

POWERLINES

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Power Up Your Protection: Cybersecurity Tips for Members

Every October, we recognize Cybersecurity Awareness Month—a time to remember that protecting our digital lives is just as important as locking our front doors. At Coweta-Fayette EMC, we take cybersecurity seriously, not only to safeguard the electric grid but also to protect our members from scams that could affect your personal information or finances.

Common Utility Scams to Watch Out For:

Disconnection Threats: You may get a call claiming your power will be cut off immediately unless you make a payment right away. Scammers often demand payment through gift cards, prepaid debit cards, or wire transfers. CFEMC will never demand immediate payment in this way.

Fake Payment Links: Some scammers send texts or emails with a link to “pay your bill.” These links often lead to fake websites designed to steal your information. Always go directly to our official website or SmartHub app to manage your account.

Overpayment Refunds: You may be told you “overpaid” your bill and are due a refund. The scammer will then ask for your bank account or card details. Remember: CFEMC already has the information needed to process any legitimate refunds.

Impersonating Employees: Scammers sometimes show up at homes claiming to be from the electric company. Our employees drive clearly marked vehicles and carry official ID badges—don’t hesitate to ask for proof.



How You Can Protect Yourself:

- Verify before you act—if something sounds suspicious, hang up and call CFEMC directly.
- Don’t click on links from unknown texts or emails.
- Use strong, unique passwords for your online accounts.
- Enable multi-factor authentication whenever possible.
- Monitor your accounts regularly for unusual activity.

At CFEMC, protecting your information and serving our members with integrity is part of who we are. By staying alert and informed, you can help stop scammers in their tracks and keep your information safe.

Remember: If you’re ever unsure about a call, text, or email from “CFEMC,” contact us directly at 770-502-0226 before taking any action.

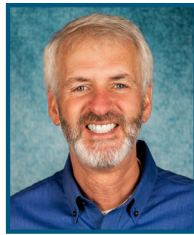


Spot the Red Flags: Don’t Take the Bait

- **Check the sender’s address** – Scammers often use email addresses that look similar to official ones but may have extra numbers, misspellings, or odd domains.
- **Look for spelling & grammar mistakes** – Many scam emails contain awkward wording or obvious typos.
- **Beware of urgent language** – Phrases like “Immediate action required” or “Your account will be suspended today” are common scare tactics.
- **Don’t click suspicious links** – Hover your mouse over any link (without clicking) to see where it really leads. If it doesn’t match the official CFEMC website, don’t click.
- **Unexpected attachments** – Be cautious of attachments you weren’t expecting, especially ZIP files or documents that ask you to enable macros.

Celebrating Co-op Month Together

October is a special time of year for us at Coweta-Fayette EMC. The air turns a little cooler, Friday nights are filled with the excitement of local high school football, and Saturdays bring us all together as we cheer on our favorite college teams. It's also the month we join electric cooperatives across the nation in celebrating Co-op Month. It's a time to reflect on the value of membership and the cooperative difference.



Chris Stephens
CEO

As a co-op, we are more than just your power provider. We are owned by you, our members, and every decision we make is with your best interest in mind. That's why we were so pleased to see so many of you participate in our recent Annual Meeting. Whether you voted online, by mail, or actually drove through on October 7th, your voice is important. Thank you for exercising your rights as a member-owner and for taking the time to connect with your co-op. Your involvement is what makes us strong.

Just as we work to keep your lights on reliably and affordably, we also work to protect your personal information. October is also recognized as Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and it's a good reminder for all of us to stay alert. At CFEMC, we've made significant investments to safeguard member data and strengthen our internal systems. But protecting information is a partnership. By you taking simple steps like using strong passwords, enabling multi-factor authentication, and staying cautious of suspicious emails, it can make a big difference in keeping your information safe.

As we recognize Co-op Month, it's a good time to pause and appreciate what makes our connection unique. The cooperative model is built on trust, accountability, and neighbors helping neighbors. Just as the season brings us together at ballgames and family gatherings, Coweta-Fayette EMC brings us all together in a spirit of service and shared responsibility. That spirit is what keeps us moving forward together, stronger than ever.

Thank you for being a part of Coweta-Fayette EMC. We're proud to serve you!



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