



Tri-County  
EMC

# CURRENT LINES

NOVEMBER 2021

## THIS MONTH'S NEWS

- Annual Meeting, page 1
- Annual Meeting, Cont'd., page 2
- Tri-CoGo Internet Available in Portions of Jones County, page 3
- Space Heater Efficiency, page 3
- Operation Roundup Grants Due, page 4
- Recipe Box, Page 4

## CO-OP HOLDS 82ND ANNUAL MEETING

Tri-County EMC hosted its 82nd Annual Meeting on October 21. For the second year in a row, the meeting was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through voting online and by mail, more than 1,600 Tri-County EMC members participated in their cooperative's annual election process. The membership re-elected Post 2 incumbent directors Chap Nelson (District 1: Jones, and Bibb Counties), George "Buck" Comer (District 2: Putnam, Jasper and Morgan County), and Tommy Noles (District 3: Baldwin, Wilkinson and Twiggs County).

During her address, Brenda P. Green, chairman of the Tri-County EMC Board of Directors, informed viewers that the cooperative is in good financial shape. In order to maintain that status, the board voted to enact a rate change, which became effective October 1. "The board does not take raising rates lightly, and we are proud to say we have not done so since 2014. However, it is the board's responsibility to keep the EMC financially strong to meet our financial obligations," said Green. "After a rate study was complete, taking into account rising operational costs and changes in the power supply portfolio as Plant Vogtle comes online next year, a cost increase was necessary for the overall well-being of the cooperative."

As announced in the cooperative's Current Lines newsletter in August, the impact of the rate increase will vary based on usage patterns. The average residential member, who uses about 1,000 kWhs per month, will see a monthly bill increase of about \$5. Members with higher usage will see a slightly higher increase.

*Continued on pg. 2*

# ANNUAL MEETING, *CONTINUED*



*Brenda P. Green, Chairman*

Green also gave background information on the steps taken to bring Tri-CoGo, Tri-County EMC's broadband internet subsidiary, to fruition. A feasibility study, conducted in 2020, showed that an internet subsidiary business would prove to be financially viable. In addition, a survey of the membership showed an overwhelming interest in Tri-County EMC bringing another

reliable high-speed internet option to the communities we serve. "From education, telemedicine, economic development, to having the world at your fingertips, the impact of having high speed internet available to all Tri-County EMC members will be huge," said Green.



*Ray Grinberg, CEO*

Ray Grinberg, chief executive officer of Tri-County EMC, acknowledged that while 2021 functioned somewhat differently due to the pandemic, the cooperative's overall goals did not change. "We have continued to operate in 2021 with the same fundamental objectives that drive our business – keeping our employees, members and the public safe; keeping the lights on; and finding ways to serve our community and make it better," said Grinberg.

Grinberg reported that efforts continue to be made to keep the right-of-way clear of trees and limbs to reduce outages in our service area. "We have been more aggressive in tree-trimming and managing our right-of-way, and our efforts are paying off with a

decreased number of outages due to right-of-way issues."

Grinberg also reported that the cooperative is in the process of installing fiber communications throughout the service area that, in addition to allowing the opportunity to provide broadband internet, will give Tri-County the tools to improve reliability across the electric system. Once fully deployed, the cooperative will be notified of power outages immediately through the meter and fiber lines, which will allow our crews to respond more quickly. At the same time, outage times will be reduced, and in some cases eliminated, due to the added ability to reroute power from alternate sources.

Greg Mullis, chief operating officer of Tri-CoGo, gave an update on the cooperative's rural broadband internet subsidiary, which currently has service available in portions of Jones County. "In just 105 days from construction kickoff in May, we were able to deliver high-speed broadband internet to Tri-CoGo's first customer in September," said Mullis. "Currently we have nearly 200 customers connected in Jones County and have service available to almost 1600 locations."

