



Volume 46, Number 1

NewsLine

January 2015

Washington Youth Tour 2015

Be a part of something powerful

Tennis shoes. Check. Bottled water. Check. An eagerness to learn and lead. Check, check. If you're a high school junior looking for the trip of a lifetime, then the Washington Youth Tour is the trip for you.

Imagine a chance to visit our nation's capital for one week, meet with more than 1,500 students from across the United States and visit with Georgia's senators and congressional representatives.

The week long Washington, D.C., Youth Tour is jam-packed with sightseeing where history comes to life. While touring, students will visit many of the major monuments and memorials, including the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial and the Washington Monument.

Students will also visit Capitol Hill where they will meet with Georgia's senators and congressmen. Many past participants were so inspired by this experience that they later served as interns on the Hill, and many pursued a career in politics.

But Youth Tour is so much more than sightseeing. Students spend every waking minute together for a solid week and it's not uncommon for lasting friendships to form. In fact, many of Georgia's past participants ended up being college roommates, professional colleagues and lifelong friends. Youth Tour inspires many students to discover who they want to be.

Sponsoring students for this exciting, educational trip is just one of the ways Colquitt EMC invests in our youth. The 2015 Washington D.C. Youth Tour will take place June 11-18. Colquitt EMC is currently accepting applications. The competition is open to all high school juniors who are at least 16 years of age and reside in a household served by Colquitt EMC. Two lucky winners will be selected.

In 2015, Georgia's electric cooperatives will celebrate the 50th anniversary of their involvement in the Youth Tour program. Thousands of America's best and brightest have participated in the program over the years, and we look forward to seeing even more of these exceptional students in the years to come.

Be a part of something powerful. You could win a trip to Washington, D.C. Applications are available at any of our Colquitt EMC offices or at www.colquittemc.com. The application deadline is Monday, March 2, 2015.



Local High School Students Win Area Electrical Wiring Competition

Miles McDonald, a Tift County High School senior, won 1st place at the area V EMC Wiring Career Development Event. His advisor is Jimmy Cargle.

McKenzie Ogg, a Brooks County High School senior, won 2nd place at the area V EMC Wiring Career Development Event. Her advisor is Dave Bearden.

The Agricultural Electrification CDE provides opportunities for FFA members to demonstrate their skills in electrical wiring, critical thinking, and communications. The Electric Membership Corporations throughout Georgia sponsor these activities as a means of promoting education in the safe, efficient use of electrical energy. Miles and McKenzie will compete at the State EMC Wiring CDE on January 10th at the Georgia FFA Center in Covington.



Congratulations Miles and McKenzie!

Colquitt EMC is currently accepting applications for the Walter Harrison Scholarship, a program sponsored by Georgia's 41 electric cooperatives.

The \$1,000 scholarship can be applied to academic expenses at any accredited two- or four-year university, college or vocational-technical college in Georgia. Factors for consideration include grade point average, SAT/ COMPASS scores, academic standing, scholastic honors and financial need. Students applying for the scholarship must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited undergraduate degree program, complete an application, and write a biographical sketch which provides a preview of his or her future plans. Applications are available at any Colquitt EMC office or visit www.colquittemc.com.

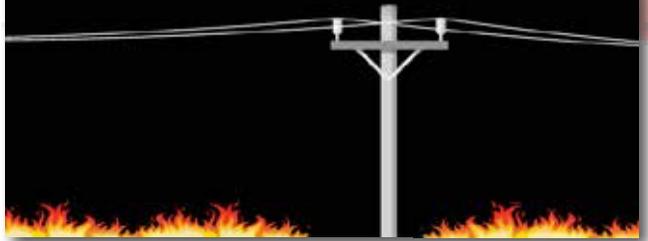
Completed applications are due by Monday, February 2, 2015.



ATTENTION:

Use firebreaks around any utility poles on land that will be burned under controlled conditions. By using a firebreak to protect utility poles, you can help Colquitt EMC save thousands of dollars in repair costs. Also, you can avoid potential safety problems resulting from burned poles.

BURN WITH CARE... AVOID TROUBLE.



-Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Make a Habit of Tracking Your Energy Use in 2015

Your Colquitt EMC electricity bills tell you how much energy you used each month.

You can look at your bill and find out how many kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity you used that month and how that compares to how many kWh you used in the same month last year. This is a good way to track how well you are doing with energy savings.

Use the table below to set energy use goals and track your progress.

MONTH	kWh Use 2014	kWh Use 2015	kWh GOAL	GOAL Reached
January				<input type="checkbox"/>
February				<input type="checkbox"/>
March				<input type="checkbox"/>
April				<input type="checkbox"/>
May				<input type="checkbox"/>
June				<input type="checkbox"/>
July				<input type="checkbox"/>
August				<input type="checkbox"/>
September				<input type="checkbox"/>
October				<input type="checkbox"/>
November				<input type="checkbox"/>
December				<input type="checkbox"/>

Local. Dependable. Serving YOU.

Home Energy Yardstick Assess your home's energy efficiency

Traditionally January is a month many of us assess how we are doing and consider how to make things better. For example, have you wanted to compare your home's energy use to that of other homes in your area? This year why not get an energy assessment of your home? Thanks to a free online tool called the Home Energy Yardstick, do-it-yourself assessment is simple and convenient.

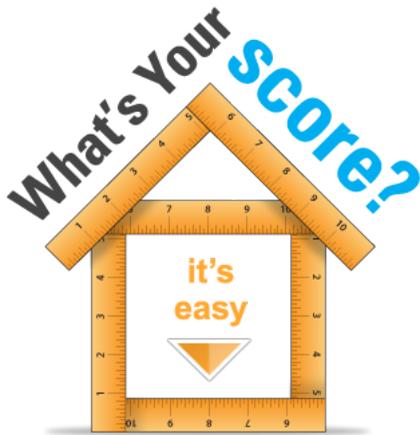
The EnergyStar Home Energy Yardstick provides an assessment of your home's annual energy use compared to similar homes. By answering a few basic questions about your home, you can get:

- Your home's Home Energy Yardstick score (on a scale of 1 to 10);
- Insights into how much of your home's energy use is related to heating and cooling versus other everyday uses like appliances, lighting, and hot water.
- Links to guidance from ENERGY STAR on how to increase your home's score, improve comfort, and lower utility bills.

To calculate your Yardstick score, all you need is some basic information about your home:

- Your ZIP code;
- Your home's square footage;
- Number of full time home occupants;
- A list of all the different fuels used in your home (e.g., electricity, natural gas, fuel oil); and
- Your home's last 12 months of utility bills. (a 12 month history of your power usage is available upon request from your local Colquitt EMC office).

The EnergyStar Home Energy Yardstick can be found on the web at www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=home_energy_yardstick.showgetstarted Or enter "EPA Home Energy Yardstick" in your favorite search engine and follow the link.



Beware of Utility Worker Scams

Don't fall victim to utility worker scams. Be cautious and ask questions. Keep in mind that Colquitt EMC employees carry photo ID cards and will present them upon request. Our employees will not contact you and request payment over the phone. Remember, if there's ever a question about whether you're dealing with a Colquitt EMC employee, contact our office at 800.342.8694 to confirm.



Ten Cuidado Con Las Estafas de Trabajo

No sea víctima de estafa de trabajador. Tenga cuidado y haga preguntas. Tenga en cuenta que los empleados llevan Colquitt EMC las tarjetas de identificación con fotografía y los presentará a petición. Nuestros empleados no se pondrán en contacto con usted para solicitar el pago a través del teléfono. Recuerde, si hay alguna duda acerca de si se trata de un empleado EMC Colquitt, comuníquese con nuestra oficina al 800-342-8694 para confirmar.



Recipes of the Month

Try these delicious
crock pot recipes...
perfect for your
busy days!



Crock Pot Ham and Beans

1 lb dried great northern beans or 1 lb other dried beans
3 garlic cloves, peeled and sliced
1 large sweet onion, chopped coarsely
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
1/2 teaspoon black pepper
1 tablespoon chopped parsley
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
1 lb smoked ham or 1 lb ham hock
6 cups water or 6 cups broth

Sort beans and soak in enough water to cover overnight. Or you may sort them and place in a saucepan with 2-inches of water to cover. Bring them to a boil, boil for 3 minutes, then cover and remove from heat.

Allow to sit for one hour after boiling (don't lift the lid). Whichever method you use, rinse and drain the beans before placing them in the crock pot.

Put the rinsed beans, garlic, onion, salt, pepper, parsley, cloves, ham (chopped into large chunks) or ham hocks into the crock pot along with 6 cups water or broth.

Cover crock, and cook on low for about 8 hours, or until beans are tender and creamy.

Skim any excess fat, if necessary, before serving.

Yield: 4 servings

Per Serving: 636.0 Calories, 14.5g Fat, 2208.4mg Sodium, 78.1mg Cholesterol, 76.9g Carbohydrate.



Easy Country Style Ribs

4 -5 lbs country-style pork ribs
1 (18 ounce) bottle of your favorite barbecue sauce
1 onion, chopped
salt and pepper, to taste

Place all ingredients in crock pot.

Cook on low for 6 to 8 hours.

Meat starts to fall off the bones-- be careful of the small ones in the juices!

Yield: 10-12 servings

Per Serving: 1080.7 Calories, 54.1g Fat, 1478.4mg Sodium, 336.2mg Cholesterol, 53.5g Carbohydrate.