



Tri-County
EMC

CURRENT LINES

OCTOBER 2019

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OCTOBER IS NATIONAL COOPERATIVE MONTH

When you think of October, pumpkins, Halloween and beautiful fall foliage naturally come to mind. But October is notable for another reason – it's National Co-op Month! This is the time of year when cooperatives across the country, including Tri-County EMC, celebrate who we are and more importantly, the members we serve. Cooperatives are different than other types of businesses. When the market declines to offer a product or service, or does so at a very high price, co-ops intervene to fill the need.

There are 29,000 co-ops in the US today, and 900 of those are electric co-ops, like Tri-County EMC. Electric cooperatives power 56% of the nation's landmass, bringing power to 42 million people.

Similar to how Tri-County was built by members who came together to bring electricity to our community, cooperatives work for the common good. Your electric co-op exists to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, the members of the co-op. Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of the members we serve.

We are well-suited to meet the needs of the community because we are locally governed. Tri-County's leadership team and employees live right here in the community. Our board of directors, who helps set long-term priorities for the co-op, live locally on co-op lines. They were elected to the position by neighbors like you.

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NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH, CONT'D

We know our members (that's you!) have a valuable perspective. That's why we are continually seeking your input. Whether through community events, our social media channels, surveys or the annual meeting, we want to hear from you to ensure the co-op is meeting your needs.

Our close connection to the community ensures we get a first-hand perspective on local priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments, such as community solar programs, equipment and technology upgrades and electric vehicle programs.

Another feature that sets our co-op apart from a traditional utility is one of our core principles, "Concern for Community." Through scholarships, employee volunteer hours, Operation Roundup Grants, Bright Ideas Teachers Grants and the Washington Youth Tour, we make it a goal to invest in the communities we serve.

Ultimately, the larger community benefits from these programs because of you and your neighbors. You empower the co-op through your membership and through your participation in and support of these programs – rounding your bill to the next dollar for Operation Roundup, for example.

We hope you will think of Tri-County EMC as more than your energy provider, but instead as a local business that supports this community and powers economic development and prosperity for the people. We will continue to learn from our members about their priorities so that we can better serve you – because your electric co-op was built by the community, for the community. (85869001)



REAL LINEMEN WEAR PINK

This month, our linemen will wear pink hardhats as they go into the field to repair and maintain power lines. The ultimate goal is to raise awareness for breast cancer.

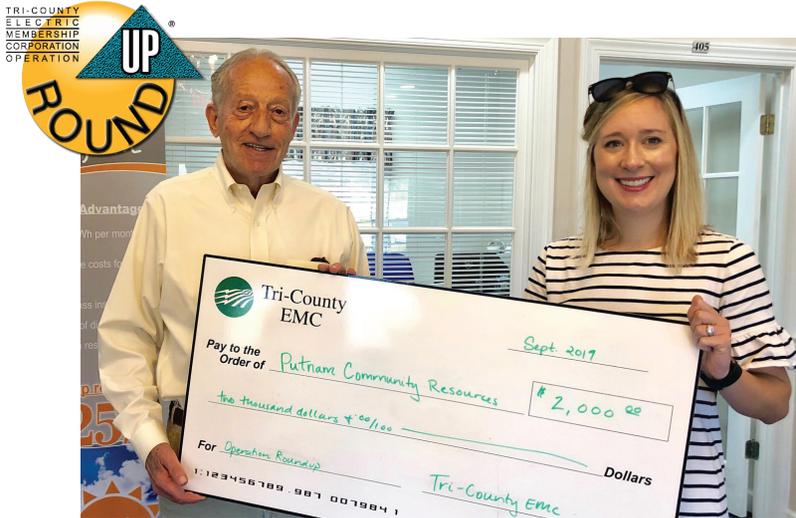
Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in women after skin cancer. In fact, one in eight women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. It's also the second-leading cause of death among women in the United States.

Visit the American Cancer Society online at <http://www.cancer.org> to see how you can support the fight against breast cancer in the area. (83456001)



TRI-COUNTY EMC FOUNDATION GRANTS \$8,000 IN SEPTEMBER

In September 2019, the Tri-County EMC Foundation Board approved grants for 3 projects, totaling \$8,000 in Operation Roundup funds, to benefit organizations or individuals in local communities.



