



Tri-County
EMC

CURRENT LINES

DECEMBER 2024

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www.tri-countyemc.com/washington-youth-tour

WE WANT YOU TO BE A WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR DELEGATE

Do you know a local student residing in a home served by Tri-County EMC that has outstanding leadership qualities and a go-getter personality? Make sure they know about the Washington Youth Tour! This summer, Tri-County EMC will sponsor three students on the prestigious WYT, an all-expenses-paid leadership adventure in our nation's capitol. Delegates will experience a week of sight-seeing, visiting historic monuments, and convening with other state delegates across the country. The 2025 WYT is set for June 13-20.



ELIGIBILITY:

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

APPLICATION CHECKLIST: DUE FEB. 15

- Completed application with signature
- Letter of recommendation
- Personal statement
- Parental/Guardian permission signature
- Current photo of applicant

For more information about the trip or application process, please contact Washington Youth Tour Coordinator Anna Smith at annas@tri-countyemc.com.

TRI-COGO ADDS PHONE SYSTEMS TO ITS COMMERCIAL PRODUCT LINE

Tri-CoGo, Tri-County EMC's broadband affiliate, recently celebrated its third anniversary of internet and voice service, nearing 9,000 customers. This spring, Tri-CoGo introduced executive voice service, providing phone systems capable of transforming your business communications.

An executive voice system is a business phone system tailored to the needs of a company. Traditionally, many of the features and benefits of an executive voice system were only reachable by large businesses. With the advent of cloud-based voice-over-internet-protocol (VOIP) phones and phone systems, customized solutions with rich feature sets are now available, connecting employees and customers, increasing efficiency, and improving customer experience. With direct cost savings and gains in efficiency, executive phone systems can be an excellent investment for any sized business. Below are a few reasons businesses should consider investing in a VOIP phone system.



SCALABILITY & FLEXIBILITY

As your business grows, so do your communication needs. Traditional phones (or premises-based phone systems) often lack advanced features and can be costly and difficult to scale. Whether you are adding an employee, an office in a remote location, or simply need to adjust the number of lines, VOIP systems are easy to adapt and scale. Porting existing numbers or adding toll-free lines is exceptionally easy. (81273001)



haleyb@tri-cogo.com | 844.662.7569, ext. 8329

“*At Tri-CoGo, we understand the needs of our local businesses because WE are a local business. Communication between coworkers and with current and prospective customers is crucial to providing a great customer experience. Our technicians can easily integrate VOIP phone systems into any sized company. Call me to schedule a consultation today!*”

ROUTING & “FIND ME ANYWHERE”

Calls can be routed to auto attendants, call queues, call centers, or a single user's office or mobile device anywhere. Whether working in an office in a different state or at home, a VOIP system allows business owners and executives to stay connected with employees and clients at all times. Advanced features are included below.

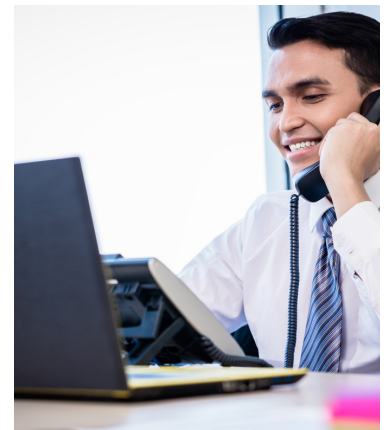
Call Forwarding: Direct calls to the correct department or individual, even if you're not in the office.

Auto-Attendant: Answer calls, provide menus, and forward them to specific individuals or groups on your team.

Voicemail to Email: Receive voicemail messages by email as both attached audio files and text, ensuring your team receives important messages regardless of their current location.

Call Analytics and Reporting: Track and analyze call volumes, durations, and other metrics to improve customer service, train your employees, and optimize your business operations.

Collaborative Tools and Integration: Use and integrate advanced systems such as customer relationship management (CRM) tools, voice and video conferencing, Microsoft Teams, and other systems to collaborate with team members and clients anywhere in the world.



ENHANCED CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

A phone system that smoothly connects your employees and customers is crucial to a business's success. Features such as customizable call routing, call queues, and mobile integration ensure that your team is connected to customers. Advanced analytics help you understand what's working and what isn't. With the flexibility of a VOIP system and the help of a local Tri-CoGo team, you can quickly pivot to ensure a great customer experience.

COST SAVINGS

Tri-CoGo's business voice systems include unlimited U.S. domestic calling, eliminating expensive long-distance bills. With free installation and no need to purchase equipment upfront, there is no need for capital outlay or an IT department to help you install or maintain a complex and space-consuming on-premises system. Your local Tri-CoGo team is with you every step of the way to ensure cost-effective, streamlined business operations.

To learn more about how a Tri-CoGo enterprise phone system can benefit your business, call 478.986.8329 or 844.662.7569 and dial extension 8329 to schedule a consultation. Our experts will help design a communications system that gives you the tools you need to grow, adapt, and thrive. (84103001)

2024 CHRISTMAS CARD ART CONTEST

And the winners are...

Tri-County EMC invited Kindergarten through 5th grade students to participate in a Christmas Card Art Contest. 251 entries were submitted, and the top three submissions are shown. The first place artwork will be featured on Tri-County EMC's Christmas Card. In addition to the winners shown here, a winner was also chosen for each grade level. All winning artists will be awarded at their schools. Artwork submitted will be donated to spread cheer during the Christmas season.



Raley Spires
4th Grade, GMC Prep



Parker Jane Odom
4th Grade, GMC Prep



Wade Rich
1st Grade, Lakeview Primary

RECIPE BOX



PECAN SHORTBREAD COOKIES

Courtesy of Georgia Grown

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup salted butter
- 1 cup confectioner's sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 tbsp milk
- ½ cup toasted and finely chopped pecans

DIRECTIONS:

Heat oven to 350 degrees. With a handheld or stand mixer, beat butter, sugar, and vanilla until light and fluffy. Add flour and mix until crumbly. Add pecans and milk, mixing just until mixture comes together. Turn out onto floured surface and roll into a log. Slice into ¼ inch slices. Bake about 15 minutes or until golden. Let cool completely. Serve as is, or create sandwich cookies with pecan butter and your favorite jelly.



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.

WIN \$1,000 FOR YOUR COLLEGE EDUCATION

Applications due February 1

The Walter Harrison Scholarship is open to all undergraduate college students whose primary household is served by an EMC. A panel of judges from Tri-County EMC will select one undergraduate semi-finalist to compete for a \$1,000 scholarship at the state level. A combination of need and academic ability will be used to determine winners. The scholarship must be used in Georgia. (85492001)



Students residing within the Tri-County EMC service area may apply for the Walter Harrison Scholarship through Tri-County. Applications can be downloaded at www.tri-countyemc.com/walterharrison.cms or may be obtained by mail upon request. To receive an application by mail, contact Anna Smith at 478.986.8126. Applications must be received by Tri-County EMC by February 1, 2025.

ACCOUNT NUMBER

Three random account numbers are hidden in this issue of Current Lines. Find your COMPLETE account number inside parentheses for a \$50 bill credit. Call 478.986.8126 to claim your credit.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Tri-County EMC. We hope 2025 brings new promise of prosperity, health, and happiness. As always, we are here to serve you.

Ray Grinberg, CEO



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

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Monthly Publication for
Tri-County EMC Members