at a bird resting on a line, doing so can have serious consequences for the hunter, nearby residents, and the entire community. A single shot can extensively damage electrical or fiber infrastructure, leading to costly repairs, service interruptions, and unnecessary safety hazards.



Costly Damage

Shooting at power lines and fiber lines can cause extensive damage, costing thousands of dollars in repairs, leading to higher utility bills or a large fine for the hunter. (59356001)

Safety Hazards

Power lines damaged from a gunshot can ignite fires and pose electrocution risks to people nearby.

Internet Disruption

Fiber-optic cables, crucial for internet service, are vulnerable to gunfire and take several hours to replace.

Legal Consequences

Damaging electrical equipment is against the law and could result in criminal charges or financial liability for repair costs.

Before taking a shot, make sure your target is clear and avoid shooting at birds perched on utility lines or other electrical equipment. By hunting safely and responsibly, you can help keep the lights on, keep the internet connected, and ensure everyone safe throughout dove season.