



Tri-County
EMC

CURRENT LINES

JUNE 2023

THIS MONTH'S NEWS

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100% FIBER INTERNET TO OVER 4,000 HOMES

On the journey to bring broadband availability to every Tri-County EMC member, several milestones were reached in May 2023. With over 1,300 miles of fiber built and twenty-one of thirty zones now lit, over 14,400 of the cooperative's 22,900 electric meters now have service availability at gigabit speed. Mainline construction should be completed by early summer with service available to almost every one of the cooperative's service locations in the fall. (58444001)



"We're pleased with the progress we've made," said Ray Grinberg, Chief Executive Officer of Tri-County EMC. "We made a commitment to our members and to the community to bring world-class broadband to everyone, and that journey is nearing completion. In doing so, we've impacted a lot of lives. We've increased quality of life, brought the ability to work or learn from home, increased property values, encouraged economic development, and also moved the local internet market."

Tri-CoGo, the cooperative's internet affiliate, now has over 4,000 connected internet customers. Each month, Tri-CoGo installs over two hundred new services in homes and businesses throughout the twenty-one areas where service is currently available. According to Greg Mullis, Chief Operating Officer for Tri-CoGo, "It's not 'do I want it?' It's 'when can I get it?'. We have been able to deliver on our promise of broadband for all members at a very high level of technology and customer service."

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100% FIBER INTERNET TO OVER 4,000 HOMES

Continued from Page 1

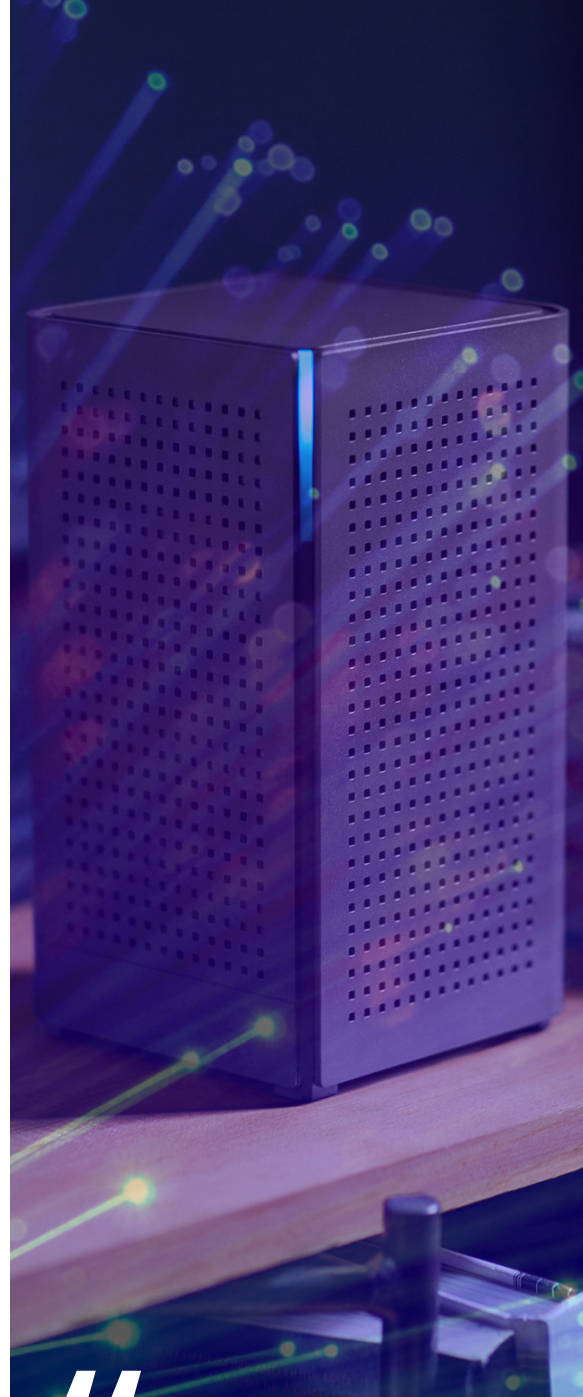
“It’s truly amazing to hear stories of residents who have never been able to work from home, complete schoolwork, or stream a game before getting Tri-CoGo’s fiber,” says Marketing Coordinator Christopher Jackson. “Reliable internet will continue to make a positive impact in our communities for the years to come.



In customer surveys, over 97% of Tri-CoGo customers have said they would recommend the service to friends or associates. Over 98% said their Tri-CoGo service is better than the service from their previous provider. “We deliver a better internet experience,” says Joe Lightsey, Fiber Operations Manager for Tri-CoGo. “The combination of an all-fiber network coupled with our state-of-the-art home routers and extenders brings an all-new level of reliability and performance.”

In addition to service availability, affordability is also of concern. “We’re committed to stable pricing, with no gimmicks and no surprises,” commented Mullis. “But we also want to ensure affordability for every household. That’s why we elected to participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), providing qualifying households with a \$30 per month benefit to assist with internet costs.”

