



Coweta-Fayette EMC Goes Green to Celebrate 45th Annual Earth Day

When it comes to environmental sustainability, even the smallest acts of green can make a monumental difference.

With that message in mind, coupled with the cooperative principle of “Concern for Community,” Coweta-Fayette EMC recently celebrated Earth Day by donating bird feeders and seed to two fire stations in Coweta and Fayette Counties.

EMC employees believe it’s important to inform our members about environmental sustainability and to energize them to secure a healthy future for their families. This year, over one billion people and thousands of organizations took part in the 45th anniversary of Earth Day, and your co-op is proud to be among them.

On April 22, we participated in the global, grass-roots celebration by providing energy efficiency literature, green snacks and bottled water in the lobbies of all three EMC office locations.

“The little ways we show concern for our planet and our neighbors are just as important as the immense acts,” said EMC Senior Public Relations Vice President Mary Ann Bell. “Environmental activism and related service projects can be a catalyst, regardless of size or scope. Inspiring others to be good Earth stewards and to appreciate the beauty of our planet are initiatives we support.”



Mary Ann Bell and Josh Sisk at Fayette County Fire Station 3; Kevin Brooking and Brian Beckworth at Coweta County Fire Station 7

In addition to community activities, cooperative personnel marked the Earth Day 2015 observance by wearing green and participating in office festivities.

Green Power EMC, the statewide cooperative devoted to providing power to Coweta-Fayette EMC and other co-op members using renewable resources, is celebrating its 14th anniversary. The first green cooperative in the state, Green Power EMC continues to be the largest, with over 28 MW of green energy produced from biomass (landfill and wood waste), low impact hydro and solar.

Begun in 1970 by U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson, Earth Day is recognized around the globe as a way to inspire awareness and appreciation for our environment.





The President's Message

*Chris Stephens
President and CEO*

Recently, I traveled to our nation's capital, Washington, D.C., where I had the privilege to visit with some of our legislators. I also toured many historical monuments and memorials and was awestruck in their presence. From the Washington Monument to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, I reflected upon the namesakes of these sites and what these pioneers did for our country. As I visited war memorials, I felt a sense of pride and sadness contemplating how so many brave men and women paid the ultimate price for our freedoms today. From our founding fathers who drafted the Constitution—and all those who have fought to protect it—to our current elected officials, these leaders make the U.S. the greatest country in the world.

While talking to members of Congress and the Senate and their staff, I had the opportunity to carry out the part of our vision statement that says we “will be the voice of our members on energy.” Coweta-Fayette EMC has always and will continue to strive to provide clean, reliable and reasonably priced electricity. This means we encourage our legislators to create and support an energy policy that meets our goals and makes the most sense for our members.

Under the current administration, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), with no input or review from our elected legislators, has proposed the Clean Power Plan, which requires a reduction in carbon emissions from power plants nationwide of 30 percent below 2005 levels by the year 2030. This plan is currently under review, and the final version will be released later

this summer. It will require each state to develop a plan by June of 2016 to meet the required reductions. The concern I brought to our legislators is that Georgia has been proactive in our efforts to reduce carbon emissions; in fact, we reduced them by 30 percent between 2005 and 2012! The proposed plan would require an additional 44 percent reduction by 2030. We are being penalized for what we have already done, compared to those states that have done nothing. They are also failing to give credit for the two under-construction zero-carbon emission nuclear units at Plant Vogtle.

What we know under this proposed plan is that electricity prices will increase as we become less dependent on coal and more dependent on natural gas, which has the most price volatility of any fuel used for generation. Retiring or further restricting use of our coal generation resources (which have new, state-of-the-art emission controls) requires a replacement resource of equal reliability, and that means our members' costs will increase significantly. Also, with the current natural gas infrastructure, we have already seen a limited availability of that particular fuel during periods of extreme cold weather—like the polar vortex of 2014—thus threatening reliability.

Our interests are solutions that make sense for our members. Your EMC will continue to explore all methods of generation, including renewables. Georgia EMC, along with other electric utilities, worked with solar vendors and state legislators to provide a method for individuals to lease solar panels for homes and businesses. We are also exploring options to expand our current portfolio by adding additional clean resources that make sense.