Bob Landau accepts an Operation Grant on behalf of Putnam Community Resources. This grant will provide \$2,000 to purchase food for a food bank in Putnam County.

SEPTEMBER 2019 OPERATION ROUNDUP GRANTS

CAMP KUDZU: \$1,000 to send a diabetic child to a summer camp for insulin-dependent children.

PUTNAM COMMUNITY RESOURCES: \$2,000 to purchase food for a food bank in Putnam County.

SINCERITY LODGE 430: \$5,000 to be used to help furnish basic needs for a family in Jones County that lost their home to a fire.

ABOUT OPERATION ROUNDUP:

Operation Roundup is funded by voluntary contributions from Tri-County members to the Tri-County EMC Foundation. Participants have their monthly bill rounded up to the next dollar, with that surplus amount going to fund Operation Roundup. Any charitable or government institution, civic organization or other non-profit group located within Tri-County's eight county service area are eligible to receive funding. Applications must be for special needs or projects. Applications can be found on our website at tri-countyemc.com/operation-round-up.cms or mailed upon request by calling 478.986.8126. The next deadline is December 1, 2019.

LIHEAP: LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded program that assists low-income households in heating or cooling their homes. The heating assistance application cycle begins November 1. If you are interested in applying, please contact your local Community Action Agency, listed to the right.

DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO APPLY:

- The most recent cooling bill or statement of service
- Most recent heating bill or statement of service
- Social Security cards for each member of the household
- Proof of Citizenship for the applicant
- Proof of income for the last 30 days for each adult household member (i.e. paycheck stub or public assistance verification letter)
- Verification of Social Security or unemployment benefits for all applicable household members

LIHEAP CONTACTS BY COUNTY:

Bibb County:

Macon-Bibb County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc.
478-738-3240

Jones & Twiggs Counties:

Middle Georgia Community Action Agency, Inc.
478-922-4464

Baldwin, Jasper, Putnam & Wilkinson Counties

Overview, Inc.
478-453-4111

Morgan County

Action, Inc.
706-342-3343

RECIPE BOX

AUTUMN APPLE SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- 4 Granny Smith Apples
- 1/4 Cup blanched, slivered almonds, toasted
- 1/4 cup dried cranberries
- 1/4 cup chopped, dried cherries
- 1 (8 oz.) container vanilla low-fat yogurt or Greek yogurt

DIRECTIONS

In a medium bowl, stir together all ingredients until coated with yogurt. Serves 4.



This recipe is courtesy of Borton Fruit and Produce for Better Health Foundation. 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,

CHRISTMAS CARD ART CONTEST

Artwork Due November 8

Tri-County EMC is seeking students (grades Kindergarten through 5th grade) to design the Tri-County EMC 2019 Christmas Card. Artwork provided by the students should be Christmas/Holiday themed and will be judged by a committee of employees. The overall winner's design will appear on Tri-County EMC's Christmas Card, which will be mailed to friends and associates of the cooperative. The artwork will also be featured in the December issue of *Current Lines*, on www.tri-countyemc.com and on Tri-County EMC's social media pages. If you are interested in having your child participate, please fill out the release form at www.tri-countyemc.com/christmascardartcontest.cms and return it with the artwork to:

Tri-County EMC
Attn: Christmas Card Contest
PO Box 487
Gray, GA 31032

You may also turn in entries to either office location. Please do not fold the artwork. The deadline to turn in entries is Friday, November 8. The winner will be announced on social media and our website by 5pm on Wednesday, November 13. If you have questions, please contact Kim Broun at kimb@tri-countyemc.com or 478.986.8126. (64857001)



PRIZES:

The first place winner's artwork will be featured on the Tri-County EMC Christmas Card, in the December *Current Lines* on tri-countyemc.com and the cooperative's social media pages. The winner will also receive \$50.

Overall 2nd Place: \$40
Overall 3rd Place: \$25
Grade Level Winners: \$10

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

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Monthly Publication for
Tri-County EMC Members