



Service above Self for Our Members and the Community

Every once in a while, it is good to take stock of the many blessings that touch our daily lives. You might just find that it is the little things we often take for granted that are the most meaningful and valuable. I am honored to work every day with a great team of employees who each support and propel our cooperative mission of service in one hundred different ways.

It is important to me to talk to the spouses of our employees at cooperative picnics and other events and thank them for supporting our personnel in all they do. I also like to thank employees' children for the missed bedtime stories, baseball games, dance recitals and holiday dinners. Our employees' loved ones understand that the Coweta-Fayette EMC "family" is dedicated to keeping our Members safe and comfortable in their homes and businesses 24 hours a day.

Showing further dedication, our employees participate in and strongly support the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life event. In 2013, the Coweta-Fayette EMC Relay Team has surpassed all expectations imaginable in their quest to raise money for cancer research and advocacy. The employee drive and motivation directed toward this great cause is inspiring, and each Team member knows his or her efforts will assist doctors in finding a cure one day.

There is a team spirit and loyalty to our Members amongst EMC employees that – just like the TV commercial slogan states – "is priceless." Our customer service team works diligently every day to provide answers and options to our Members; they also volunteer to collect canned goods and assist the local food bank in stocking their shelves.

Planning for emergencies and storms is also something we do routinely. We believe our co-op must continually evaluate available resources to ensure they will meet any foreseeable need. Responding to storm outages is something the EMC team handles with utmost efficiency. Our employees' vast experi-

ence, skill and utilization of cutting-edge "smart grid" technology and communications allows us to achieve the greatest results in the shortest time.

We have all become so dependent upon modern appliances, entertainment electronics, computers and a wealth of other gadgets that being without power for even a short time can be extremely inconvenient. Mother Nature, however, does not care about such conveniences, and she often deals hard licks – severe storms, wind shear, hail, tornadoes and hurricanes, to name a few. In our service area, a wide-

spread ice storm, for example, would be one of the most problematic scenarios.

In our frequently updated Emergency Response Plan, we try to address all potential disasters with detailed operating procedures. Each employee is assigned certain tasks during a disaster that may be different than his or her normal job duties. We have standing plans available to change our operating times to a 24-hour basis, should it be needed.

When outages are expected to be prolonged, we exercise agreements already in place with other cooperatives and contractors to provide us with additional reinforcements. We also have mutual-aid agreements with neighboring utilities Georgia Power and Newnan Utilities that state we will assist one another in times of need if possible. Establishing and maintaining good relations and communications with other local utilities, governmental entities and emergency management agencies in advance of a disaster is good business and serves our Members and community well.

I have said it before, and I will say it again: "When things are at their worst, our employees will always be at their best." And I think that's a blessing we should appreciate.

For the Team,

Anthony H. Sinclair "Tony"
Anthony H. Sinclair "Tony"



Warmer Temperatures Usher in Spring Storms

Violent thunderstorm activity pounded Coweta-Fayette EMC's service territory the evening of March 18, leaving some members in the dark as strong winds and occasional hail cracked tree limbs and battered electrical poles.

In a typical display of courage and commitment, EMC linemen were dispatched from the storm's onset and worked through the night to repair damage and restore power safely and promptly to about 10,000 members affected by the inclement weather.

When the violent wind and rain hit, co-op crews were ready and quickly mobilized. By 11 p.m. the night of the storm, most members had electricity restored.

Although the severe weather that passed through our area left some chaos in its wake – downed trees and damage to homes – there were thankfully no serious injuries.



EMC lineman David Sales carefully works on a broken pole after violent weather swept through the area March 18.



Coweta-Fayette EMC crews replace damaged equipment and downed lines at one Coweta member's home.

As we delve further into spring, Coweta-Fayette EMC will continually monitor weather conditions for approaching fronts and pop-up storms.

Your co-op has a variety of contingency plans to address problems associated with high winds and rain, should we experience more problems. Linemen crews are always ready for mobilization and have trucks on-hand with emergency equipment and other necessary materials.

While the EMC always watches for storms, we would like to remind our members to also keep abreast of weather developments and take every precaution in the event of heavy rains and wind.

If severe weather hits our area, consumers should contact Coweta-Fayette at 770-502-0226 to report any power outages.

Storm updates may be obtained through the EMC's website at www.utility.org.

Be Prepared for Unpredictable Weather



Lightning from thunderstorms kills more people each year than tornadoes or hurricanes, according to the American Red Cross. Now that spring is here, make sure you're prepared to handle storms that come with the changing season. Follow these tips from the Red Cross to stay safe.

