



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

Working with local legislators

"All politics is local." This observation by the late Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill Jr., former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, means that even national politics have a local impact, and people care most about issues that directly affect them. Indirectly, this famous adage underscores the importance and value of local politics.

At Washington EMC, we think it's critical to develop and cultivate relationships with local legislators because they craft, introduce and vote on legislation that impacts the local business climate, environment and quality of life for our community. That's why we work closely with our local elected officials. After all, our purpose is to provide safe, reliable, affordable energy, but our mission is to help our community thrive.

Washington EMC is a local business that powers economic development and prosperity for our region. As a cooperative, we have deep roots here, and we listen closely to our members to better understand the needs of the com-

munity. Our leadership, board members and employees live and work right here in the community we serve.

We strive to be an advocate for our community, ensuring that local legislators know, understand and act on the issues that are important to our area.

Providing industry guidance and expertise

Today's energy landscape is an increasingly complex topic covering not only the traditional engineering and vegetation management aspects of the industry, but also encompassing technology, cybersecurity, electrification of the transportation sector and more.

Our experts provide briefings and backgrounders to legislators, committees and staff, and we offer expert testimony for hearings and other legislative or regulatory meetings or gatherings. And because we're involved in economic development and we know local community leaders, we can provide insight on how issues and policies under discussion might impact our region.



Wendy Sellers
President/CEO

Co-op as a convener

In addition, we periodically invite legislators and their staff to the co-op for tours so they can see firsthand how we operate and can view our operations center and substations.

Representing your best interests

We strive to be a trusted resource on energy issues. Because of our deep roots in the community, we have a firm understanding of local issues and needs. We will continue looking after the long-term interests of our consumer-members. This means we are able to cultivate and foster positive, productive relationships with legislators who know and trust us, because we're advocating on behalf of the community we serve.

We're proud to power your life and bring good things to the community. We hope you'll continue to advise Washington EMC on matters of importance so we can continue to advocate on your behalf and improve the quality of life for all.





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Wendy Sellers, President/CEO

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Stay warm on the coldest days

January and February typically are the coldest months of the year. That doesn't mean you have to be cold for two months, especially inside your own home.

Dressing in layers, wearing socks with your slippers and staying active are no-cost, no-tech ways to stay cozy indoors, even when all you can see for miles is snow and ice. Also try the following:

- **Block drafts.** If your windows are old or made from a single pane of glass, it's time to upgrade. Energy-efficient glass—and windows with double panes—will go a long way toward keeping cold air from blowing into your house. They also could reduce the amount of money you spend on

winter energy bills.

- **Seal leaks.** Also great draft-blockers, weatherstripping and caulk can plug holes around windows and doors, and wherever the inside of an outdoor wall is penetrated by a cable or phone line.

- **Make the bed.** An electric blanket—one with an automatic shut-off and the seal of approval from a safety organization like UL—can keep you cozy at bedtime, even when you turn the whole-house thermostat down to save energy overnight.

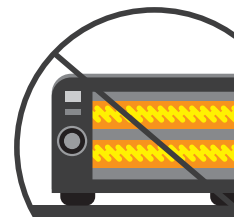
- **Make 2022 the year you finally switch to a programmable thermostat** that will turn the heat up when the home is occupied and everyone is awake, and down at bedtime and when the family leaves for the day.



TIPS TO DITCH THE SPACE HEATER

Space heaters are energy hogs, and older models can be extremely dangerous. This winter, ditch the space heater and try these alternative solutions to stay cozy:

- Use an electric blanket to keep warm during the night.
- Caulk and weatherstrip around all windows and doors to prevent heat loss.
- Consider adding insulation to your attic and around ductwork.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Maximize your heating system's performance by inspecting, cleaning or replacing air filters once a month or as needed to reduce energy costs and prevent potential damage to your system. Make sure radiators, baseboard heaters and warm-air registers aren't blocked so air can flow freely.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



