



COLQUITT EMC NEWSLINE

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2021 ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR

Colquitt EMC is sponsoring three delegates to participate in **Georgia's Electric Cooperative Youth Tour (YTGA)** – a virtual leadership experience. This is a unique opportunity for high school juniors and seniors who are leaders in their schools, communities, places of worship, or academic and community organizations. The co-op is also searching for students who enjoy spending time planning projects, giving time to help others and meeting other teens throughout Georgia.

For more than 50 years, electric cooperatives across the state have recognized outstanding high schoolers by providing a valuable leadership experience for exceptional teens. Usually that means selecting students for the Washington Youth Tour which involves a trip to the nation's capital. In 2021, due to uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, the decision was made to offer a virtual Youth Tour June 22-24.

Plans are in the works for a three-day dynamic interactive experience that will focus each morning on different aspects of leadership - **Leadership and Me**, **Leadership and My Community**, **Leadership and My Nation** - and will include personality profiles, small group breakouts, photo contests, trivia challenges and more.

Delegates can collaborate in a small group challenge for a chance to win one of several \$5,000 college scholarships! And everyone who participates is also eligible to apply for an annual \$10,000 national college scholarship only available to YT alumni!

In addition to representing Colquitt EMC on the YTGA virtual tour, delegates will receive a \$1,000 college scholarship from the cooperative.



Learning about one's self and others and honing one's leadership skills is always a key element of the program. This year on YTGA day one - **Leadership and Me** - participants will learn how to be a better interviewer and storyteller from YT alumni involved in broadcasting and get a better grasp on personality types and techniques to build one's leadership potential.

On day two - **Leadership and My Community** - professionals in education and community development will share their knowledge to raise awareness about organizations involved in efforts to better our state and home towns and offer tips on how to decide what college is the best fit. And Youth Tour alumni already in college will join in to answer questions.

One of the highlights of the Youth Tour each year is a meeting with Georgia's U.S. representatives and senators at the U.S. Capitol on "Hill Day." YTGA2021 will offer the same opportunity on day three - **Leadership and My Nation** - by inviting all of Georgia's members of Congress to be part of a virtual town hall to hear from legislators and ask questions live on line. And Youth Tour alumni who have interned in D.C. or work in a members' office will give advice on how to work on Capitol Hill.

So do you know someone who is ready for new experiences in a quick-touch short-format three-morning program? Geared up to meet teens from across the state and network with young alumni of the program in leadership positions at college or in careers? Willing to learn more about themselves and their community to offer leadership at the highest level? Then encourage this student to apply for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour! #YTGA

The deadline to apply is April 1, 2021. Applications are available at www.colquittemc.com.

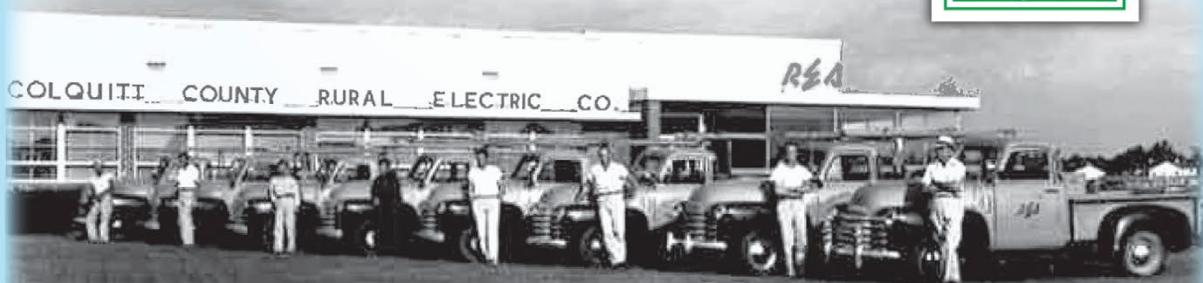


CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY... *ALL YEAR LONG!*

Colquitt EMC's Search for **LEGACY MEMBERS**

Do you remember when
"the lights came on" in Colquitt
EMC's service area?
We want to hear your stories!

*Contact Sonya Aldridge or
Shelby Cloud at 985-3620.*



Photos from Colquitt EMC and Gail Merritt's Archives.



Colquitt EMC's Scholarship Application Available in April

Colquitt EMC awards scholarships to students who are enrolled in colleges or universities located in Colquitt EMC's service area. To be eligible, applicants must reside in the household of a Colquitt EMC member. Online applications will be available beginning April 1, 2021. Go to: **www.colquittemc.com**.

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.



CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR AN ENERGY TAX CREDIT?

