



Tri-County
EMC

CURRENT LINES

AUGUST 2025

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Operation Roundup, [page 1-2](#)

Back-to-School with TCEMC, [page 3](#)

Don't Shoot the Lines, [page 4](#)

Recipe Box, [page 4](#)

2M DOLLARS
GRANTED

12K MEMBERS
PARTICIPATING

700+ PROJECTS
FUNDED

OPERATION ROUNDUP HITS TWO MILLION IN GRANTS SINCE 2001

Since its establishment in 2001, Tri-County EMC's Operation Roundup Program has provided funds for non-profit and charitable organizations across the cooperative's service area. The volunteer donation program, fueled by Tri-County members who elect to have their electric bills rounded up each month, has officially reached a significant milestone - awarding over \$2 million in grants to projects benefitting local individuals and communities. Results of the latest round of grants are included on page 2.

Tri-County EMC's number one goal as an electric cooperative is to provide its members with both safe and reliable power, all while operating by a core set of principles. By providing an outlet for giving back, Operation Roundup embodies the seventh cooperative principle, "Concern for Community". Every cent contributed is reinvested in the community through funding grants for charitable needs and projects, including buying food for local food banks, school supplies for students attending schools in the service area, and supporting children battling cancer.

The Operation Roundup Program would not be possible without the generosity of you, our Tri-County EMC members. As we celebrate reaching \$2 million in Operation Roundup Grants, we extend our thanks to each individual who has contributed. Because of you, our communities are stronger, more capable, and overall a better place to live and work. Together, we have shown that small change can truly change a significant number of lives. Thank you for making a difference by being a part of Operation Roundup! If you are not a current participant but would like to enroll, please visit us at www.tri-countyemc.com/operation-roundup-make-a-difference.

OPERATION ROUNDUP *Continued from Page 1*

On June 12, the Tri-County EMC Foundation Board met to discuss 25 applications for Operation Roundup Grants. The 16 organizations listed below were awarded for a total of \$95,620 to fund a variety of community needs and projects.

ACTION IN KINDNESS

\$2,000 to purchase diapers and wipes for families within the service area

CHARD WRAY FOOD PANTRY

\$12,000 to purchase food for the pantry

CIRCLE OF LOVE

\$5,000 to support outreach services for domestic violence survivors

MIDDLE GA COMM. FOOD BANK

\$15,000 to purchase food for the food bank

STONE CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

\$1,500 to restock items in the church's community household essentials pantry

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

\$2,500 to purchase items for the church's Thanksgiving food giveaway and \$2,500 to purchase school supplies and hygiene kits for the church's back-to-school event

BALDWIN HIGH SCHOOL FFA

\$1,120 to send the FFA officer team to officer leadership training

FERST READERS OF JASPER CO.

\$1,500 to support the participation of children and their families in the program

GRAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

\$2,500 to purchase backpacks to distribute at the church's back-to-school event

JONES CO. PUBLIC LIBRARY

\$2,000 to support library programming

REACH 2 TEACH

\$2,500 to purchase school supplies for students living in affordable housing

UGA BALDWIN CO. EXTENSION

\$2,500 to send students to the Cloverleaf DPA

CAFE CENTRAL, INC.

\$5,000 to purchase new stainless steel pots and pans for the soup kitchen

HADDOCK BAPTIST CHURCH

\$5,000 to purchase materials for the health fair

RESCUE MISSION OF MIDDLE GA

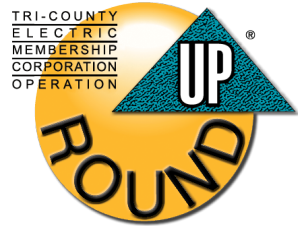
\$12,000 to replace an aging HVAC system in residential program housing

THE PLAZA ARTS CENTER

\$6,000 to purchase a sound board with LED lights

COOPERATIVE FAMILY FUND

\$15,000 to provide support to children who lose a parent who is actively employed at an electric cooperative (72767002)



"I love my internet with Tri-CoGo and haven't had a single issue since I switched to them last summer. Best internet connection and excellent customer service."

Tri-CoGo Customer

**JOIN THE NETWORK
YOUR NEIGHBORS TRUST.**

www.tri-cogo.com | 1.844.662.7569



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL, STUDENTS AND TEACHERS!

Tri-County EMC is a strong supporter of our schools. Each year, we sponsor a number of scholarships, leadership programs, and grants that service area students and educators can apply for.

SCHOLARSHIPS

OPERATION ROUNDUP SCHOLARSHIP | \$1,000 | DEADLINES: OCTOBER 15 AND APRIL 15

The Tri-County EMC Foundation offers scholarships to students, especially non-traditional scholars, to help pay their college costs. Through Operation Roundup, a total of \$4,000 will be awarded annually to students residing in the homes of Tri-County EMC members. The applicant must be enrolled in any U.S. accredited college, university or technical college and have maintained at least a 2.0 average.