As the mainline fiber construction portion of the project nears completion, Tri-CoGo employees will continue to quickly work to answer the demand to connect new households and businesses. Interested members are encouraged to visit tri-cogo.com to check pricing and availability.



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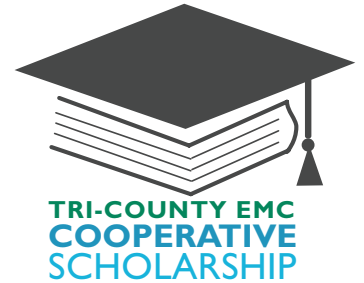
The combination of an all-fiber network coupled with our state-of-the-art home routers and extenders brings an all-new level of reliability and performance.

Joe Lightsey, Fiber Operations Manager

SPRING 2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

COOPERATIVE SCHOLARSHIP

Three students from the Tri-County EMC service area each received the \$2,000 Cooperative Scholarship in June. Funds were awarded based on academics, financial need, and a demonstrated commitment to the community in which they reside.



Mary Dionson is a Senior at Jones County High School planning to attend Georgia State University to obtain a degree in Nursing. Mary is involved in multiple leadership organizations and spends time volunteering for charities such as Jay's Hope and Toys for Tots.



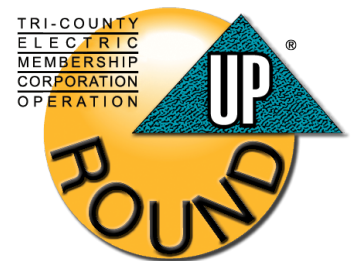
Abigail Varnadoe is a Senior at Jones County High School planning to attend Florida State University to pursue a degree in Music Education and Performance. Abigail is a member of First Baptist Church of Gray, where she is an active participant in her youth group.



Ian Harry is a Senior at Covenant Academy planning to attend Southeastern University to pursue his goal in becoming a Doctor of Physical Therapy. Involved in multiple school sports and clubs, Ian spends his free time serving his community through volunteer work.

OPERATION ROUNDUP SCHOLARSHIP

Two students from the Tri-County EMC service area each received the \$1,000 Operation Roundup Scholarship in June. Funds were awarded based on academics, financial need, and a demonstrated commitment to the community in which they reside. (95503001)



Kaley Barber is currently enrolled at Mercer University where she has recently been accepted into the Master of Family Therapy Program to pursue a career as a Clinical Psychologist. Kaley plans to serve families in her community by offering affordable counseling and treatment services.



Bryce Coker is a Senior at Gatewood School planning to attend the University of North Georgia - Oconee Campus to pursue his goal of obtaining a career in the pharmaceutical field. With a passion to help others, Bryce volunteers his time at the Putnam County Lifesource Food Drive.

RECIPE BOX

BROCCOLI SALAD

Courtesy of Ms. Lisa Cook of Gray

INGREDIENTS

- 5 cups fresh chopped broccoli
- 1 lb. bacon/cooked and crumbled
- 1 cup golden raisins
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 2 tbsp. white wine
- Vinegar (or plain white vinegar)
- 1 red onion, chopped
- 1 cup crushed pecans or walnuts

DIRECTIONS

Place bacon in a large, deep skillet. Cook over medium-high heat until evenly browned. Crumble and set aside.

In a large bowl, combine the broccoli, bacon, onion, nuts, and raisins. Whisk together the mayonnaise, sugar, and vinegar. Pour dressing over broccoli mixture, toss, and chill in refrigerator for a couple of hours.

This tastes just like the broccoli salad sold at Wal-mart delis. (62994001)

Did you know your recipe is worth \$20 if chosen? Send your best recipes to annaj@tri-countyemc.com or mail to P.O. Box 487, Gray, GA 31032.

VISIT OUR ONLINE ENERGY EFFICIENCY CENTER

As Georgia weather continues to get warmer and temperatures spike, it's important to make sure your home is operating as efficiently as possible in order to save money on your electric bill. To learn more about your energy usage, we encourage you to visit tri-countyemc.com and explore our online Energy Efficiency Center.



While there, you can complete a Virtual Energy Assessment, designed to break down your energy usage and pinpoint opportunities for savings. To get the most out of this tool, it's helpful to have been a Tri-County EMC member for at least 12 months to properly analyze billing data. Newer members can keep an eye on their energy usage per kWh with the Usage Graphs on the myTCEMC mobile app or the online Member Portal accessed through the website.

In addition to the Virtual Energy Assessment, our Energy Efficiency Center also offers Space Heater, Appliance, Television and Lighting Calculators that will help determine which areas of your home are using the most energy.

Don't sweat your power bill during high usage months. Beat the heat with the help of our online Energy Efficiency Center. For more easy tips on how to conserve energy in your home, visit tri-countyemc.com/energy-saving-tips.cms.

ACCOUNT NUMBER

Did you find your TCEMC account number? Three random account numbers are hidden in each issue of Current Lines. Find your COMPLETE account number inside parentheses in this issue of Current Lines for a \$50 bill credit. Call us at 478.986.8126 to claim your credit.



Tri-County
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Owned By Those We Serve

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www.tri-countyemc.com

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Monthly Publication for
Tri-County EMC Members