



# CURRENT LINES

NOVEMBER 2025

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Tri-CoGo, [page 1](#)

Election Results, [page 2](#)

LIHEAP, [page 3](#)

Holiday Lighting Tips, [page 3](#)

Save Energy, Not Calories, [page 4](#)

## THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSURES

Both office locations will be closed on November 27 & 28.



## TRI-COGO HITS 10K SUBSCRIBER MILESTONE

Tri-CoGo, fiber affiliate of Tri-County EMC, has officially reached an exciting milestone—**10,000 subscribers**. What began as a vision to bridge the digital divide for rural communities in the Tri-County service area has evolved into Tri-CoGo becoming one of the fastest growing internet service providers (ISPs) in middle Georgia.

“Passing 10,000 subscribers is a meaningful vote of confidence from the communities we serve,” said Greg Mullis, Chief Operating Officer of Tri-CoGo. “We are deeply grateful for the trust our neighbors have placed in us. This milestone reflects the dedication of our employees who show up every day to build a rock-solid fiber network and deliver outstanding customer service. Their commitment to reliability and responsiveness is the reason Tri-CoGo is thriving.”

The success of Tri-CoGo is best told through the words of its customers. Comments from a recent customer survey included, “Tri-CoGo has been an extremely amazing addition to our home,” commented a Jones County customer. “We enjoy the amazing service, the affordable prices, and the superior customer support.”

Tri-CoGo connected its first customer in September 2021 using a 100% fiber network built by Tri-County EMC. That network now spans 1,500+ miles, delivering reliable, high-speed internet to homes and businesses across the cooperative’s eight-county service area. Tri-CoGo will continue to expand its fiber network in new surrounding areas, including downtown Gray. The company’s plans prioritize extending service to underserved neighborhoods and business corridors, with construction in several new areas scheduled over the next year. (67886001)

## CO-OP HOLDS 86TH ANNUAL MEETING

On October 16, Tri-County EMC hosted its 86th Annual Meeting at the Tri-County office in Gray concluding the 2025 Board of Directors' Election. Voting online or by paper ballot, over 1,400 Tri-County EMC members participated in their cooperative's election process. Billy Jerles, Tri-County EMC Board Attorney, reported the following election results: Incumbents Cecil Patterson (Post 3, District 1), Mike Rainey (Post 3, District 2), and Marion Nelson (Post 3, District 3) were re-elected to serve three-year terms on the Tri-County EMC Board of Directors. The 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes were approved with a majority vote. (93217001)



Brenda P. Green

Beginning her address, Brenda P. Green, Chairman of the Tri-County EMC Board of Directors, recognized National Co-op Month. Tri-County EMC is one of more than 900 electric cooperatives across the nation, and one of 41 EMCs in Georgia. Green reported as of September, Tri-County serves 19,073 members across Jones, Putnam, Baldwin, Jasper, Morgan, Bibb, Twiggs, and Wilkinson Counties. Green emphasized that Tri-County is guided by the Seven Cooperative Principles, which sets it apart from other electric utilities. Principle #7, "Concern for Community", is illustrated through Tri-County's Operation Roundup Program, which recently achieved over \$2 million in grants since its establishment in 2001. Green also reported that the cooperative is in sound financial health and good standing with its financial partners. Green informed viewers that the cooperative's top priority is the safety of its employees and members. Tri-County will continue investing in valuable training to ensure the protection of the communities it serves. Green emphasizes that providing safe and reliable power with exceptional service is what Tri-County EMC strives to do each day. With the growth that Georgia is experiencing, Tri-County EMC's energy landscape is constantly evolving. Green announced that Tri-County was recently selected to serve the Publix currently being constructed in the Lake Oconee area of Putnam County. To end her address, Green announced that the Tri-County EMC Board and staff would be meeting next month for strategic planning. "There are many topics to be discussed," expressed Green. "We will approach all of our opportunities and challenges with a visionary outlook as we plan for a bright future for Tri-County."

**WATCH THE ANNUAL MEETING  
ON TCEMC'S YOUTUBE AND  
FACEBOOK PAGES**



Ray Grinberg

To begin his address, CEO Ray Grinberg recalled some major new stories relevant to the energy sector from the past year, including impacts from large loads such as data centers. He addressed concerns on how large industrial loads will impact Tri-County EMC, particularly its members. Grinberg informed members that new power plants are now under construction to help meet the high demand for electricity; however, the plants will not be complete for several years. "Luckily, your EMC has agreed to participate in new generation currently being built by our energy partner, Oglethorpe Power," assured Grinberg. "That plant, which will be located in Smarr, will help meet our future needs for the next 40 to 80 years." Also, Grinberg stated that the board and staff of Tri-County EMC would only agree to serve a data center or any other large load under terms and conditions that protect existing EMC members. Grinberg updated viewers on supply chain issues since the COVID-19 pandemic. While lead times on materials have gone back to normal, inflationary pricing has remained prevalent. Grinberg ensured that Tri-County EMC would maintain its promise of providing safe, reliable power at an affordable cost.



Greg Mullis

Tri-CoGo COO Greg Mullis gave a brief update on the cooperative's internet affiliate. Mullis reported that Tri-CoGo has added nearly 1,700 subscribers in the last year, an increase of about 20%. In September, the subsidiary reached 10,000 subscribers. "We're very proud of this accomplishment," said Mullis. "It's a testament to the value and the reliability that Tri-CoGo provides and the world-class customer service." Mullis also reported an increase in Tri-CoGo's Net Promoter Score (NPS), which is now a 91 and higher than cherished brands such as Starbucks, Amazon, and Chick-fil-A.

