



## We Support a Diversified Energy Portfolio

There has been considerable talk in Washington D.C. and throughout the nation about establishing a national energy policy that takes a viable, affordable, common-sense approach, but so far the results have not produced what we so desperately need: a strategy that provides for the use of our wonderful abundance of natural resources. Reasonably priced energy can be a catalyst to propel our nation along a path to prosperity with a new, vibrant economy that leads the world in manufacturing, technology, research and development.

At Coweta-Fayette EMC, we believe in an “all of the above” approach to energy fuel sources. Other great utilities use the phrase “all the arrows in the quiver” to describe the same thing. No matter how you say it, having a diversified energy fuel portfolio is in our Members’ best interest. It is smart business and the best common-sense practice until new technologies make other alternatives commercially feasible.

We cannot allow federal agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and even the IRS to use a pen and phone to develop and enforce regulations with significant unintended consequences—our economy could be brought to its knees with soaring energy prices as a result of their actions. We all want clean water and air, and everyone at Coweta-Fayette EMC works hard to be good environmental and community stewards. We do think we should take all reasonable efforts to protect our environment, with the key word being reasonable.

For instance, we all need water to survive, but we also have an obligation and a responsibility to make sure the water is not polluted. Similarly, we all use energy, and our lives revolve around its use every day. If we allow the EPA to continue developing and enforcing unreasonable standards without reflecting on the consequences of their actions, our economy and our Members will be significantly and negatively impacted. We believe this would be a travesty.



The Keystone Pipeline is one issue that needs to be resolved quickly to create new economic energy opportunities. Political maneuvering should not be allowed to delay this project anymore; it is not expected to produce any adverse environmental issues and will provide another “all of the above” energy source for our nation.

Energy independence: when used together, these two words produce a better today and brighter tomorrow for our children and future generations. The advent of so-called hydraulic “fracking techniques” used by oil and natural gas producers, along with sophisticated technology-based directional drilling, has expanded our potential energy reserves significantly. We are now a nearly self-sufficient nation. The lower cost of natural gas many customers have experienced over the last few years is a direct result of using these technological and environmentally friendly drilling and secondary recovery techniques. Oil and gas companies are now discussing the building of new liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals so that the new abundance of natural gas in excess of our nation’s needs may be exported. The U.S. is now truly the Saudi Arabia of natural gas and coal, in terms of production and export potential.

We will continue to monitor national and state-wide energy policy activities and encourage you to, also. Your cooperative team’s goal is to do whatever we can to ensure you have the most reasonably priced energy with exceptional reliability and wonderful Member-focused service. Coweta-Fayette EMC believes in “all of the above.”

For the Team,

*Anthony H. Sinclair “Tony”*  
Anthony H. Sinclair “Tony”

# Coweta-Fayette Helps East Coweta High School become ‘Energy Smart’

In a unique joint effort with 16 other EMCs across Georgia, Coweta-Fayette is participating in the Star Schools Energy Assessment Program to help its school members explore opportunities for energy efficiency. Most recently, East Coweta High School (ECHS) in Sharpsburg received their results.

Much of the electricity consumed by educational facilities is used for lighting, cooling and plug loads like computers and copiers; most of the natural gas is used for space heating. According to our assessment, the most significant opportunities for efficiency upgrades at ECHS lay in exploring HVAC performance improvement, replacing light fixtures and monitoring plug loads.

Prior to our audit, the school was served by multiple mechanical heating and air systems that were performing approximately 25 percent less efficiently than when originally purchased. After our results, ECHS replaced their outdated original duct heaters and air conditioners with variable refrigerant flow heat pumps for maximum energy usage. The lighting fixtures, formerly T-12 models, are also being replaced with the recommended T-8s that will be 25 percent more efficient. Additionally, the school’s water fountains are being changed out for new ENERGY STAR units that reduce water consumption by 40 percent while still delivering a satisfying stream.



Older HVAC equipment (shown above) was replaced with high-efficiency units.



In Coweta, the EMC has completed four school assessments, and two more have been scheduled for this year; several have also been performed in Fayette.

The Star Schools program provided by Coweta-Fayette EMC gives schools an exclusive opportunity to receive customized energy assessments from experts to enhance efficiency, reduce costs and eliminate waste in area educational facilities.