Stay away from downed power lines. Electricity could still be flowing through them. Report them to Coweta-Fayette EMC at 770-502-0226 immediately.

Hear thunder? Head inside. If you can hear it, you could be in danger from lightning. Stay indoors at least 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder – a recommendation from the National Weather Service. If you're outside and can't seek shelter indoors, avoid high ground, water, tall isolated trees and metal objects like bleachers or fences.

Unplug your electronics. Avoid using electrical items and telephones, which can carry power surges.

Keep a battery-powered TV or radio on hand for weather updates.

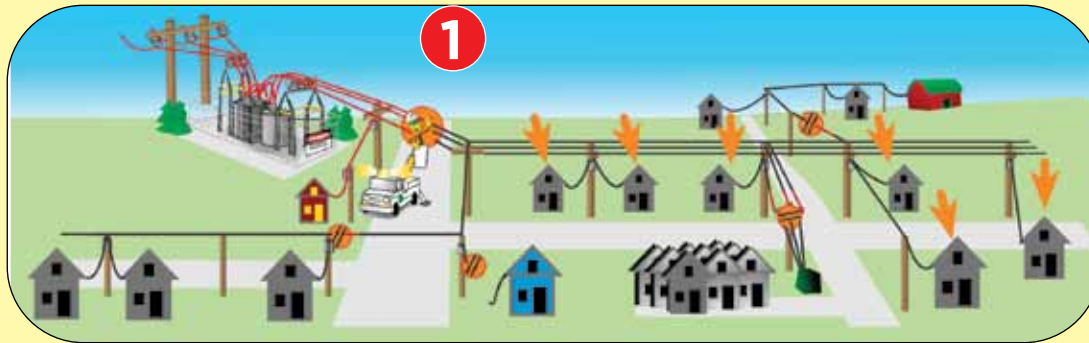
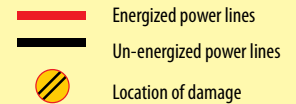
Delay outdoor activities. If conditions are right for a thunderstorm, postpone the baseball game and stay inside--it doesn't have to be raining for lightning to strike.

Assemble an emergency preparedness kit with:

- Water – one gallon per person, per day;
- Non-perishable food;
- A flashlight;
- A battery-powered or hand-crank radio (preferably NOAA weather radio) and extra batteries;
- A first-aid kit;
- A seven-day medicine supply;
- Copies of personal documents;
- A cell phone with chargers;
- Emergency contact information; and
- Cash.

Source: American Red Cross

How Your Power Is Restored



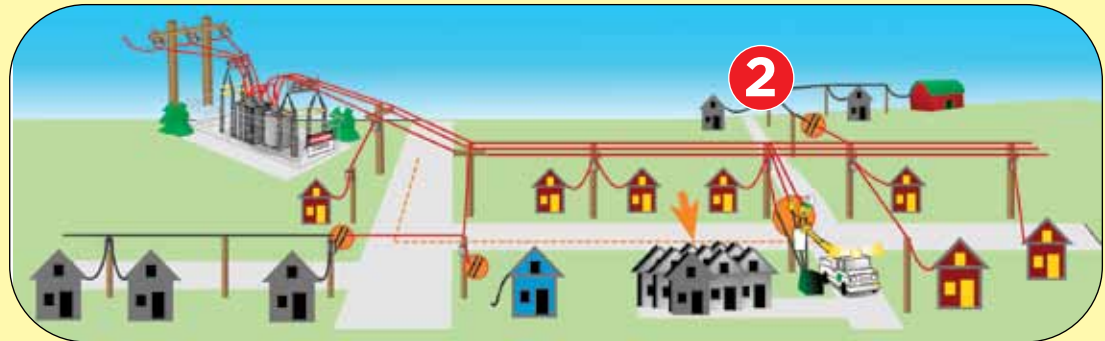
1. Repairs start here.

The energized substation has a nearby distribution line that has been damaged by the storm, leaving consumers in this area without power.

All repairs begin with the main line. A large number of consumers (shown with the orange arrows) will have their power restored once the main line is repaired. This line must be repaired first, before work can begin in other areas.

2. One stop, and an entire subdivision's power is restored.

Once the main line is repaired (shown in red), the line crew begins to prioritize other needed repairs. Though a couple of repairs were closer, fixing the line that serves a subdivision down the road will get a larger number of consumers back on more quickly.



3. The crew makes one repair and restores power to this stretch of line.

By moving back down the road, the crew was able to fix the line restoring electricity to the three arrowed homes.

4. The next repair will restore power to the two homes and farm on the hill.

By now, the people in the blue house are wondering if they have been missed because they have seen power crews near their home. Still, they have no power!

