



Tri-County  
EMC

# CURRENT LINES

March 2023

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## 2023 LINEMAN SCHOLARSHIP

*Applications due April 15*

In inclement weather, you may be inside without power, but linemen are outside working to restore power back to your home.

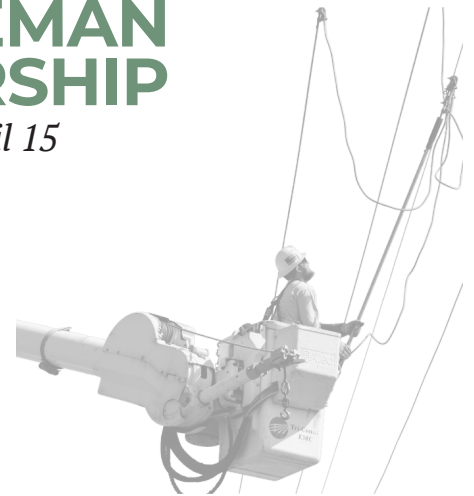
Like many trades, being an electric lineman is not just an occupation, but a tradition and way of life.

To honor the trade that is the backbone of our business, Tri-County EMC established the Lineman Scholarship Program in 2022.

Each year, the Lineman Scholarship awards \$3,000 to an individual interested in becoming an electric lineman. Scholarship money will be used to complete the lineman training program through the Technical College System of Georgia. Applications are judged by a panel of Tri-County EMC lineman and retirees. To qualify, applicants must have received a high school diploma in Jones, Putnam or Baldwin Counties OR have received a GED and currently reside in Jones, Putnam or Baldwin Counties in Georgia.

Tri-County EMC is grateful to be able to invest in a local student which in turn will make a contribution to the future of the electric industry. Individuals interested in becoming a lineman can complete or download an application online at [tri-countyemc.com/linemanscholarship.cms](https://tri-countyemc.com/linemanscholarship.cms).

Applications must be received by April 15.



# TRI-COUNTY EMC AWARDS GRANTS TO LOCAL TEACHERS



Tri-County EMC recently surprised 25 teachers in Jones, Putnam, Baldwin, Wilkinson, and Jasper Counties with educational grants totaling \$30,000. This year, outside judges evaluated the 47 applications that were submitted for innovation, goals, objectives, student involvement and budget. With project goals ranging from the establishment of a weekly school news production to the purchase of a greenhouse, hundreds of students will benefit from innovative learning experiences brought forth by their teacher's dedication to the education community.

Midway Hills Academy teachers, Stephanie Coxwell and Karley Lance, were awarded a Bright Ideas Grant for the construction of a school chicken coop. STEAM students will participate in activities such as egg counting, animal behavior tracking, health data recording, and eventually incorporating the chicken by-products into the school garden. "I want to give the kids some exposure to things they may not traditionally have at home," says Lance, "Students that may struggle socially, this will give them an avenue to develop skills like caring for animals."

Since 2008, Tri-County EMC has provided more than \$300,000 in grants to local schools. Funded by unclaimed capital credits, the grants help teachers improve education in their classrooms through innovative projects that would otherwise not be funded. Georgia certified public or private school teachers in grades Pre-K through 12th Grade in Baldwin, Jones, Putnam, Jasper, Twiggs and Wilkinson Counties qualify to apply.

A full list of winning projects can be found at [www.tri-countyemc.com](http://www.tri-countyemc.com), or the Tri-County EMC Facebook page. For more information about Bright Ideas grants, visit [www.tri-countyemc.com/bright-ideas.cms](http://www.tri-countyemc.com/bright-ideas.cms).

Thank you to all of the teachers who applied for a Bright Ideas Grant in 2022 and we look forward to seeing your applications in 2023!

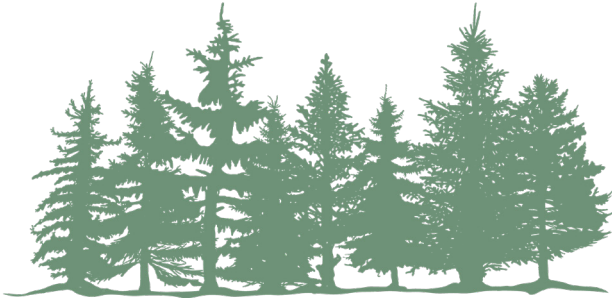


# RIGHT-OF-WAY SEASONAL MAINTENANCE

Beginning this spring, Tri-County EMC will begin its 2023 herbicide application. Palmetto Right-of-Way, our spraying contractor, will apply herbicide to keep trees, brush and foliage from interfering with the delivery of your electric service. Overgrown trees and other vegetation within 15 feet of overhead power lines are trimmed year-round. Herbicide is applied in five-year cycles. This year's herbicide application will occur in southeastern Putnam County and portions of Baldwin County.

