



Tri-County
EMC

CURRENT LINES

M A Y 2 0 2 1

THIS MONTH'S NEWS

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MAY IS ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

Play it safe around electricity.

PREVENT ELECTRICAL OVERLOADS

Overloaded electrical circuits are a major cause of residential fires. Warning signs of overloaded circuits include flickering, brightening or dimming lights, warm or discolored wall plates, frequently tripped circuit breakers or a mild shock from appliances, receptacles or switches. To prevent this, never use extension cords or multi-outlet converters for appliances. All major appliances should be plugged directly into a wall outlet. And never plug more than one heat-producing appliance into the same wall plug at the same time.

STAY AWAY FROM ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

Stay away from underground transformers, substation fences and any other electrical equipment. If for some reason a pet, ball, toy or anything else of yours ends up inside a substation, do not attempt to climb the fence to retrieve it. Contact the owner of the substation using the information listed on the gate for assistance. (67041001)

KIDS AND ELECTRICITY

Keep children away from electrical outlets. Plastic outlet protectors are a great way to protect smaller children from outlets, but installing electrical outlets designed to remain closed until a plug is inserted is a safer bet. Keep loose cords out of children's reach and out of the walking path. Cords within the child's reach pose a choking hazard, while cords on the ground could cause a child to trip and fall.

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2021 ELECTION

The Nominating Committee plays the important role of naming qualified candidates for election to expiring or open director seats

The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to nominate qualified director candidates residing in the post seat with an expiring term. In addition to nominating members themselves, they can also accept nominations from members outside the committee that would like to run for a director position. The 2021 Nominating Committee include the members below. Those interested in running for a director seat should contact one of the members below or Tri-County EMC at 478.986.8100 by June 1, 2021. (73821001)

DISTRICT 1:

Jones & Bibb

Evelyn Simmons
Thomas Comer
Laura Hardwick

DISTRICT 2:

Putnam, Jasper & Morgan

Carol Guthrie
Ken Farr
Joe Swift

DISTRICT 3:

Baldwin, Wilkinson & Twiggs

Kevin Pope
Jack Brock
Hunter Bacon

HOW TO SERVE ON THE BOARD

Ever wonder how the Board of Directors election process works for your co-op? Here's an overview of director qualifications and steps taken to be on the ballot.

QUALIFICATIONS TO SERVE ON THE TRI-COUNTY EMC BOARD:

(Reference: Bylaws Section 4.02 Qualifications)

- Member cannot be a “close relative” of an incumbent director or an employee of the cooperative. As used in these bylaws, “close relative” means a person who is either a spouse, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, nephew, or niece, by blood or in law, of the principal.
- Member must have a permanent residence served by Tri-County EMC
- Candidate must be a member for at least 2 years prior to the election
- Member must have the legal capacity to enter into contracts in the State of Georgia
- Former Tri-County EMC employees must wait two years before being eligible to serve on the board
- Member cannot be employed by or have any financial interest in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the cooperative

HOW TO GET ON THE BALLOT:

(Reference: Bylaws Section 4.06 Nominations)

To meet the qualifications to have your name placed on the ballot you must satisfy one of the options below by:

- Being nominated by the Nominating Committee to be included on the ballot for the election. The Nominating Committee will meet no less than 120 days prior to the annual meeting. A list of Nominating Committee members can be found above.
- Submitting a petition signed by 50 fellow members. No electronic signatures accepted. Petitions must be submitted to the Nominating Committee no less than 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting on October 21.

ACCOUNT NUMBER

Did you find your account number? Find your complete account number inside parentheses in this issue of Current Lines for a \$50 bill credit. Call us at 478.986.8126 to claim your credit.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH, Continued

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LABEL YOUR CIRCUITS

When was the last time you checked that your circuit box was labeled correctly? Knowing which areas of your home are serviced by which circuit breakers is crucial in case of an emergency. You never know when you might need to shut off the power. Take a few minutes to correctly label the circuit breakers in your home so that you can be prepared if you experience an electrical short circuit.

