JULY 2019

owerlines



# E'RE PREPARED FOR SUMMER STORN

Summer is here, school is out and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings much fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Coweta Fayette EMC is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages comes from damage to power lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year round through right-of-way clearing - to ensure power lines in our service territory stand little risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Mother Nature can also strike a blow to our electric system with lightning.

Despite our best efforts, during major storms, damage can occur to transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. Every phone line available is utilized to take your outage report calls. The big problems are handled first - like damage to transmission lines, which serve tens of thousands of people. These problems must be corrected before we can focus on other areas where more localized damage may have occurred.

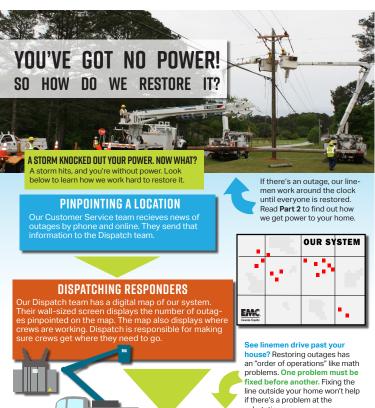
Coweta Fayette's crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there, or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, once repairs are made, power can be restored to thousands of members.

Next, our linemen check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. Line crews repair the damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people. If you continue to experience an outage, there may be damage to a tap line outside of your home or business.

Anytime you experience an outage, please make sure you report it by phone, through our website or through our app. Never assume we know your power is out or count on a neighbor to call.

We do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. When outages affect a large number of members, we do our best to update you through social media.

You can also view our outage map through our website or app to check the restoration progress.



substation

### DIAGNOSING THE PROBLEM

After arriving at the outage location, linemen have to play detective. Using safety precautions, linemen find if the problem is related to debris, damage from trees, ice, ightning, animals or other causes. They also find out if the problem is big or small, localized or widespread.

#### FIXING THE PROBLEM

Even for our highly-trained crews, restoring power still poles. If those poles had three-phase line or equipment like lightning arrestors or reclosers, restoration will take longer. If damage to the system is widespread, crews must prioritize what they fix first.





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## **UPCOMING BOARD ELECTIONS ANNOUNCED**

From the Bylaws of Coweta-Fayette Electric Membership Corporation

#### Article III Directors

3.05 Nominations by Nominating Committee. It shall be the duty of the Board to appoint, not less than forty-five (45) days before the date of the meeting of the members at which board members are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than eleven (11) members who shall be selected so as to give equitable representation to the geographical areas served by the Cooperative. No member of the Board may serve on such committee. Written notice of the names of the members of the committee and meeting date for the committee shall be provided to the members prior to such meeting. It shall be the duty of the nominating committee to meet not less than forty-five (45) days prior to such meeting and to nominate one or more candidates for each seat on the Board of Directors that is to be filled at such meeting.

#### 3.06 Nominations by Petition.

Other nominations for such elections may be made by written petition signed by not less than fifteen (15) members, which shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Cooperative or his/her designee not less than forty-five (45) days prior to such meeting.

#### 3.07 Notice of Nominees.

The Secretary shall be responsible for posting at headquarters of the Cooperative the nominees for each seat made by the nominating committee and by petition and shall provide written notice thereof to the members by separate written notice according to the rules and procedures promulgated by the Board of Directors.

The following Nominating Committee was appointed by the Board of Directors at their regular meeting held June 25, 2019. This committee will meet August 7, 2019, and prepare a list of nominations that will be posted at the EMC office at least 45 days before the annual meeting on October 12, 2019.

## **2019 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**Joe W. Almon, Jr.** Newnan, GA

**Mitch Butler** Brooks, GA

Douglas L. Campbell Newnan, GA **David T. Harp** Fayetteville, GA

**Ronald Davis** 

Fayetteville, GA

**Irene Edwards** 

Fayetteville, GA

The three directors who intend to seek re-election are:

**Therol R. Brown** Seat 1 Fayette County **Daniel C. Langford, Jr.** Seat 2 Fayette County James R. Lanier Newnan, GA

Fran C. McElwaney Brooks, GA

**Charles R. Sykes, Jr.** Brooks, GA

**J. Neal Shepard, Jr.** Seat 1 Coweta County



#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James. W. Fulton, III, Chairman • Therol Brown, Vice Chairman • J. Neal Shepard Jr., Secretary-Treasurer Donald Harris • Ross Henry • Daniel C. Langford, Jr. • Alice J. Mallory •Elwood Thompson Mildred A. Winkles

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### The President's Message

Chris Stephens CEO

As we celebrate our nation's birthday, the 243rd anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence, I think about how lucky we are to live in the greatest country ever. I think about our Founding Fathers, their wisdom and all those who sacrificed so much to protect our independence and freedom. When I think about independence, it also reminds me of one of our Cooperative Principles, Autonomy and Independence.

The Cooperative Principles were derived from the Rochdale Principles that date back 175 years to 1844 and were adopted in 1895 by the International Cooperative Alliance. These principles are a set of ideals under which all cooperatives worldwide operate. There are seven principles in total, the fourth being Autonomy and Independence.

As a member of CFEMC, you are an owner of a self-governing, self-help organization that exists to serve you. Each year, we hold our Annual Meeting where you may cast a ballot for board candidates, who are themselves members of the cooperative.

The democratically elected board is accountable to the membership for managing the business fairly and carefully. The cooperative does not depend on any other entity to choose who manages the business. The board of directors sets policies that are in the best interests of all member-owners.

There are more than 900 electric cooperatives nationwide, all operating independently, controlled by their members and not by government or other businesses and institutions. Their independence promotes efficiency and helps them deliver value - the cooperative way.

I am grateful for our independence as a nation and to work with an electric cooperative that operates with autonomy and independence. CFEMC is responsible and answerable to you, our members.