Did you know that making Energy Efficiency improvements to your home may earn you \$100's of dollars in credits off your federal income tax? Efficiency measures can include the following:

- **Energy-Efficient Heating and Cooling Equipment**
(\$300 Tax Credit for qualified Heat pumps and air conditioners.)
- **Energy Efficient Water Heaters**
(\$300 Tax Credit for qualified Heat Pump water heaters.)
- **Insulation**
(10% of material cost for insulation, weatherstripping, caulk, spray foam, and house wrap.)
- **Roofs (Metal & Asphalt)**
(10% of material cost for qualified metal roofs and asphalt roofs with cooling granules.)
- **Windows, Doors & Skylights**
(10% of the material cost for qualified windows, doors, and skylights.
The maximum credit for Windows is \$200 and \$500 for a combination of windows, doors, and skylights.)

These tax credits apply for installations completed between 12/31/2017 and 12/31/2020.

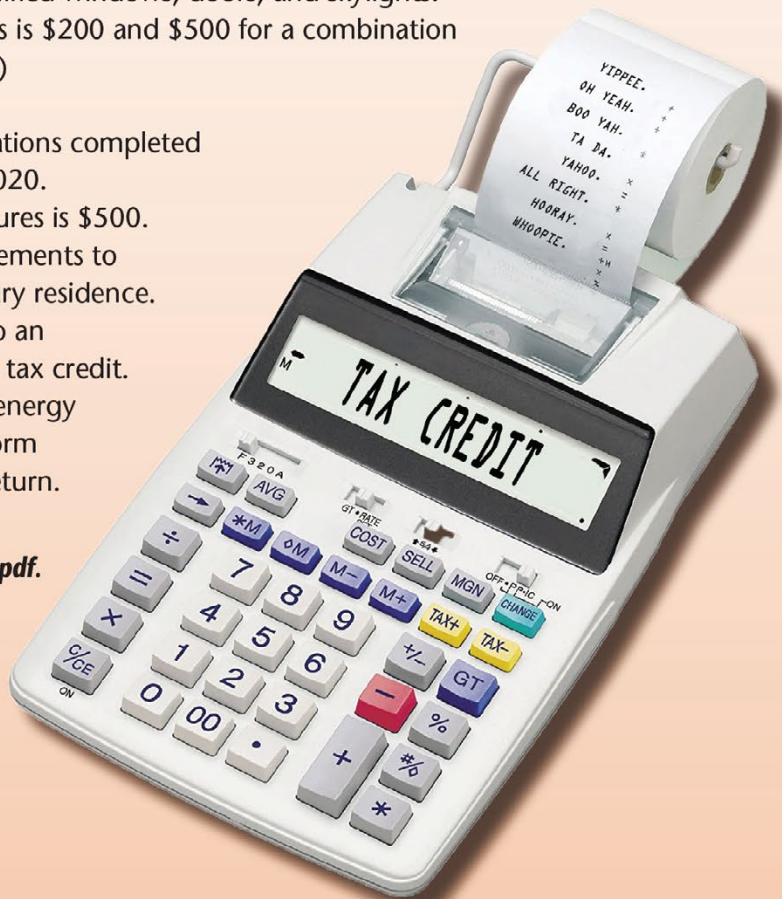
The maximum credit for all measures is \$500.

The credit only applies to improvements to an existing home that is your primary residence.

Measures installed on additions to an existing home are also eligible for a tax credit.

To apply for a tax credit on your energy efficiency improvements, use IRS Form 5695 and submit it with your tax return.

Download a copy of the form at
<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f5695.pdf>.





Recipes of the Month



Easy Cherry Tarts

INGREDIENTS *Yields: 2 dozen*
1 (8 ounce) pkg. refrigerated crescent dinner rolls
1 (3 ounce) pkg. cream cheese, softened
1/4 cup confectioners' sugar
1 cup canned cherry pie filling
1/4 teaspoon almond extract

DIRECTIONS

Place crescent dough on a lightly floured surface; seal seams. Cut into 2 inches circles. Place in greased mini muffin cups. In a small mixing bowl, beat cream cheese and confectioners' sugar until smooth. Place about 1/2 teaspoons in each cup. Combine pie filling and extract; place about 2 teaspoons in each cup. Bake 375 degrees for 12-14 minute or until edges are lightly browned. Remove to wire racks to cool. Refrigerate until serving.



(Cut Here)

Chocolate Cherry Cake

INGREDIENTS *Serves: 16*
1 (18 ounce) box chocolate fudge cake
21 ounces cherry pie filling
1 teaspoon almond extract
2 eggs

FROSTING

1 cup white sugar
5 tablespoons butter
1/3 cup milk
1 cup chocolate chips

DIRECTIONS

Combine cake mix, pie filling, extract, and eggs. Mix by hand and spread on jelly roll pan or 13 x 9 pan Bake at 350° Until done in middle (25-35 minutes). Frosting: combine sugar, butter and milk, stir over low heat. Bring to boil for 1 minute. Stir in chocolate chips until melted. Cool then frost.