



# LAMPLIGHTER

The Official Member Newsletter of Washington EMC

November 2008

Serving members in Baldwin, Emanuel, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Johnson, Laurens, Warren, Washington and Wilkinson counties.

## Green Power EMC

### Georgia's premier renewable energy program



**T**hrough Green Power EMC, we give you the power to help the environment!

Since 2003, this nonprofit corporation has offered customers of participating Georgia electric cooperatives the opportunity to support clean, renewable energy to supply a portion of their electric needs.

Green Power EMC utilizes “green” resources such as biomass, solar and water to generate electricity. Since inception, Green Power EMC has generated more than 132.5 million kilowatt-hours (kwh) of green energy, providing the same environmental benefits as taking 131,195 cars off Georgia’s roads, or planting 186,952 acres with trees.

The renewable energy produced by Green Power EMC is combined with energy from conventional sources for Washington EMC. For every environmentally friendly kwh purchased by Washington EMC, one less kwh is purchased from other, traditional sources of energy. This helps support the purchase of additional clean energy and encourage more investment nationwide in environmentally friendly ways to generate electricity. This continues to allow your energy needs to be met reliably and safely by Washington EMC with no difference in your electric service.

Electricity is clean, safe and reliable energy. Green Power EMC-supplied electricity, combined with lower cost, coal-produced electricity, helps keep it affordable. Washington EMC has always focused on supplying electricity to its members at the lowest possible cost. Because of this, your EMC has provided one of the best energy values for more than 70 years.



[www.greenpoweremc.com](http://www.greenpoweremc.com)



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Frank Askew, *President/CEO*

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#### OFFICE HOURS:

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

Night Depository available for payments  
made after office hours

#### 24-Hour Emergency Call Center

To report a power interruption  
please call:

Local (478) 552-2577

Long Distance (800) 552-2577

#### Milledgeville Local Office

500 East Hancock Street  
Milledgeville, GA 31061  
Phone (478) 452-1574

#### Sparta Local Office

12860 Broad Street  
Sparta, GA 31087  
Phone (706) 444-6650

#### Wrightsville Local Office

100 West College Street  
Wrightsville, GA 31096  
Phone (478) 864-2593

#### APPLIANCE SALES & SERVICE CENTER

319 North Smith Street  
Sandersville, GA 31082

Open Monday through Friday  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

# A balanced approach



Frank Askew, President/CEO

## Our energy future

As Washington EMC continues working hard to keep your electric rates affordable, one of the great challenges we face now—and far into the future—is the need for new generation facilities.

Why? We know that Georgia's current generating capacity will not be sufficient to meet the demands of our growing region or the state as a whole in the years ahead. Compounding the challenge is that aside from the sheer increase in our population, the amount of electricity used on a per capita basis continues to grow as well. In short, this means the need for new electric generating facilities in Georgia is not a luxury. It is a necessity if we want to continue to live in a state where, whenever we flip a switch, the lights come on—and stay on.

There are people who would have you believe that we don't need new power plants, but the fact is, to avoid brownouts or the notorious rolling blackouts that have occurred in other parts of the country, we need to tap every available resource, whether it is solar, wind, biomass, nuclear, hydroelectric, coal, etc. Removing any one of these generating options from the equation is a recipe for higher costs and power shortages that none of us want—or can afford.

Renewable energy is a part of our energy future. Renewable energy is a

much talked-about subject. In a perfect world, it would supply all that we need to power our homes, businesses, schools and industries. The truth is that we cannot generate enough electricity from green energy facilities alone to fulfill the huge and growing appetite for power. Renewable energy represents an important piece of the overall energy equation and mix. We must balance that with reliable and affordable base-load energy sources. After all, we don't want to limit our use of electricity to only those times of the day when the wind blows or the sun shines.

That's not to imply in any way that we're not all for green energy initiatives; quite the contrary. We are partners in Green Power EMC, a non-profit Georgia firm that supplies more than 40 MW of green power to Georgia homes and businesses. At Washington EMC, we believe the more power that can be generated from all resources, the better. This includes coal, nuclear, hydroelectric and other traditional methods as a complement to—not instead of—newer green alternatives. Every generation resource that is deemed "off limits" for whatever reason will diminish our ability to continue supplying reliable power at reasonable prices at all times of the day ... and night.