Factoring in a few delays due to COVID-19 and a very rainy summer, Tri-CoGo is still on track to complete the fiber build-out within the projected 2-year timeframe. "We understand we are here to meet a need, and we're working as fast as possible to get to every Tri-County EMC member." Tri-County EMC members can sign up for Tri-CoGo internet at [www.tri-cogo.com](http://www.tri-cogo.com).



*Greg Mullis, COO, Tri-CoGo*

## BALLOT DRAWING WINNERS

Tri-County EMC distributed \$50 bill credits to 10 lucky members who voted in the cooperative's 2021 Election. **Wade L. Eubanks** of Putnam County won the \$500 grand prize. Thanks to all members that participated in the election this year. Be sure to vote in the election next year to have a chance to win.

### **\$50 BILL CREDIT WINNERS:**

**Nathaniel Harris**, Putnam Co.  
**Velinda Barnes**, Jasper Co.  
**Videtta Rhodes**, Putnam Co.  
**Arthur Hill**, Putnam Co.  
**Nell Goodwin**, Jones Co.

**George Thistlewood**, Twiggs Co.  
**Anthony Whipple**, Jones Co.  
**Christopher Curry**, Putnam Co.  
**John Harrington, Jr.**, Baldwin Co.  
**Nancy Page**, Putnam Co.

**WATCH THE ANNUAL MEETING**

If you didn't get a chance to watch the Annual Meeting live, the recording is available at [tri-countyemc.com/election.cms](http://tri-countyemc.com/election.cms).

# TRI-COGO INTERNET LIVE IN ZONE 1 & 2

Tri-CoGo's is now live in portions of Jones County! Service is now available for members living on portions of the roads listed below. To see if your address is ready for service, visit [tri-cogo.com](http://tri-cogo.com). Prices start at \$54.95 for 100MPBS and \$84.95 for gig speed service. (94322001)

Aaron Cir.  
Altman Rd.  
Apple Hill Dr.  
Arrowhead Dr.  
Boulder Dr.  
Craine Lake Rd.  
Creekside Dr.  
Damascus Church Rd.  
Davis Rd.  
Dixie St.  
Eatonton Hwy.  
Ed Etherdige Rd.  
Ellis Church Rd.  
Erika Ln.  
Ethridge Rd.  
Fifth Rd.  
Fortville M'ville Rd.  
Fortville Rd.  
Gordon Settlement Rd.  
Grayson Glen Ct.  
Greene Settlement Rd.  
Greenwood Dr.

Haddock Dr.  
Harris Morton Rd.  
Hilltop Inn Rd.  
Holt Chapel Rd.  
Homer Roberts Rd.  
Hungerford Rd.  
Industrial Blvd.  
Jackson Rd.  
Joe Miller Rd.  
Kit Ln.  
Larry Stephens Way  
Lite'N Tie Rd.  
Luke Smith Rd.  
Nathan Roberts Rd.  
North Cross Rd.  
North St.  
Oak Dr.  
Old Hwy. 11  
Oliver Greene Rd.  
Osborne Roberts Rd.  
Otis Redding Dr.  
Overland Way

Pippin Rd.  
Plum St.  
Randolph St.  
Roosevelt Rd.  
Round Oak Juliette Rd.  
Royal Ln.  
Satterfield Dr.  
Shal Creek Rd.  
Skinner Rd.  
Southern Walk Cir.  
Spring Lake Rd.  
St. Paul Church Cir.  
Stallings Rd.  
Stone Brook Dr.  
Stonegables Ct.  
Stonegables Dr.  
Thurman Way  
Turnerwoods Rd.  
Twin Lakes Dr.  
W. Clinton St.  
Will Russell Rd.

**TRI-COGO**  
**FIBER INTERNET**  
*Now Available*



# SPACE HEATERS VS. HEAT PUMP

The fall chill is in the air. You think to yourself, "How long can I go without turning on my heat?" Or, "Maybe I should just use my space heater until it really gets cold." But is the space heater really the most efficient way to heat your home? While space heaters are a good way to temper a cold bathroom in the mornings, using them as your main source of heating doesn't save as much as you would think.