EXTENSION CORD SAFETY

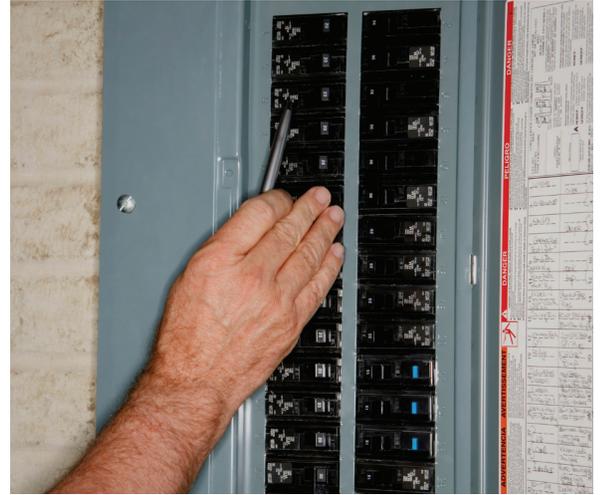
When not used correctly, extension cords can overheat and cause fires. Be sure to thoroughly inspect the extension cord for any damage before using it. If your cord is not quite long enough for your project, do not attempt to plug extensions cords into one another to add length. Buying a longer cord is the safer option. Running cords through doorways, floors and under rugs will block heat from escaping the cord, posing a fire risk. We recommend relocating outlets when necessary rather than using extension cords. And when using cords outdoors, be sure to keep them away from water, and use a GFCI outlet.

BE AWARE WHEN WORKING OUTSIDE

When working outside, be aware that there may be power lines above you and beneath you. If you are planning a project that requires digging, call 811 to get utility lines marked on your property so you know what areas to avoid. If you are working on your roof or trimming trees, be sure to stay at least 20 feet away from overhead power lines. Getting too close to a power line can be just as dangerous as touching a power line, as electricity can arc from the power line to a close object. (200565001)

CALL THE EXPERTS

Doing at-home projects yourself instead of calling a professional can sometimes save you money. But with electricity, we recommend you call the professional. Important safety measures must be taken when working with electricity and even the slightest mistake can end in damage to your home or electrical shock. While it might not be the most cost-effective option, it may be the safer way to complete your project. (47316001)



FIBER INTERNET IS COMING

connect.tri-cogo.com

RECIPE BOX

WANDA'S FAVORITE BANANA PUDDING

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pkg. (3 1/2 oz) vanilla instant pudding
- 1 can Eagle Brand condensed milk
- 1 cup milk
- 8 oz. sour cream
- 1/2 pint whipping cream
- 1 box vanilla wafers
- 4 or 5 bananas
- 1 Tablespoon chocolate syrup

DIRECTIONS

Mix pudding, milk, condensed milk for 2 minutes, then chill. While that's chilling, whip whipping cream and add sour cream. Fold mixtures together. Layer 1/2 wafers, 1/2 bananas and 1/2 mixture, then repeat layers. Swirl chocolate syrup over top and refrigerate.



This recipe is courtesy of Fannie Batchelor of Baldwin County. Did you know your recipe is worth \$20 if chosen? Send your best recipes to kimb@tri-countyemc.com or mail to P.O. Box 487, Gray, GA 31032.

BROADBAND FIBER PROJECT UPDATE

Tri-CoGo is constructing 1,600 miles of fiber line over the next 2 years to provide fiber internet service to each interested Tri-County EMC member

Construction is underway with Tri-County EMC's broadband fiber project. The first fiber hut has been installed at Clinton Substation in Gray. This hut will house all of the electronics to allow Tri-CoGo to relay light signals, and ultimately provide fiber internet service, to each of the homes and businesses currently served by Clinton Substation.

Ervin, a fiber contractor, is installing conduit and will begin fiber line construction in May.

Tri-CoGo fiber internet service is expected to be available for Tri-County EMC members located in Zone 1, which includes Lite-N-Tie Rd, in August 2021.

To learn more about Tri-CoGo, constructions schedules, pricing and to pre-register for service, visit connect.tri-cogo.com.



This drone photo shows a crane installing Tri-CoGo's first fiber hut, housed in Clinton Substation in Gray.



Each fiber hut, a concrete structure weighing 38,000 lbs., houses the equipment needed to provide fiber internet to members on each substation.



OFFICES CLOSED

Tri-County EMC offices will be closed on Monday, May 31 in observation of Memorial Day.



Tri-County EMC

Owned By Those We Serve

P.O. Box 487
Gray, GA 31032
478.986.8100

www.tri-countyemc.com

Tri-County EMC is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Ray Grinberg, CEO

Board of Directors

Brenda P. Green, Chairman
Sammy Hall, Vice-Chairman
Thomas Noles, Secretary/Treasurer
George "Buck" Comer, Dan Greene,
Chap Nelson, Marion Nelson,
Cecil Patterson, Mike Rainey

CURRENT LINES

Monthly Publication for
Tri-County EMC Members