

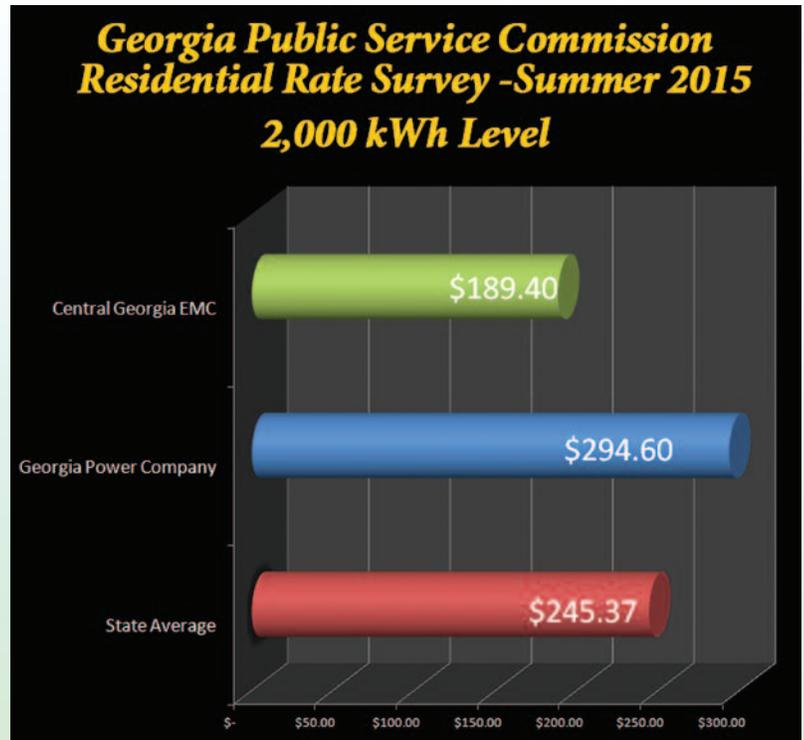


## Central Georgia EMC Remains One of the Lowest-Cost Electric Providers in the State

The Georgia Public Service Commission recently released its Summer 2015 Residential Rate Survey. The survey ranks electric providers throughout Georgia by rates, based on the total electric bill amounts for 2,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh), 1,500 kWh, 1,000 kWh, and 500 kWh. The Summer Residential Rate Survey utilizes the electric rates in effect for July.

Central Georgia EMC ranked as the second lowest-cost electric provider at the 2,000-kWh level and third lowest at the 1,500-kWh level. Subsequently, CGEMC ranked as the seventh lowest at the 1,000-kWh level. The average energy consumption of a CGEMC household in June 2015 was 2,106 kWh.

“CGEMC’s directors and employees strive daily to provide our membership with low-cost, reliable electric service,” says President George L. Weaver. “For many years, we have continued to be one of the lowest-cost providers in the state of Georgia, helping to fulfill our mission.”



In comparison to other electric providers, a CGEMC member who uses 2,000 kWh per month pays \$105.20 less than a Georgia Power Co. customer and \$55.97 less than an average

electric consumer in the state. For more information about the Residential Rate Survey and the Public Service Commission, visit [psc.state.ga.us](http://psc.state.ga.us).

## Celebrate National Cooperative Month

October is National Cooperative Month, and Central Georgia EMC, along with all cooperatives in the U.S., are celebrating the benefits and values that cooperatives bring to their members and communities.

While cooperatives operate in many industries and sectors of the economy, seven cooperative principles set us apart from other businesses:

- Voluntary and open membership
- Democratic member control
- Members’ economic participation



- Autonomy and independence
- Education, training, and information
- Cooperation among cooperatives
- Concern for community



The cooperative business model is unique and rooted in our local communities. Cooperatives help us build a more participatory, sustainable, and resilient economy. Central Georgia EMC is proud to be part of America’s cooperative network, which includes more than 470,000 cooperative businesses.

## CUSTOMERS DUE



2015-3 IH2

Dailey, Erica D.

Farmer, Jessica Nicole

Jacob, Teresa

Justice, Jacob

Haughton, Lyle

House, Sandra E.

Penn, Wylinda

Phung, Thanh

Sears, Clifton Mason

Tate, Jerrica Andrea

Watson, Ray

Wheeler, Jonathan

Willis, Shanerica Z.

Wilkins, Theresa

Williams, Evelyn T.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month



By unplugging unused electronics otherwise known as “energy vampires,” you can save as much as 10 percent on your electric bill.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

# What Is a Cooperative?

BY CARRIANNA SIMMONS

2015 Washington Youth Tour Delegate  
for Central Georgia EMC



Carrianna Simmons

*Cooperative – noun.*

*“An enterprise or organization owned by and operated for the benefit of those using its services.”*

– Merriam-Webster Dictionary

An electric cooperative is defined very simply as a business that is “by the consumer, for the consumer.” But what exactly is an electric cooperative? An electric cooperative is an effort made between a rural community and an electric distribution company, such as Central Georgia EMC, to bring high-quality power service to the consumer at the lowest possible price.

Electric cooperatives are private, independent, nonprofit businesses. The cooperative owners are the consumer; all customers of the cooperative have the power to vote for a local board that is responsible for the well-being of the electric cooperative. One of the most outstanding achievements of electric cooperatives is that they provide energy to areas that are unreachable by a city’s power supplier.



BETH McMILLAN

Ramirra Marshall and Carrianna Simmons pose for a photo during the whirlwind week of the Washington Youth Tour.

Electric cooperatives play a paramount role in the lives of those in rural communities. They provide a benefit for its members in the form of a capital credit refund. This refund rewards members for the success of the electric cooperative, a win-win situation.

An electric cooperative also plays a role in the enhancement of the community. By informing youth about the cooperative, and providing opportunities for self-growth, such as the Washington Youth Tour, they make a positive impact on the lives of future leaders.

Central Georgia EMC also has programs such as Operation Round Up. Customers of Central Georgia EMC have the choice to round up their electricity bill to the nearest dollar. The money collected from rounding up is distributed to support charitable and educational needs of the 14 counties represented by Central Georgia EMC.

Electric cooperatives are truly passionate about making a better tomorrow for my community and other communities around the nation.

# Leaders of Tomorrow Attend the Washington Youth Tour

When 1,700 of America's best and brightest students gathered on June 11-18, 2015, in the nation's capital, they overwhelmingly agreed the Washington Youth Tour (WYT) was the experience of a lifetime.

Electric membership cooperatives across the United States sponsor this leadership event for our youth. This tour provides them a chance to see the political process in action, and to see history come to life through visiting the various monuments and museums in Washington, D.C.

Central Georgia EMC sponsored Carrianna Simmons, of Spalding County, and Ramirra Marshall, of Butts County, as delegates on the 2015 Washington Youth Tour. At the completion of the tour, each was asked about the experience.

## What has the experience of attending the Washington Youth Tour meant to you?

**Carrianna Simmons:** "It has shown me that no matter where you come from, and what you believe in, it is possible to become the closest of friends. I have made friends on the trip that I know will stay with me forever. Leaving them ... was heartbreaking, but I know it is just the beginning."

**Ramirra Marshall:** "I had the time of my life on the WYT. I was able to meet so many incredible people that I know will be there when I need a helping hand. The bonds formed in just a short week are ones I will cherish forever. I love my WYT family."

## What tour stop or activity made the greatest impression on you? Why?

**Carrianna Simmons:** "Visiting Arlington National Cemetery was breathtaking. Every direction I turned, there was stone

after stone representing a life that was lived so that I could have the freedoms that I have. To see everyone's reverence because they understood the magnitude of the cost that the person lying in that grave paid for us."

**Ramirra Marshall:** "The Holocaust Museum. I realized you should always help your fellow man when he is being mistreated. Although he may not have the same beliefs as you, we are all human and must help each other."

## What lesson from the Youth Tour do you think will serve you best in life?

**Carrianna Simmons:** "I learned that first impressions are so important. How you carry yourself and how you portray yourself will affect someone's idea of who you are as a person. They are not often a true description of who you are, but that makes it so much more important that you constantly think about how your actions will affect future relationships and encounters."

## Do you think the Youth Tour will help you become a better leader? If yes, how so?

**Ramirra Marshall:** "Yes, it made me more confident in my abilities as an individual. I was reassured that I have the willpower to be anything I want to be."

The next Washington Youth Tour will be June 9-16, 2016. Qualifications for the Washington Youth Tour are available on the CGEMC website, [www.cgemc.com/washington-youth-tour/](http://www.cgemc.com/washington-youth-tour/) or contact our office at 770-775-7857 for more information.



LOUIS TONSMERE / PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY GAYLE HARTMAN



RODNEY CHRISTOPHER



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Central Georgia EMC is an equal opportunity employer M/F/WH and a drug-free workplace.

News & Views is published and distributed monthly to all members and customers of Central Georgia EMC.

**Editorial Staff**

- Christy Chewning
- Rachael Browning

**Sign Up for E-Bill and Be Registered for a \$100 Bill Credit**

Soon, mailboxes will be full of holiday catalogs and season’s greetings. As you enter into the holiday season, are you looking for ways to simplify your life? Give yourself the gift of E-Bill from Central Georgia EMC this holiday season.

There is no cost associated with switching to E-Bill. When you sign up for E-Bill service, a paper bill will no longer be sent in the mail each month. Instead, you will receive the bill directly in your email inbox. The monthly News and Views newsletter will arrive at the beginning of each month in a separate email.

Multiple payment options are available. You can mail in the amount due, pay online with your credit or debit card, by phone through the Tele-Link system, or utilize our automated draft or automated credit card payment option.

When viewing your bill through the E-Bill notice, you also can view account information and pay your bill in the CGEMC Customer Portal, which is available 24 hours a day. In the Customer Portal, you will have access to information regarding your current bill, payment history, daily electricity use, and the ability to set up account alerts.

To start managing your account online, sign up through the CGEMC Customer Portal by clicking on the first tab on the portal entitled New User. Once you have successfully logged in the Customer Portal, to set up E-bill, you may click on the third tab, My Account, and choose E-Notifications, then E-bill. You may also contact CGEMC at *ebill@cgemc.com*. Please include your CGEMC account number, and the first and last name on the account.

Central Georgia EMC is encouraging all members to sign up for E-bill, our paperless billing solution. All active E-Bill users on December 21, 2015, are eligible for a drawing for one of five \$100 electric bill credits. CGEMC will announce winners on the co-op’s website at *www.cgemc.com*.

**Security Lighting brings convenience, safety, and security**

- Convenience** Enjoy extended outdoor hours. Photo-electrically controlled lights automatically turn on at dusk and off at dawn.
- Safety** Accidents do happen, but you can reduce the risk by having well-lighted sidewalks, driveways, and footpaths.
- Security** Lighting, in dark areas, discourages suspicious or criminal activity and brings you peace of mind.

CGEMC offers a variety of outdoor lighting choices to meet residential, commercial, and industrial needs. A flat monthly rate covers energy and includes the automatically controlled lamp and fixture.

Security Lighting	100W	250W
Overhead per month	\$9.00	\$12.00
Underground per month	\$13.00	\$15.50
Pole charge per month (if pole must be installed)	\$2.00	
Installation cost to dig to closest source	\$2.00 per foot	

For more information on security lighting, visit our website at *www.cgemc.com/security-lighting/* or call us at 770-775-7857.