COOPERATIVE SCHOLARSHIP | \$2,500 | DEADLINE: APRIL 15

Tri-County EMC awards four Cooperative Scholarships to students residing within the cooperative's service area. Applications are judged based on academics, financial need, and community involvement. High school seniors and undergraduate students are eligible to apply.

LINEMAN SCHOLARSHIP | \$3,000 | DEADLINE: APRIL 15

Tri-County EMC awards two Lineman Scholarships to individuals interested in becoming electric linemen. Applications are judged by a panel of Tri-County EMC linemen 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.

LEADERSHIP

WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR | ALL-EXPENSES-PAID | DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 15

Tri-County EMC sponsors three local high school students to represent Georgia as a delegate on the Washington Youth Tour, a week-long adventure in our nation's capitol. The trip is a fast-paced, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the sites and people at the center of our government. The trip is jam-packed with visits to historical sites and famous attractions. Delegates will meet students representing electric cooperatives across America.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Student must reside in a home served by Tri-County EMC.
- Public, private, and home school students are eligible.
- Participants must be 16 years of age prior to the trip.

GRANTS

BRIGHT IDEAS EDUCATION GRANTS | UP TO \$1,500 | DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15

Tri-County EMC awards local teachers \$45,000 in Bright Ideas Education Grants for classroom innovative projects in grades Pre-K through 12. Certified public or private school teachers in Baldwin, Jones, Putnam, Jasper, Twiggs, and Wilkinson Counties qualify to apply. Individual projects can be funded up to \$1,500. Teachers are limited to one grant proposal per round of funding. Grants will be awarded annually based on merit and must be used within 18 months of the issue date. (78405001)



RECIPE BOX

ROASTED BRUSSEL SPROUT PASTA SALAD

Courtesy of Erin Weston of Gordon

INGREDIENTS:

PASTA SALAD

- 12 oz small pasta
- 1 lb fresh brussels sprouts
- 1.5 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 3/4 cup toasted pecans
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1/2 cup feta
- 3 tbsp chopped parsley
- 1/2 cup diced red onion
- 1/2 cup bacon pieces

VINAIGRETTE

- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 3 tbsp Balsamic vinegar
- 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1 tbsp maple syrup
- Juice and zest of 1 lemon
- 1 garlic clove, grated
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp pepper

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 400°. Thinly slice or shave brussels sprouts. Toss with salt, pepper, and garlic powder. Roast until golden, approximately 20 minutes. Cook, drain, and rinse pasta. In a bowl, mix pasta, brussels sprouts, and remaining pasta salad ingredients. Mix vinaigrette ingredients and toss into the pasta salad.

DID YOU KNOW?

Your recipe is worth \$20 if chosen! Send your best recipes to annas@tri-countyemc.com or mail to P.O. Box 487, Gray, GA 31032.

AVOID FINES...DON'T SHOOT THE LINES

As dove hunting season approaches, it's important to remember the impact of shooting near power lines and fiber-optic cables. Power and fiber lines often serve as roosting spots for doves, making them easy targets. However, firing at these lines poses significant risks and costs. Here's why:

COSTLY DAMAGE

Shooting at power lines and fiber lines can cause extensive damage, costing thousands of dollars in repairs, leading to higher utility bills or a large fine for the hunter.

SAFETY HAZARDS

Power lines damaged from a gunshot can ignite fires and pose electrocution risks to people nearby. (92768002)

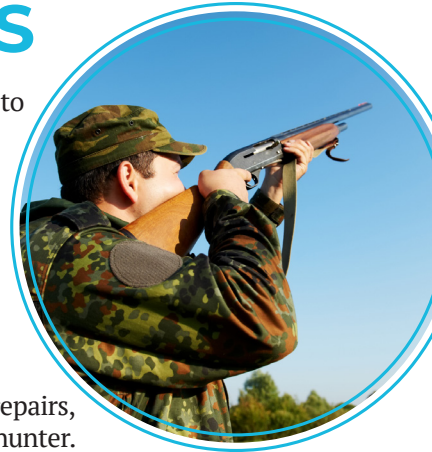
INTERNET DISRUPTION

Fiber-optic cables, crucial for internet service, are vulnerable to gunfire and take several hours to replace.

LEGAL CONSEQUENCES

Damaging electrical equipment is against the law and could result in criminal charges or financial liability for repair costs.

To ensure a safe and successful dove-hunting season, Tri-County EMC urges hunters to stay aware of these dangers.



ACCOUNT NUMBER

Three account numbers are hidden in parentheses in this issue of Current Lines. Find your **FULL** account number and call 478.986.8126 to claim a \$50 bill credit.



**Tri-County
EMC**

Owned By Those We Serve

P.O. Box 487
Gray, GA 31032
478.986.8100
www.tri-countyemc.com

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

Ray Grinberg, CEO

Board of Directors

Brenda P. Green, Chairman
Sammy Hall, Vice-Chairman
Dan Greene, Secretary/Treasurer
George "Buck" Comer, Chap Nelson,
Marion Nelson, Cecil Patterson,
Mike Rainey, Ed Walker

CURRENT LINES

Monthly Publication for
Tri-County EMC Members