5. Individual repairs begin once all the other lines are repaired.

Electricity is coming to the pole that serves the blue house, but the service line connecting the pole to the meter on the house is damaged. Repairs like these to individual homes come after all of the other larger ones are repaired. Line crews prioritize this way because it is not fair to other consumers for a crew to spend an hour fixing one outage when the crew can move on down the road and restore power to dozens of homes at one time.



Source graphics courtesy
Electric Consumer,
Richard G. Biever

Like most electric companies and cooperatives, Coweta-Fayette prioritizes initial restoration efforts by making repairs that will restore electricity to the greatest number of people in the shortest period.

Transmission lines bring power to our system from generating plants. It is relatively rare for a transmission line to go out, but they get attention first if that happens. Substations interface transmission lines to the EMC's main circuits ("trunk lines" is another good way to describe main circuits). Substations must be functioning before any other part of the system can carry power. Substations are Coweta-Fayette's first priority in restoring power.

Main circuits leave the substation and carry power throughout our service territory. They serve as the backbone of our system, with taps and service wires that carry power to relatively small groups of consumers. Just because a line runs next

to a major highway or through a subdivision does not mean it is a main circuit. It would be futile to make repairs to other parts of the system if the main circuits are not working.

Taps feed off main circuits and carry electricity out to smaller groups of consumers. Repairs on these taps begin after the main circuits are functioning. As seen in the illustration, service wires supply power to only one or two locations, therefore these repairs come last.

If a large outage occurs, other neighboring utilities and contract crews are brought in to help. These employees work around the clock until all power is restored. You can be assured that we take every necessary step to get your power back on as soon as possible.



Reporting Your Power Outage

To report an outage, call our 24-hour phone service – **770-502-0226**. Press **1** to reach Automated Services. Once in automated services, press **1** again to report the outage. If your phone number is recognized by our system, it will automatically record your service location and report the outage. If your number is not recognized, you will be directed to the next available customer service representative or dispatcher.

Summer Rates

Residential

Summer (June 1 - October 31)

Service Charge	\$20.00/mo.
First 750 kWh/mo	7.80¢/kWh
Over 750 kWh/mo.	10.65¢/kWh

Electric Water Heater Credit (June 1 - October 31)
\$2.00/mo.

(One EWH credit per household)

Residential Load Management Annual Credit

\$10.00 credit applied to the member's bill in October for allowing the EMC to cycle the air conditioner and/or water heater during the months of June - September.



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POWERlines

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Local Students Selected for Leadership Event

Fayette County High School student Jamie Callison and East Coweta High School student Kit Matheny recently received what some would describe as life-changing news: they were selected to attend the Washington Youth Tour, an all-expense paid leadership trip sponsored by the electric membership corporations in Georgia, including Coweta-Fayette EMC.

Jamie and Kit will join 105 high school students during the event, Georgia's oldest leadership program for teens, which is set for June 13-20. With stops in Georgia and Washington D.C., the Washington Youth Tour is designed to teach students about U.S. history, the role of government and the importance of community and public service.

According to Mary Ann Bell with Coweta-Fayette EMC, the Youth Tour is an opportunity for exceptional students to meet face-to-face with members of Georgia's congressional delegation and visit historical points of interest in Georgia and the Nation's Capital.

"Making the pilgrimage to D.C., with an emphasis on the Nation's rich heritage, is something many adults, and certainly high school-aged kids, never experience," Bell said. "Particularly during their formative years, the trip opens them up to possibilities they may not have considered otherwise. When you add personal tours of the sacred memorials and monuments, and stories of sacrifices made by others, the Youth Tour offers a history lesson that can't be learned from any textbook or classroom in Georgia."

Jamie is the daughter of James and Carolyn Callison of Fayetteville. Upon graduation,



Coweta-Fayette EMC is proud to announce this year's Washington Youth Tour winners (shown l-r): Fayette County High School student Jamie Callison and East Coweta High School student Kit Matheny. Congratulations, delegates!

she plans to pursue dentistry at a school in the Southeast (probably Auburn University). Kit is the daughter of Ronald and Beth Matheny of Newnan. Upon graduation, she plans to major in theater at Armstrong University.

The trip will involve stops at historic attractions such as the Little White House in Warm Springs, and D.C. landmarks, including the Smithsonian Museums, Holocaust Museum, Mount Vernon, Supreme Court, Capitol, Washington Monument, and the FDR, Jefferson, World War II and Lincoln memorials.

The Washington Youth Tour was inspired by former president Lyndon Johnson who, in 1965, encouraged electric cooperatives "to send youngsters to the nation's capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents."