



NewsLine

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WIN *a* WEEK-LONG TRIP *to* WASHINGTON DC!



The
ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE

Youth Tour

June 8-15, 2017

★ Applications are available at any
of our Colquitt EMC offices or
at www.colquittemc.com.

★ The application deadline is
Wednesday, March 1, 2017.



@YouthTourDC



facebook.com/NRECAYouthTour



Georgia EMC



Colquitt High Student Wins 1st Place in Electrical Wiring Competition

Congratulations to Kirk Beacham from Colquitt County High School, 1st place winner of the 2016 South Region Area VI and Area V Agricultural Electrification Career Development Event. He will compete at the state contest January 7, 2017.

Saving Energy and Money with HOME AUTOMATION

Saving money on your power bill typically boils down to carefully controlling how the appliances in your home are operated. We all know that we should turn off the lights and electronics when we leave a room and adjust the thermostat when we leave home. More times than not we simply forget. Enter Home Automation to the rescue. Adding home automation devices takes the "I forgot to ..." out of the equation.

Consider adding these devices to squeeze every penny out of your power bill.

Smart Thermostats

These are not the old "programmable thermostats" that were difficult to set up and required manual adjustments. Smart thermostats "learn" your habits and adjust your heating and cooling to optimize savings while maintaining your comfort. They can be adjusted remotely and "sense" if you are home or not. Many will notify you of how much they

are running. Potential savings is estimated at around \$135 per year.

Lighting Controls

Lighting energy use is estimated to be approximately 11% of the typical power bill and experts believe one-third of that use may be unnecessary. A new generation of lighting occupant sensors can cut that wasted energy to a minimum. The sensors turn on and off the lights as you enter a room. How cool is that?

Smart Power Strips

Many electronic appliances continue to use power even when they are turned off and with the number of home gadgets increasing every year these "standby losses" are becoming a larger and larger portion of your power bill. Smart Power strips "sense" when an electronic device is using "standby" power and turns it off. Some Smart Power Strips even have occupant sensors that turn off the electronics when you leave the room.

In addition to these devices, new major appliances are getting "smarter" too. When purchasing them be sure to check for features that will optimize their energy efficiency and minimize your power bill.



Make a Habit of Tracking Your Energy Use in 2017

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 2016	kWh Use 2017	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"/>

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 institute 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.colquitemc.com.

Completed applications are due by February 1, 2017.

Local. Dependable. Serving **YOU.**

Understanding Capital Credits

Q: I Received A “Capital Credit Refund.” I Don’t Understand What Capital Credits Are. Can You Explain?

Capital credits are one of the most unique and rewarding benefits to you as a member of an electric cooperative. If you receive power from Colquitt EMC, you are a member and an owner. As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, Colquitt EMC not only is owned by the people it serves – its members – it also returns capital credits to you – our member-owner. No other electric utility has this characteristic.

Any revenue above Colquitt EMC’s cost to provide service is viewed as margins. These margins are assigned to your “capital credit” account annually based on how much electricity you used with the cooperative that year. In order to comply with Colquitt EMC’s Bylaws, the cooperative maintains a 20-year rotation for refunding capital credits.

Each year, the Board of Directors determines if the cooperative is financially able to return capital credits to the members; the money is returned to you in the form of a check. In December, 2016, Colquitt EMC mailed capital credit refund checks to current and former members who had electric service in 1995.

NOTE: If you received electric service in 1995 and did not receive a capital credit refund check, please call 1-800-342-8694, ext. 1271 for more information.

BURN WITH CARE... AVOID TROUBLE.

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.

-Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



Recipes of the Month



Winter Waldorf Salad

INGREDIENTS

Servings: 6

Dressing

1/2 cup mayonnaise
1/2 cup sour cream
6 tablespoons honey
1/2 tablespoon lemon rind, grated
3/4 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger

Salad

2 large Granny Smith apples, chopped
2 large Red Delicious apples, chopped
2 large Golden Delicious apples, chopped
1/4 cup celery, diced
1/2 cup red seedless grapes, halved
2 tablespoons raisins
2 tablespoons dried cranberries
2 tablespoons walnuts, chopped and toasted

Garnish

6 breadsticks
1/4 cup pomegranate seeds

DIRECTIONS

Whisk together dressing ingredients in large bowl. Stir in all salad ingredients except walnuts. Cover and chill 1 hour. Stir in walnuts just before serving in dessert glasses, and add a crunchy breadstick and some pomegranate seeds to garnish.



Cabbage Soup

INGREDIENTS

Servings: 4

46 ounces plain tomato juice
4 cups cabbage, shredded
1 medium onion, chopped
2 large carrots, cleaned skinned and shredded
1 cup celery, finely diced

DIRECTIONS

Mix everything together and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 30 minutes (longer if you prefer your veggies to be soft). Refrigerate until cool. Serve chilled with sour cream.

(Cut Here)