As I reflect back on my trip to D.C., I hope our current leaders will also reflect back to our founding fathers who drafted the Constitution and provided a method for elected representatives to work together to develop a common-sense solution that meets the expectations of our members.



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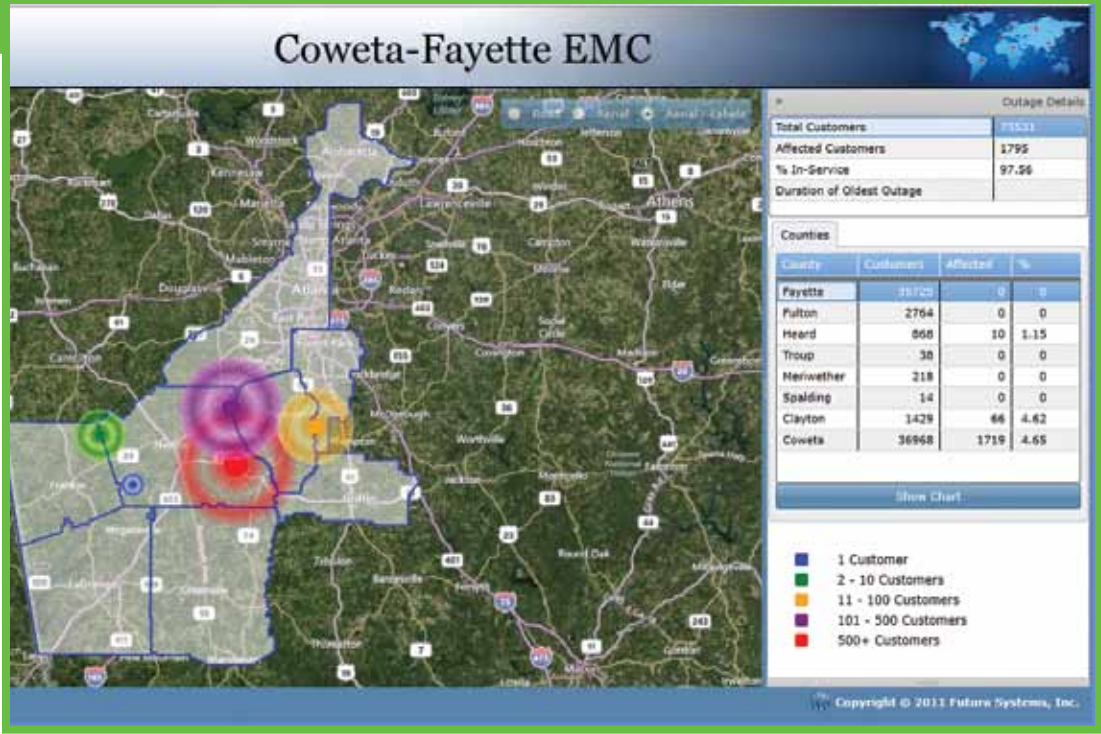
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Member Outage Map on Utility.org



While none of us ever wants an outage, Mother Nature often has other ideas. From stormy weather and icy conditions to animal interference and falling tree limbs, a temporary loss of electricity at one time or another is unavoidable.

To prepare for and handle these occasional yet inevitable interruptions in service, Coweta-Fayette EMC always seeks to improve upon our existing and efficient outage management methods. And as technology evolves, so do our capabilities.

You, our members, need only click on the storm center tab at utility.org to have amazing detail and accuracy at your fingertips. Once inside the storm center, you will see a map of our service area with a geographical representation of outages using color-coded indicators. To the right, you'll find the numerical data – total number of members, the amount of people affected

(broken down by county) and the total percentage of members in-service. As you zoom into any outage area, the specifics of that outage pop up to provide the details members need on a real-time basis. You can view the maps either aerially or as a road view.

This should be particularly helpful and comforting to those members who are out of town or at work and need to see exactly what areas are affected. Worried about your teenager home alone in the dark? Zoom in to view your neighborhood specifically and monitor the situation as it evolves. The accuracy and transparency this system provides is second to none.