To achieve this, we have combined the expertise of energy-efficiency specialists to help our schools become “energy smart” with a Star Schools Assessment. Together, our energy team helps schools save energy, resources and money, while also creating a healthier environment for kids and teachers.

Each Star Schools Assessment includes an on-site analysis of the school’s energy-using equipment – including costs and operations – by a team of experts. The unique shared synergies include existing knowledge, lessons learned and best practices to benefit each school. Following the evaluation, participating schools receive a detailed report with recommendations for equipment and operations changes to reduce costs and improve efficiency.

Striving to eliminate energy waste demonstrates a school’s accountability to the environment and responsibility to the community. Above all, it sets an admirable example for the mindset and behavior of its students.



Old T-12 light fixtures like these are being replaced with more efficient bulbs.

## Unwanted Guests: Treat Ants before They Damage



We all know nature is pretty unpredictable, and that even the smallest creatures can have a huge impact on our environment. One of the biggest nuisances for members and electric cooperatives comes from the unlikely of tiny perpetrators: the fire ant.

Fire ants are widely known in our area for their lively and aggressive behavior, swarming over anything from pets to people, and their painful stings have probably affected us all at one time or another. They invade homes, school yards, athletic fields, golf courses, parks, farms and electrical equipment, costing humans billions of dollars every year in repairs and treatment.

These little insects constitute a whopping \$638 million-a-year headache for the nation’s electric and telecom industries. Annually, they have also caused about \$6 billion in damages in other sectors, including schools and HVAC companies. They

mostly live in the Southeast, but are continuing westward.

Fire ants infest about 320 million acres for unknown reasons, they are attracted to electrical switching mechanisms. When fire ants make contact with wires, they get electrocuted... but not before they release pheromones that attract other ants. The rest of the colony realizes what is happening; they simply respond. Eventually, the accumulation of dead fire ants can cause equipment from working properly and could result in an outage or voltage problem.

Coweta-Fayette EMC has an ongoing mission to inspect underground pad-mounted transformer equipment, and this includes inspecting for signs of fire ant infestation. It is beyond the control of Coweta-Fayette EMC to remove animals and/or vermin from interfering with



# Ramping up for Relay



*EMC employee Megan Phillips cooks pancakes for our annual Relay For Life fundraising breakfast.*



*Marilyn Ryan from Customer Service displays an Easter wreath she created for a Relay raffle.*



*Darrell Sewell, Rusty Rainey and Chad Smith are hard at work preparing food for our chicken-q.*

For Coweta-Fayette EMC, the path to a night of celebration and remembrance is forged with hard work, dedication, fun and—most of all—the spirit of giving.

In anticipation of Coweta's 2014 Relay For Life event at the County Fairgrounds May 2, our employees held several fundraisers for this worthy cause in remembrance of all those we've lost and in honor of our many survivors.

This year's Relay theme—Superheroes Wanted, a title meant to give recognition to those superheroes who battle cancer in their bodies and on behalf of others—certainly applies to our personnel. From bake sales, a 5K, soup days and breakfast plates to raffles, a chicken-q, handmade crafts and a yard sale, the co-op team has certainly done its part to reach our \$15,000 fundraising goal. In fact, as of early April, we were on track to meet and most likely exceed our goal, as we've done in years past.

Every dollar raised through Relay For Life events helps the American Cancer Society save more lives and finish the battle against cancer. This cause is near to our hearts, and we can't wait to gather in fellowship and celebration once again at this signature, night-long program that makes such a significant impact in our community. So many of our lives have been touched by cancer, and we are proud each year to join in the fight to stop it. We'd also like to thank all of our members who do their part to fundraise for a cure—together, we can make a difference!



## Local Students Set Sights on Leadership Trip

While April showers bring May flowers, June will bring two deserving high school students from our service territory a unique summer experience that will last many seasons.

Ethan Sisk, a student at Northgate High School, and Edward Legaspi, a student at Fayette County High School, were recently selected to attend the 2014 Washington Youth Tour, a fully paid leadership trip sponsored by 38 of the electric membership corporations in Georgia, including Coweta-Fayette EMC.



Ethan Sisk

As Georgia's oldest leadership program for teens, the Washington Youth Tour is designed to teach students about U.S. history, the role of democracy, the importance of community and public service, and the need for civic leadership and service.

Ethan and Edward will join 109 bright Georgia high school students during the event, set for June 12-19. While in D.C., the Georgia delegation will join nearly 1,600 Youth Tour participants from co-ops across the country, providing yet another significant benefit of the trip: the opportunity to meet and learn from a diverse group of peers representing nearly every state.

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.

Ethan is the son of Perry and Grace Sisk of Sharpsburg. Upon graduation, he plans to study engineering at Georgia Tech. Edward is the son of Elinor Legaspi of Fayetteville. Upon graduation, he plans to pursue a career as an educator.

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."



Edward Legaspi

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service will not be inter-  
rupted due to acts of  
nature or equipment fail-  
ure.

Members can help reduce the chance of an outage or voltage problem by watching for signs of fire ants in their yards around electrical equipment and treating the area before they potentially cause any damage. Fire ants are reddish-brown in color, and their mounds may be found along the base of your transformer. It is also recommended that you check with your insurance provider to make sure you are covered for damage caused by fire ants and other animals.

*Contributing source: Victoria A. Rocha, Electric Co-op Today*



# Unwanted Guests: Treat Ants before They Damage Equipment



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Coweta-Fayette EMC has an ongoing maintenance program to inspect underground pad-mounted transformers and other equipment, and this includes inspecting for fire ants. However, it is beyond the control of Coweta-Fayette EMC to stop fire ants, animals and/or vermin from interfering with power lines and/

or power supply. We are unable to guarantee that service will not be interrupted due to acts of nature or equipment failure.

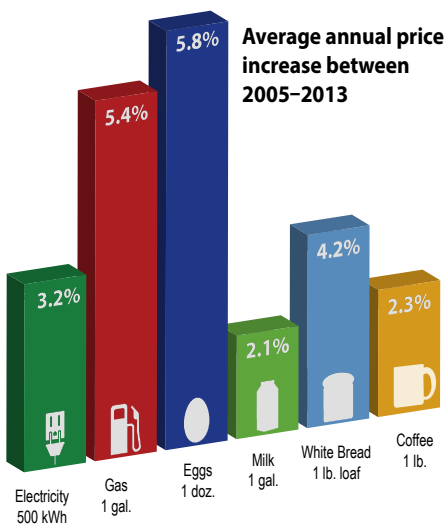
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## Electricity Remains a Good Value

Electricity continues to be a bargain, especially when compared to other consumer goods. As demand for energy rises and fuel prices increase, your electric cooperative is committed to providing safe, reliable electricity and keeping your electric bill affordable.



*Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Mainstream Graphics*

# 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.

Anthony H. Sinclair, President and CEO  
C. Bradford Sears, Jr., Attorney  
Douglas B. Warner, Attorney

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Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



## Co-op Membership – What's in It for Me?

### *Exploring the unique benefits of cooperative membership*

You set up your electric service account with Coweta-Fayette EMC and think, "That's done. Now I just have to pay my monthly bill." But the truth is, we're more than just a utility provider you pay each month for electricity. We have more to offer – and we want you, our members, to know about these benefits.

There are more than 900 electric cooperatives in the U.S. that serve 42 million members. Coweta-Fayette EMC, your local electric cooperative, serves 75,000 member accounts with lines stretching across over 6,000 miles. So what makes being a member of an electric cooperative unique?

**We're all in this together.** You are a member of Coweta-Fayette EMC, not a customer. And that means you have a voice when it comes to the way we do business. Each October, you have the option to vote for your board of directors. These directors play a key role in making important decisions for our co-op, which is why members' voices must be heard.

**We're local.** It's likely that you know an employee of Coweta-Fayette EMC. Our personnel – your friends and neighbors – share the same concerns for our community that you do. Each

year, the co-op participates in Relay For Life, Bright Ideas teacher grants, Washington Youth Tour, Operation Round

Up charitable funding, scholarship programs, school demonstrations and much, much more.

**We're not-for-profit.** Coweta-Fayette EMC doesn't offer profits to investors – we return money over and above operating costs to you, our members, based on electricity consumption. Annually, electric co-ops nationwide return millions of dollars to members through this capital credits process.

**We're here for you.** At Coweta-Fayette EMC, our mission is to provide you with safe, reliable and affordable electricity. We care about our members' quality of life, which is why our employees are continuously finding innovative ways to improve our service.