## BALLOT DRAWING WINNERS ANNOUNCED

To conclude the meeting, Communications Specialist Anna Smith drew names for bill credits to be distributed to eleven lucky winners. Members who cast their vote in the election were automatically entered for a chance to win. Tri-County EMC member [Harley Wood](#) won the grand prize of a \$500 bill credit. The ten \$50 bill credit winners are listed on the right.

### \$50 BILL CREDIT WINNERS

David Morris  
Georgia Larimore  
Rhonda Dupree  
Tom Dupree  
Robert Duke

James Roberts  
Sarah Waite  
Vickie Tribble  
Carol Epps  
Charles Parham

# LOW INCOME HEATING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (LIHEAP)

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded program that assists low-income households in heating or cooling their homes. The heating assistance application cycle begins November 1. If you are interested in applying, please contact your local Community Action Agency (CAA), listed below. (97884001)

## LIHEAP CONTACTS

### **Bibb County:**

*Macon-Bibb County Economic  
Opportunity Council, Inc.*  
478.738.3240  
maconbibbeoc.com

**Baldwin, Jasper, Putnam,  
Morgan & Wilkinson  
Counties:**

*Overview, Inc.*  
478.453.4111  
overviewinc.com

**Jones & Twiggs Counties:**  
*Middle Georgia Community  
Action Agency, Inc.*  
478.922.4464  
mgcaa.org

## DOCUMENTS TO APPLY

- Most recent cooling bill or statement of service
- Most recent heating bill or statement of service
- Social security cards for each member of the household
- Proof of Citizenship or legal residency for the applicant
- Proof of income for the last 30 days for each adult household member (i.e. paycheck stub or public assistance verification letter)
- Verification of Social Security or unemployment benefits for all applicable household members

# ENERGY-SMART HOLIDAY DECORATING TIPS

The holidays are the season to shine — but your energy bill doesn't have to! With a few bright ideas and a dash of creativity, you can keep your home festive and efficient. Here are some fun ways to deck the halls without dimming your energy savings.

First, swap out old incandescent holiday lights for LED strands. They use up to 75% less energy, last much longer, and stay cool to the touch (a win for safety, too!). Want to take it up a notch? Look for solar-powered or battery-operated lights for outdoor displays. You'll save energy and avoid wrestling with long extension cords.

Timing is everything, even for twinkle lights. Plug your decorations into a timer or smart plug so they automatically turn off when everyone's asleep. No more late-night glow-ups for your front porch snowman! And while you're at it, consider limiting display hours to four or five in the evening — long enough to spread cheer, short enough to keep your meter merry.

Finally, remember that holiday spirit shines brightest in the details. Candles, reflective ornaments, and metallic ribbons can make your décor sparkle without a single watt. A cozy evening glow paired with energy-smart choices means your home will be both festive and efficient — the perfect combination for a joyful season.



# RECIPE BOX

## SWEET POTATO CRESCENT ROLLS

*Courtesy of Georgia Grown*

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 package crescent roll dough
- 3/4 cup mashed sweet potato (about 1 medium potato)
- 1/4 cup cream cheese, softened
- 1 tbsp maple syrup or honey
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 3/4 tsp ground cinnamon, divided
- pinch ground ginger
- 2 tbsp melted butter
- 2 tbsp granulated sugar

### DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Combine sweet potato, cream cheese, maple syrup or honey, 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon, and pinch ground ginger in a medium bowl. Mix all ingredients until smooth and well combined. Set aside.

Open crescent rolls and separate into individual pieces. Divide sweet potato mixture evenly between the dough, about 2 tablespoons each. Spread mixture evenly on dough. Beginning at wider end, roll dough lightly until pointed end is on top. Place on parchment lined baking sheet, then bend slightly to form crescent shape. Combine granulated sugar and 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon. Brush each roll with melted butter, then sprinkle generously with cinnamon sugar. Bake in preheated oven 15 – 18 minutes or until golden. Serve warm.



### DID YOU KNOW?

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

## SAVE ENERGY, NOT CALORIES

The entire holiday season revolves around food. Whether you're cooking a delicious turkey for Thanksgiving lunch or baking Christmas cookies to leave out for Santa, a lot of time and energy is spent in the kitchen. As we approach the holidays, keep these tips in mind to cut down on your power bill.



Match your pan sizes to the burner you're using. Only large pots and pans should be placed on the large burners because any additional space not being used is a waste of energy. Also keep in mind that quality of your cookware also matters. Thick, stainless steel cookware is great for retaining heat.



Clean your stove top burners and oven regularly. We know the last thing you want to worry about after you've cooked a full meal is cleaning up, but food build-up can affect the amount of energy needed to heat up.



Cook with small counter top appliances, such as toaster oven, when possible. Small appliances use less energy than a full-sized oven. If you do have to use your oven, be sure to keep the door closed. Every time you open the door to have a look at your meal's progress, additional energy is used to replace the lost heat.

*From our table to yours, Happy Thanksgiving!*



**Tri-County  
EMC**

**Owned By Those We Serve**

P.O. Box 487  
Gray, GA 31032  
478.986.8100

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