At Coweta-Fayette EMC, we strive to continually improve our member service, during blue skies and storms. We hope you will find our online storm center a useful tool should the need arise, and we encourage you to visit our website now to familiarize yourself with the system.

It's usually easier to move something than to make it—putting that principle to use, heat pump water heaters (HPWHs) use electricity to move heat from one place to another instead of generating it directly.

These innovative devices are therefore two to three times more energy efficient than conventional electric resistance water heaters. To understand the concept, imagine a refrigerator working in reverse. While a refrigerator removes heat from inside a box and dumps it into the surrounding room, a stand-alone air-source HPWH pulls heat from the surrounding air and transfers it into

a tank to heat water. According to ENERGY STAR, a certified efficient HPWH can save a four-person household \$330 per year in energy bills and around \$3,500 over the lifetime of the appliance.

It's also a purchase that protects the environment: if all residential electric water heaters less than 55 gallons sold in the United States were ENERGY STAR certified HPWHs, the energy cost savings would grow to \$8.2 billion each year, and 98 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented (equivalent to the emissions from 9 million vehicles)!

Efficiency Tip:
Soak up Some Savings!

OPERATION ROUND UP

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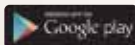
To give our members the flexibility needed to manage busy lives, Coweta-Fayette EMC has a free smart app for iPhone and Android devices.



With this mobile feature, members will have fast, secure account access to view bills, make payments, schedule reminders, consult graphs and much, much more! In fact, nearly everything Coweta-Fayette EMC consumers currently do from our online "Customer Portal" may now be handled instantly from home, work and everywhere in between.*

To find and download our free mobile app, simply visit the iTunes App Store or Google Play Store and search for Coweta-Fayette EMC. Before the app can be used, a user ID and password must be created online in the customer portal. For more information, please log on to our website at www.utility.org.

**For members with smart devices other than Android or Apple, there is an optimized web view portal.*



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Coweta-Fayette EMC Celebrates Golden Anniversary of State's Oldest Student Leadership Event

Min Lim, a student at East Coweta High School, and Shelby Worrell, a student at Sandy Creek High School, were recently selected to attend the 2015 Washington Youth Tour, as EMCs in Georgia, including Coweta-Fayette EMC, are set to commemorate 50 years of supporting students and teaching life lessons during the week-long adventure.

Scheduled from June 11-18, the Youth Tour is sponsored by 38 of Georgia's EMCs. It stands as the state's oldest leadership program for teens and offers a personal lesson in U.S. history, competitions and contests to encourage leadership and teamwork, conversations with elected leaders on important subjects, and a better appreciation for community and public service.

Min and Shelby will be part of Georgia's largest contingent to date—111 students representing 155 counties.

The Tour kicks off in Atlanta with speaker Rep. Brooks Coleman, chairman of the House Education Committee. Building upon Coleman's passion for learning and his role as public servant, the trip also consists of personal visits with Georgia's congressional delegation. In these meetings, students are encouraged to ask questions about current events and initiatives that could impact



Min Lim and teacher Martha Milam



Shelby Worrell and teacher Monica Dörner

their families and communities.

Paying tribute to those whose vision and sacrifice secured a free and open society is another key component. To that end, participants will visit historic landmarks in the Nation's Capital, including sites like Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian Museums, the Holocaust Museum, Mount Vernon, the Supreme Court, the Capitol, the Washington Monument and the MLK, FDR, Jefferson, World War II and Lincoln Memorials.

Also while in D.C., our delegation will join nearly 1,600 Youth Tour participants from co-ops across the country, providing yet another life experience: the chance to learn from a diverse group of peers representing nearly every state.

"For many of these teens, it's a series of firsts—their first trip away from home, first plane ride, first time to D.C. and first time to meet and create a personal network with others who have similar goals and plans in life," said Senior Public Relations VP Mary Ann Bell.

The Washington Youth Tour was inspired by former president Lyndon Johnson who, in 1957, encouraged electric cooperatives to "send youngsters to the nation's capital, where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents.