



# Plugged in to Altamaha EMC

*Serving: Toombs, Montgomery, Emanuel, Treutlen, Laurens, Johnson and Tattnall*



## 2021 Annual Meeting

Altamaha EMC will hold our 2021 annual meeting on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at Southeastern Technical College in Vidalia. Due to rising positive COVID-19 cases in our area, we will practice social distancing guidelines as outlined by the CDC and limit person-to-person contact by using a “drive-through” format for this year’s meeting. The format will be the same as our 2020 annual meeting.

Members will enter the access route using Pete Phillips Drive (between Walmart and Southeastern Technical College). Employees will direct traffic to the registration area. Members will remain in their vehicles for the entire meeting.

During the registration process, members will receive the ever-popular bucket of goodies and snacks and cast their votes to approve the minutes from the 2020 annual meeting and for election of directors. Music and information will be broadcast over a designated radio station in advance of the business meeting. The business meeting will begin at 2:30 pm and will be broadcast over the designated radio station.

Concern for the health and safety of our members and employees is our utmost priority. More details regarding the annual meeting will be mailed to our members closer to the date. We look forward to seeing you (at a distance) on November 3, 2021.





# Restoring power after an outage

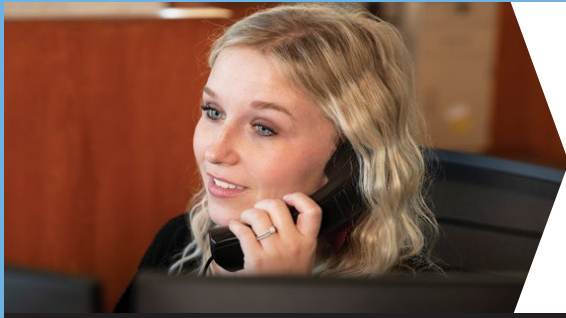
**W**hen your power goes out, it's typically restored quickly. But when a major ice storm, tornado or other natural disaster causes widespread damage, extended outages may occur.

Restoring power after a major outage involves more than removing a few trees and throwing a switch. Line crews work long, hard hours—often in bad weather and rough terrain—to repair electric systems after major devastation.

The mission of Altamaha EMC is to provide safe, reliable and affordable service to our members.

"We all need electricity to keep our daily lives running, which is why Altamaha EMC's goal is always to restore power as safely and quickly as possible," says Romanous Dotson, Altamaha EMC CEO/General Manager. "Electric cooperatives follow a restoration plan that restores power to the greatest number of people in the shortest amount of time, never stopping work until the very last outage is restored."

Work to repair the electric system and restore power follows a process similar to the one outlined here.



**1**

## Outages reported

Call Altamaha EMC at 912-526-8181, 1-800-822-4563, or use your mobile app to report an outage. We are prepared to take your calls, but remember a major outage can affect thousands of members so we appreciate your patience.

If you or a family member depends on life support that is jeopardized by the loss of electricity, alert Altamaha EMC as soon as possible. Don't wait until an outage occurs! We will make every effort to restore your power quickly, but sometimes damage up the line must be restored first in order to complete restoration at your home. Always be prepared with an alternate plan to leave your home in case of an emergency.

**2**

## High-voltage transmission lines

Transmission towers and power lines supply electricity to one or more local distribution substations. These towers and lines seldom fail, but they can be damaged in severe storms. When damaged, they must be repaired first in order for other parts of the system to operate.



**3**

## Distribution substations

Local distribution substations can provide power to hundreds or thousands of members. In the event of a major outage, line crews inspect substations first to determine whether problems stem from high-voltage transmission lines feeding into the substation, the substation itself or something farther down the line. If the problem can be corrected at the substation, power may be restored to many members.



**4**

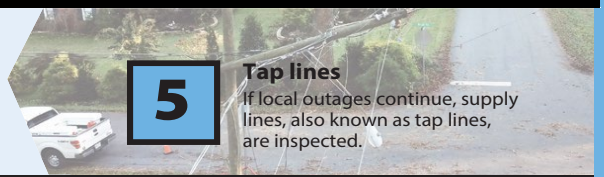
## Main distribution lines

If the problem can't be isolated at the substation, main distribution supply lines are checked next.

**5**

## Tap lines

If local outages continue, supply lines, also known as tap lines, are inspected.



**6**

## Individual homes

Sometimes, damage occurs on the service line between a home and the transformer on a nearby utility pole. This can explain why you don't have power when your neighbor does. Always call to report an outage to help line crews isolate local issues like these. While our crews repair all power lines and equipment leading to homes or businesses, members themselves, not the co-op, are responsible for damage to any equipment at the building other than the meter. You'll need to call a licensed electrician for those repairs.



**7**

## Work until power is restored

During a major outage, other electric cooperatives often send line crews to assist Altamaha EMC with restoring power. These crews all work together to return life to normal as quickly as possible.

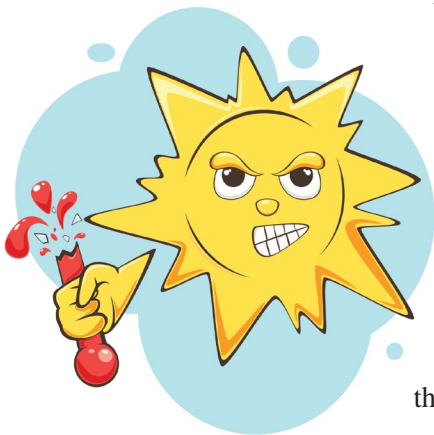
Lineworkers who brave the elements to restore power after an outage put their safety and the safety of those they serve first. The work around-the-clock to get the power grid back up and running."



# Keep Cool During August Heat

It's a good idea to find some energy-friendly ways to keep cool during August, which can be the hottest month of the year. Here are five tips:

- **Take cool showers.** If your house isn't cold—and there's no reason it should be, even with the A/C on—ease up on the hot showers. A cool shower will lower your body temperature and get you just as clean.
- **Chill the meal plan.** Instead of baking, broiling, boiling, sautéing and frying every night, how about chopping fresh veggies, making colorful salads and satisfying your family's hunger with healthy, raw foods that will fill them up and give your stove and oven a break? Cold desserts? That's the easy part.



- **Filter the sun.** Install solar screens or window films on east- and west-facing windows so you can keep the heat out while allowing light in.
- **Seal leaks and cracks.** You'll find them all over your home—around windows, doors, and electrical and cable outlets. It's easy to caulk and weatherstrip, and it's an activity you can do with your children while you teach them to use energy responsibly.
- **Schedule a checkup.** Even if you skipped your A/C unit's spring maintenance, schedule it now. Your HVAC tech can tell you if your unit is running efficiently—and can tweak it so it does. It's important to raise the thermostat a bit during the summer—but also to make sure the cool air that does come into the home gets there efficiently.

## Electrical safety basics for back to school

As children head back to school, parents can teach them a valuable, potentially life-saving lesson: RESPECT ELECTRICITY. Here are five electrical safety basics every child should know:

1. Mixing water and electricity can harm you. Teach children not to use electrical toys or other devices near water or in the rain.
2. Electrical outlets have limits. Plugging multiple devices into a single outlet or power strip can create sparks and even cause a fire if that outlet can't handle the load. Teach kids to plug in to surge-protected power strips or to use one device at a time and unplug the rest.
3. When they unplug those devices, they should grab them by the plug, not the cord. Yanking a cord out of an electrical outlet can damage the appliance, the outlet or the plug, leaving the appliance or toy unable to operate safely.
4. Flying kites and climbing trees are never safe activities near power lines. If a tree has a power line running through it—or if it's even within reach of the line—that's not a safe place to play. If a kite gets caught in a power line, the child should not tug on it to get it loose. The string could conduct electricity and seriously hurt the child.
5. Electrical substations are fenced off to keep children and pets out. If a toy or small pet gets inside of the fence, the child should tell a parent or teacher, who can call a trained worker to come and retrieve it.



# Annual Meeting Information and Director Election Process

*Altamaha EMC will hold its 2021 annual meeting at Southeastern Technical College in Vidalia, Georgia, on Wednesday, November 3, 2021. Official notice of the time, date and place will be provided to each member in advance of the meeting. Director elections will be held at the annual meeting for District 1, comprised of the cooperative's service territory within Toombs and Tattnall Counties, District 2 comprised of the cooperative's service territory within Treutlen County and District 4 comprised of the cooperative's service territory within Emanuel County. The following is a summary of the provisions of the cooperative's bylaws pertaining to the process for election of directors:*

### Section 3.03 Qualifications of Directors.

Qualifications to become or remain a nominee or a director of the cooperative: Must be eighteen (18) years old or older on the date of election. Must be a member and bona fide resident of the district represented and receive service from the cooperative at his or her primary residence. May not, within five (5) years prior to the election, have been an employee of the cooperative. May not be a close relative of any person who is an employee or director of the cooperative. May not be employed by or hold a financial interest in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the cooperative. May not be the incumbent of or candidate for a salaried elective public office. May not have been convicted of a felony.

### Section 3.04 Nominations by Nominating Committee.

The Board of Directors appoints a nominating committee comprised of independent members of the cooperative. The nominating committee meets not less than sixty five (65) days prior to the annual meeting and nominates one or more candidates for the directorships that are to be filled at the annual meeting. Written notice of the names of the members of the committee and the meeting date for the committee will be provided to the members prior to their meeting and shall be posted at the cooperative's headquarters.

### Section 3.05 Nominations by petition.

Other nominations for director elections may be made by written petition signed by not less than one hundred (100) members which shall be submitted to the Secretary of the cooperative or his nominee not less than forty five (45) days prior to such meeting.

### Section 3.06 Posting of the notice of nominees.

The Secretary shall be responsible for posting at the headquarters of the Cooperative the nominees for the election made by the nominating committee and by petition and if feasible, shall include same in the notice to the members for the meeting at which the election is to be held.

### Section 3.07 Restrictions on Other Nominations.

Except in the event that all candidates nominated by the nominating committee and petition are deceased, or withdrawn in writing from candidacy prior to the election, no other nominations shall be in order.

### Section 3.08 Election procedures.

Directors shall be elected by a plurality vote of those members from the applicable voting district, or those authorized to vote for them pursuant to Section 2.05 of these bylaws as set out below, at the meeting in which the election is to be held. Should two or more candidates tie for the highest vote, then run-off ballots shall be taken among them.

### Section 2.05 Representation of Members.

Unless it is made to appear otherwise by writing executed by the member and filed with the Secretary or his designate prior to a meeting of the members, a person eighteen (18) years of age or older residing in the primary residential abode of the member, who presents himself or herself to the Secretary, or his designated registrar(s), prior to a meeting of the members, as a representative of such member, shall be deemed to act and vote for the member he purports to represent and in as full and ample manner as if the member had been present and personally acting at the meeting. The presence of the member purported to be represented by such person shall, however, revoke the authority hereby created and only the member shall be entitled to act and vote at such meeting. Except as is expressly provided for herein, no other person shall have the authority to represent, act or vote for any member at a meeting of the members.

### Section 2.07 Credentials and Election Committee.

Section 2.07 of the bylaws provides for a committee of not less than five (5) nor more than fifteen (15) independent members to oversee the nominating, registration and election processes and to resolves disputes relating to same.

**2021 Nominating Committee:** The Nominating Committee is scheduled to meet at the headquarters office in Lyons on Tuesday, August 17, 2021. This committee consists of the following members: Chris Hopkins, James Robert Jones, Chris Braddy, Gary J. Walden, Harold Ricks and Billy G. Holder.







# Member RECIPES

## Georgia Blueberry and Peach Crisp With Vanilla

### Ingredients

1-1/2 cups peaches, peeled, pitted  
2 cups Georgia blueberries  
1/2 teaspoon lemon zest  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
1 fresh vanilla bean, seeds scraped  
(*save the bean shell for another use*)  
3/4 cup oats  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1/4 cup white sugar  
3/4 cup all-purpose flour  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
2 tablespoons sesame seeds  
1/4 cup pecans, chopped or crushed  
1/4 pound unsalted butter  
Vanilla ice cream, for serving

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a large mixing bowl, toss the peaches, blueberries, lemon zest, lemon juice and seeds from the vanilla bean. Pour the mixture into an 8-inch square baking dish and set aside. Place the oats, sugars, flour, salt, cinnamon, sesame seeds and pecans in a mixing bowl and cut in the butter using a pastry cutter. (Alternately, you can pulse these ingredients in a food processor until the butter is well incorporated.) Crumble the mixture over the fruit and place the dish in the oven. Cook approximately 30 minutes or until bubbly and browned. When done, remove the crisp from the oven and let cool for 10 minutes. To serve, place a scoop of the warm crisp into bowls and top each with a scoop of vanilla ice cream. Serves 6.

*Recipe courtesy of the Georgia Blueberry Commission and  
Chef Hugh Acheson*

Each month, our newsletter features recipes submitted by our members. If you have a favorite recipe and would like to share it with other readers in the Altamaha EMC service area, send a copy, complete with name, address and daytime phone number to: Tammye Vaughn, Altamaha EMC, P.O. Box 346, Lyons, GA 30436. Each month, a recipe will be selected for publication. The member who submitted the featured recipe will be given a \$10 credit on their next Altamaha EMC bill. Due to limited space, not all recipes received will be featured. Recipes printed in *Plugged In* are not independently tested; therefore, we must depend on the accuracy of those members who send recipes to us.