# ENERGY STAR® @home

The average family spends \$1,900 a year on energy bills, much of which goes to heating and cooling. The government's ENERGY STAR program offers tips and advice to help Americans reduce energy use and save money while staying warm and comfortable in their homes.

Keep the **H.E.A.T.** inside this winter with ENERGY STAR. For more information on improving your home's overall heating and cooling efficiency, visit [www.energystar.gov/home](http://www.energystar.gov/home).



Look for this button on the Washington EMC Web site, [www.washingtonemc.com](http://www.washingtonemc.com).

## HOME SEALING.

Hidden air leaks in your home can lead to higher energy bills by allowing heat to escape, causing your system to work harder to keep you comfortable. Sealing air leaks and adding insulation will keep warm air inside where it belongs and help your equipment perform more efficiently. For more information, get EPA's "Guide to Energy-Efficient Heating and Cooling" and "A DIY Guide to ENERGY STAR Home Sealing" at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

## EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE.

Dirt and neglect are the main causes of heating and cooling system failure. Schedule a fall checkup of your heating system with a licensed contractor. Also, clean or change your

Products that earn the ENERGY STAR® prevent greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy-efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy. To learn more, visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

system's air filter once a month to keep your system running efficiently.

## ASK FOR ENERGY STAR.

You'll find the ENERGY STAR on more than 50 types of products from heating and cooling equipment, appliances, electronics and lighting to windows and new homes. Buying products with the ENERGY STAR logo helps you save money, save energy and protect the environment.

## THERMOSTAT USE.

Use a programmable thermostat to regulate your home's temperature. That way, you can use less energy when you're not at home. If used properly, a programmable thermostat can save up to \$150 every year in energy costs.



Washington EMC is proud to be your ENERGY STAR partner.

## Improve your home's energy efficiency with ENERGY STAR®



## Save Energy, Save Money

When buying an appliance, remember that it has two price tags: what you pay to take it home and what you pay for the energy and water it uses. ENERGY STAR qualified appliances incorporate advanced technologies that use 10 percent to 50 percent less energy and water than standard models. The money you save on your utility bills can more than make up for the cost of a more expensive but more efficient ENERGY STAR model.

For top performance, premium features and energy savings, look for energy-efficient clothes washers, refrigerators, dishwashers, room air conditioners and dehumidifiers that have earned the ENERGY STAR.

An 18-cubic-foot refrigerator manufactured before 1990 costs \$163 per year to run. An ENERGY STAR model costs \$40 per year to run.

Come by any Washington EMC Appliance Showroom location to see the latest in ENERGY STAR-qualified appliances that can help lower your energy bill. Our everyday low prices can help you save even more.

# New from Washington EMC

## Replica bucket trucks



**N**ow you can have your own working replica of a Washington EMC bucket truck. Each is a highly detailed 1/43 replica crafted with the finest workmanship.

To get your replica bucket truck, complete an order request online at [www.washingtonemc.com/toy.aspx](http://www.washingtonemc.com/toy.aspx) and save shipping and handling costs or visit any Washington EMC location. You can charge your bucket truck purchase and have it conveniently billed on your electric bill. It is a great gift for all ages.

This is a limited edition replica, so call (478) 552-2577 and place your order now while the supply lasts.

The Washington EMC replica bucket truck in 1/43 scale comes complete with working boom, bucket, jack stands and doors.

### Clip and mail

**Washington EMC**  
P.O. Box 598 • Sandersville, GA 31082

**Yes**, I want to purchase my very own replica bucket truck.

Please bill me \$29.95\* for each truck. Enter number of replicas you want to purchase \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping address: (if different from billing address) \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Bill my Washington EMC account. Account number: \_\_\_\_\_

Charge to my credit card account.  Visa  MasterCard  Discover

Credit card account number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Shipping, handling and applicable tax will be added to all purchases.*

# Southern Security Systems®

Low monthly monitoring fee  
**\$17.95**  
per month

## Peace of Mind

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**(478) 552-2577 • (800) 552-2577**