

Coweta-Fayette

EMC

2018

Youth Tour Application



What is Youth Tour?

Youth Tour is a group of more than 1,500 high school students who visit Washington, D.C., every June, year after year, from towns and cities all over America. They come because their EMC's think education is important — education about electric cooperatives and education about America.

Senator Lyndon Johnson inspired the Youth Tour when he addressed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Annual Meeting in Chicago in 1957. The senator declared, "If one thing comes out of this meeting, it will be sending youngsters to the national capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents."

Then, beginning in 1957, some of the Texas electric cooperatives sent groups of young people to Washington to work during the summer in Senator Johnson's office and learn more about government in action.

In 1958, electric cooperatives in Iowa sponsored the first group of 34 young people on a week-long study tour of the nation's capital. Later that same year, another busload of students went to Washington, D.C., from Illinois. The idea grew, and other states sent busloads of young people throughout the summer. By 1959, the Youth Tour had grown to 130 students.

In 1964, NRECA began to coordinate the program and suggested that cooperative representatives from each state arrange to be in Washington, D.C., during Youth Tour week. The first year of the coordinated tour included approximately 400 young people from 12 states. The idea has continued to grow, and today more than 1,000 young people and chaperones participate in the Youth Tour each year.



From left, Abby Adams, of Starr's Mill High School; and Rachel Gomes, of Fayette County High School represented Coweta Fayette EMC on the 2017 Washington Youth Tour. (Photo by Louis Tonsmeire)



Goals of the tour are to provide the opportunity for outstanding young people to:

- increase their understanding of the value of rural electrification;
- become more familiar with the historical and political environment of the nation's capital through visits to monuments, government buildings and cooperative organizations; and
- visit elected officials to increase their knowledge of how the federal government works.

What is an EMC?

EMC stands for Electric Membership Corporation. A cooperative is a business enterprise which is jointly owned and equally controlled by those who use it. It is a form of business more interested in service to people than in making dollars, though it must, of course, take in enough money to pay its way.

How does an EMC operate?

Each year the EMC holds an annual meeting where the member-owners elect a board of directors. Directors are the policy making and supervisory branch of the cooperative. They make sure the cooperative is ran correctly and in the best interest of our members. The CEO makes the day to day business decisions for the cooperative.

A brief history of the REA

The Rural Electrification Administration (REA), a former agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, administered loan programs for electrification and telephone service in rural areas. The REA was created (1935) by executive order as an independent federal bureau, authorized by the Congress in 1936, and later (1939) reorganized as a division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The REA undertook the task to provide farms with affordable electric lighting and power. When REA was created, only about 10 percent of all farms had electricity. The administration was abolished in 1994 and its functions assumed by the Rural Utilities Service (RUS).

What is NRECA?

NRECA is a service organization representing more than 1,000 rural electric systems in 46 states. Through NRECA, member systems provide themselves services which would be unavailable or too expensive if each system, individually, attempted to provide these services by itself. By working together through NRECA, member systems are able to provide better services to their members at the lowest possible cost. NRECA is not supported by government funds nor is it an agency of the Federal government.

What is Touchstone Energy?

Created in 1998, Touchstone Energy® is a branding initiative that communicates electric cooperatives' unique characteristics in a changing marketplace where these values and differences matter more each day. Touchstone Energy® emphasizes the significance of each electric cooperative's local presence and unique ties to its community, but offers the resources of a nationwide network to bring added value and benefit to customers. Touchstone Energy cooperatives serve their members with integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to communities.

Am I eligible to compete?

High school juniors who live and attend school in one of the counties served by Coweta-Fayette EMC, are eligible to participate in the competition. These counties include: Clayton, Coweta, Fayette, Heard, Meriwether, Spalding, South Fulton and Troup.

How are the participants selected?

Those individuals interested in participating are required to complete an application and short essay. All entries will be reviewed for eligibility and the top 2 applicants will be selected to participate in Youth Tour.



What happens if I am selected?

You'll join over 100 students from across Georgia on an all-expense paid trip to Washington DC. This year's tour will be June 7-14, 2018.

Washington Youth Tour 2018 tentative itinerary:

June 7: Kickoff banquet, Atlanta

June 8: Team-building activities; flight to Washington, D.C.

Dates TBD for the following activities:

- Tour and lunch at Mount Vernon; Holocaust Memorial Museum; dinner at Union Station; evening guided tour of memorials; photo op at White House

- Guided tour of Jefferson, Lincoln, Korean War and Vietnam Veterans memorials; Arlington National Cemetery guided tour; dinner performance of "Newsies" at Toby's Dinner Theatre in Columbia, Md.

- All States assembly; tour Smithsonian museums; cruise on Potomac River

- Tour Supreme Court, U.S. Capitol and Washington National Cathedral; Sunset Parade at U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima statue)

- Meet with Georgia's congressional delegation; tour Newseum and Library of Congress; All States farewell event

June 14: Return flight to Atlanta

Note: Itinerary subject to change

Want to know more?

<https://www.youtube.com/user/GeorgiaEMCYouthTour>
<https://www.electric.coop/our-organization/youth-programs/>

2018 Youth Tour Nomination Form

NRECA Washington Youth Tour
June 7-14, 2018



Personal Information –

(Required: Attach a recent photograph of yourself which can be used for publicity. Please make sure the phone numbers and email addresses you use on the application are ones you check. It also needs to be one you can check throughout the summer should you be selected to go to Washington D.C.)

Student Name: _____

Student Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Student E-mail Address: _____

Student Cell # : _____

Student Age: _____ Home Phone # _____

Parent's Names: _____

Parent Cell # _____ Parent Cell# _____

Parent e-mail address: _____

School Attended: _____ Grade _____

School Address: _____

T-Shirt size: _____ GPA _____

Honors, Affiliations and Community Service –

(In the space provided, please list any organizations in which you currently participate. Make sure to include any office held. Please provide examples of your community service activities. Please reference if you are employed. You may attach a resume if you have one completed.)

High School:

Church Related:

Civic:

Work Experience:

Other:

Please describe your current educational or career objectives.

What topic would you like to discuss with your local legislator and why?

Essay Portion –

On a separate piece of paper, please write a 500-750 word essay on the following topic:

Explain what makes an EMC different from other businesses?

How does Coweta-Fayette EMC exemplify this?

(Please note, your essay may be published in CFEMC's Powerlines or website.)

Other Information –

Who is your U.S. Senator? _____

Who is your U.S. Representative? _____

Do you have any medical needs (such as allergies, asthma, etc.)? If yes, please explain here.

Student Consent –

By signing below, said student acknowledges that all information provided is accurate and honest. Student is also agreeing to attend 2018 National Rural Electric Youth Tour, if chosen as the representative from his/her school.

Student Signature _____

Parental Consent –

By signing this form, the parent or guardian of said student is allowing the student to participate in all activities related to the 2018 National Rural Electric Youth Tour. This document also provides for the said student to receive any needed medical treatment while he/she is in the care of a Coweta-Fayette EMC representative or a staff member of the Georgia EMC.

Parent or Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

School Consent –

By signing this portion of the nomination form, said school certifies that honors, gpa and other information are accurate to the best of schools knowledge. This is also an endorsement from the school implying said student is of high moral standards and a suitable candidate for the 2018 Youth Tour program.

School Representative Signature _____

Recommending teacher printed name _____

Date _____

Recommending teacher email _____

Make sure all necessary documentation is attached. Make sure your essay and photo are attached or emailed. If you have any questions, please contact Chellie Phillips at 678-423-6826 or you can email cphillips@utility.org.



Coweta-Fayette