Only nonrestrictive, non-residual chemicals are used. Landscaped areas such as lawns, streams or ponds will not be sprayed. When planting trees this spring, always be sure the width of the foliage of the mature tree will not grow within 15 feet of each side of a power line. It is important to keep trees, limbs and climbing plants away from power lines to prevent outages and power blinks.

The map below shows the general area where the maintenance will occur. For a full list of streets that will be affected, or more information on Tri-County's right-of-way program, visit [tri-countyemc.com/rightofway.cms](http://tri-countyemc.com/rightofway.cms).



## 2023 WALTER HARRISON SCHOLARSHIP FINALIST

Lily Victoria Rose Nichols of Putnam County was named Tri-County EMC's finalist for the 2023 Walter Harrison Scholarship. She will go on to compete in the statewide scholarship competition for one of fifteen \$1,000 scholarships given out by Georgia EMC. Winners of the statewide competition will be announced in early April.

Lily is a senior at Putnam County High School. When she graduates in the spring, Lily plans to begin her studies at the University of North Georgia Oconee Campus, and then transfer to the University of Georgia to earn a master's degree in Early Childhood Education. Upon graduation, Lily plans to return to her community and pursue a career as a teacher.

For more information on scholarships offered through Tri-County EMC, visit us online at [tri-countyemc.com/scholarships-overview.cms](http://tri-countyemc.com/scholarships-overview.cms).



# RECIPE BOX

## ASPARAGUS WITH CAMELIZED VIDALIA ONION SOUBISE

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 bunch asparagus
- 1 large Vidalia onion, thinly sliced
- 6 tablespoons butter, divided
- 1 cup whole milk
- Salt, pepper and nutmeg (optional) to season
- 1 lemon

### DIRECTIONS

Blanch asparagus in salted boiling water for 1 minute. Remove and plunge into a bowl of ice water. When asparagus is thoroughly cold, drain and set aside.

Melt 4 tablespoons of the butter in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add onions and caramelize, stirring occasionally, until soft and deep gold in color, about 20 minutes. Add milk and bring to a boil for 1 minute to thicken slightly.

Transfer to a blender and puree until smooth. Add 1 tablespoon of the butter and puree again until incorporated. Sauce should be thick, creamy and pourable. Season with salt, pepper, lemon juice and nutmeg. Keep warm until ready to serve. In the same pan, melt the remaining tablespoon of butter and briefly heat asparagus through. Pour some sauce in the middle of the serving platter. Arrange asparagus spears and spoon more sauce over asparagus. Garnish with grated lemon zest, if desired.

*This recipe is courtesy of Georgia Grown. Did you know your recipe is worth \$20 if chosen? Send your best recipes to [annaj@tri-countyemc.com](mailto:annaj@tri-countyemc.com) or mail to P.O. Box 487, Gray, GA 31032.*

## TRI-COGO RECENTLY NAMED “2022 EMERGING BUSINESS OF THE YEAR”

The casino night-themed Annual Awards Dinner was an evening to remember for Tri-County EMC’s fiber affiliate, Tri-CoGo, as the internet service provider received the honor of “Emerging Business of the Year” by the Jones County Chamber of Commerce. Award categories were announced in early January and voted on by the local residents and businesses of Jones County.

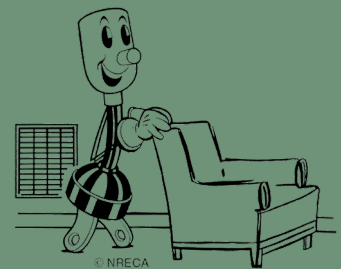


“Our team is so grateful for the abundant support this community has shown us since our startup,” says Greg Mullis, COO of Tri-CoGo. “We provide 100% fiber internet service to more than 2,000 Jones County customers, and that number is growing every week. We are honored to receive recognition from the Jones County Chamber of Commerce.”

Tri-CoGo is a wholly owned subsidiary of Tri-County EMC, currently providing high-speed internet and VOIP phone service through a 100% fiber network currently being constructed through Tri-County EMC’s service territory. Pricing starts at \$54.95 per month for 250 mbps. For more information about Tri-CoGo or to check availability, please visit [www.tri-cogo.com](http://www.tri-cogo.com).

## March ENERGY TIP

Ensure all air vents are unobstructed from furniture, drapes or other items for sufficient circulation throughout your home.



**Tri-County EMC**

**Owned By Those We Serve**

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[www.tri-countyemc.com](http://www.tri-countyemc.com)

*\*Tri-County EMC is an equal opportunity provider and employer\**

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### CURRENT LINES

Monthly Publication for  
Tri-County EMC Members