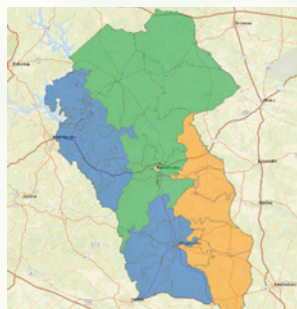
Walter Harrison Scholarship

Washington EMC is accepting applications for the Walter Harrison Scholarship. High school seniors who live in the household of a Washington EMC member can apply for the Walter Harrison Scholarship until Jan. 14. The \$1,000 scholarship may be used at any Georgia accredited college, university or technical school. Fourteen winners will be selected statewide. Applications can be obtained from your school counselor or by contacting Washington EMC Walter Harrison Scholarship Coordinator Denise Wombles at (800) 552-2577 or online at www.washingtonemc.com.



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CONSTRUCTION PHASE MAP

- PHASE ONE
- PHASE TWO
- PHASE THREE

Pre-register today at
ConexonConnect.com/WashingtonEMC



Holiday Closing

Washington EMC offices will be closed Monday, January 17, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

MARTIN LUTHER
KING JR. DAY

Oh, the places they may go!

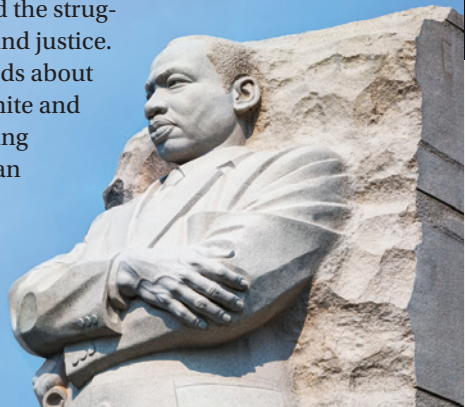
During the seven-day Washington Youth Tour (WYT), which is scheduled for June 17-23, students from electric membership cooperatives (EMCs) throughout Georgia may have a chance to visit some of the most exciting tourist spots in our nation's capital. Here are some of the places students may visit during the 2022 WYT and the history behind these sites.

Arlington National Cemetery

The first military burial at Arlington National Cemetery took place on May 13, 1864, for Pvt. William Christmas, who was killed in the Civil War. Today, it is the final resting place of 400,000 service members, veterans and their families, and more than 3,000 ceremonies and memorial services take place there each year.

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial

Located in downtown Washington, D.C., this memorial honors the late Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy and the struggle for freedom, equality and justice. The memorial, which stands about 30 feet tall, is made of granite and opened in August 2011. King is the first African American honored with a memorial on or near the National Mall and only the fourth nonpresident to be memorialized in such a way.



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Smithsonian Institution

Known as the world's largest museum, education and research complex, the Smithsonian Institution comprises 19 museums, 21 libraries, nine research centers, historical and architectural landmarks, and the National Zoo. It was founded in 1846 and is named after British scientist James Smithson, its founding donor. The Smithsonian Institution has 156 million pieces of art, artifacts and specimens in its collections.

Mount Vernon

Mount Vernon is the historic home of America's first president, George Washington. Located just a short drive from Washington, D.C., this tourist spot includes a mansion, gardens, tombs, a farm and a museum. Restoration began in 1859 by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, the nation's first historic preservation organization, and the estate now looks just like it did in 1799 when Washington died.

Lincoln Memorial

The Lincoln Memorial Commission was incorporated in 1910 and tasked with building a national memorial to honor former president Abraham Lincoln. The Lincoln Memorial is made of stone from several U.S. regions and encompasses about 27,000 square feet of space. Construction began in February 1914 and concluded with the dedication of the memorial in May 1922.

Plans for this year's WYT had not been finalized as of press time, but organizers are hopeful that it will return to an in-person format.

2022 Washington Youth Tour

June 17-23

Washington EMC is accepting applications for the Washington Youth Tour. To be eligible, students must attend school in the Washington EMC area, be a high school junior, be at least 16 years old by June 18, 2022, and have parent or guardian permission to enter and participate. More information and applications can be obtained from your school counselor or by contacting Washington EMC Youth Tour Coordinator Denise Wombles at (800) 552-2577 or online at www.washingtonemc.com.

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