In one hour of operation, a 1,500 watt space heater will use 1.5 kWhs of electricity while creating 5,120 BTUs of heat. In comparison, a 3-ton heat pump will use about 3 kWhs of energy to run for an hour while creating 36,000 BTUs. So, for the amount of energy used to run two space heaters for one hour, you could run a central heat pump large enough to heat an 1,800 sq. ft. home.

Why the big difference in operating costs? Space heaters use resistance elements, similar to that in a toaster oven, to create heat. A heat pump uses an electric compressor and fans to move heat from one place to another through the refrigeration cycle. (41771001)



**HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING!**

Tri-County EMC offices will be closed on November 25-26 for Thanksgiving. We hope you have a Happy Thanksgiving!

# RECIPE BOX

## SHRIMP CEVICHE

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound Georgia white shrimp, peeled, deveined
- 4 limes, juiced
- 4 lemons, juiced
- 1 grapefruit, juiced
- 1 orange, juiced
- 1 jalapeño, seeded, diced into ¼-in. pieces
- 1 cucumber, diced into ¼-in. pieces
- 1 red onion, diced small
- 1 avocado, diced
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- Fresh chopped cilantro and tortilla chips, for serving

### DIRECTIONS

Bring a small pot of salted water to a rolling boil. Prepare a bowl filled with ice water. Add shrimp, cover pot, and remove from the heat. Allow to stand about 3 minutes. Drain shrimp and shock in ice bath. Remove shrimp from ice bath and cut into small pieces. In a medium bowl, place shrimp, citrus juices, jalapeño, cucumber, onion and avocado. Stir gently to coat with juices. Season with salt and pepper. Cover and place in refrigerator to marinate at least 2 hours before serving. Garnish with cilantro and serve with tortilla chips. Serves 4-6.

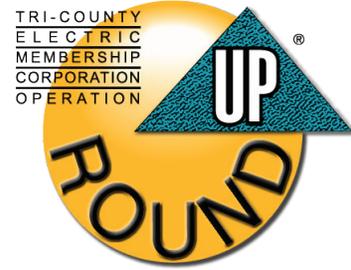


*This recipe is courtesy of Georgia Grown. Did you know your recipe is worth \$20 if chosen? Send your best recipes to [kimb@tri-countyemc.com](mailto:kimb@tri-countyemc.com) or mail to P.O. Box 487, Gray, GA 31032.*

# OPERATION ROUNDUP GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE DECEMBER 1

### ABOUT OPERATION ROUNDUP:

Operation Roundup is funded by voluntary contributions from Tri-County members to the Tri-County EMC Foundation. Participants in the program have their monthly bill rounded up to the next dollar, with that surplus amount going to fund Operation Roundup. Charitable institutions, government institutions, civic organizations or other not-for-profit organizations located within Tri-County's eight county service area are eligible to receive funding. Applications must be for special needs or projects. Grants are awarded quarterly.



### INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR A GRANT?

Do you know of a charitable group needing funding for a specific project in the Tri-County EMC service area? Encourage them to complete an Operation Roundup Grant Application. The next deadline to apply for an Operation Roundup Grant is December 1. Applications can be found on our website at [www.tri-countyemc.com/operation-round-up.cms](http://www.tri-countyemc.com/operation-round-up.cms) or mailed upon request by calling 478.986.8126. (22007002)

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Applications must be for a special project or need. Donations will not be made to an organization's general budget.
- Project must be located within a county that Tri-County EMC serves (Baldwin, Putnam, Jones, Bibb, Jasper, Morgan Twigg or Wilkinson County)
- Charitable institutions, government institutions, civic organizations or other not-for-profit organizations are eligible to apply.

## ACCOUNTNUMBER

Did you find your Tri-County EMC account number? Three random account numbers are hidden in each issue of Current Lines. 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.



Tri-County  
EMC

Owned By Those We Serve

P.O. Box 487  
Gray, GA 31032  
478.986.8100

[www.tri-countyemc.com](http://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