



Plugged in to Altamaha EMC | Fiber

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



Fiber Internet and the Impact it Could Have on Your Home Value

As homes become increasingly smarter, the demand for faster and more reliable internet connections has never been higher, powering a variety of connected devices for work, virtual learning, and online gaming. Fiber-optic internet has emerged as the optimal choice for today's connectivity needs, offering not only high performance but also contributing to increased home values.

According to a study by the Fiber Broadband Association, properties equipped with fiber internet can experience a notable 3.1% rise in value. For a \$300,000 home, this translates to a substantial boost of over \$9,000. Additionally, homes with one gigabit-per-second broadband saw transaction prices over 7% higher compared to those with speeds of 25 Mbps or lower.

Fiber internet from providers like Altamaha EMC/Fiber brings several advantages. With symmetrical speeds of up to one gigabit per second, it ensures fast and accurate data transmission over long distances. This results in seamless streaming, high-definition video calls, and lag-free online gaming.

Moreover, fiber can accommodate multiple connected devices simultaneously, allowing every household member to work, play, and stream without interruptions. As remote work becomes increasingly prevalent, a robust

internet connection is crucial for productivity and uninterrupted video conferencing.

Fiber internet stands out from traditional cable internet, which relies on copper wires susceptible to weather conditions and distance limitations. Fiber-optic cables, on the other hand, are robust, weather-resistant, and more durable, using small glass fibers to transmit data via light pulses at significantly faster speeds.

When considering fiber options, it's essential to understand the distinction between Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP) and Fiber-to-the-Curb (FTTC). Altamaha EMC/Fiber, as a fiber internet provider, offers FTTP connections, bringing fiber directly into your home for a dedicated and powerful internet experience. In contrast, FTTC involves installing the fiber link up to the curb outside your house, with a cable carrying the signal into your residence. While FTTC is cost-effective, FTTP provides superior network performance, ensuring a reliable and high-speed internet connection.

For those seeking lightning-fast and reliable internet, Altamaha EMC/Fiber offers FTTP connections, delivering both connectivity and added value to your home. Check if Altamaha EMC/Fiber internet is available in your area to experience the benefits of fiber-optic connectivity.



Walter Harrison Scholarship Applications Now Available

Altamaha EMC is currently accepting applications for the Walter Harrison Scholarship, a program sponsored by Georgia’s electric cooperatives.

The \$1,000 scholarship can be applied to academic expenses at any accredited two- or four-year university, college or vocational-technical institute in Georgia. Factors for consideration include grade point average, SAT scores, academic standing, scholastic honors, and financial need. A scholarship committee comprised of EMC directors and managers selects students who exceed in these areas and who struggle with college expenses. Fifteen scholarships will be awarded statewide in early spring of 2024.

Students who apply for the scholarship must live in the household of an Altamaha EMC member. Applicants must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited undergraduate degree program. They also must complete an application and write a biographical sketch which provides a preview of their future plans.

Created in 1985 by the board of directors of Georgia EMC, the scholarship pays tribute to the late Walter Harrison, a pioneer in the rural electricity movement and a leader at local, state and national levels in the electric cooperative program. Since 1985, Georgia’s electric cooperatives have awarded more than \$250,000 to students via the Walter Harrison Scholarship program.

Applications are available for download on our website. You can also request an application by contacting Will NeSmith via email at will.nesmith@altamahaemc.com or call 912-526-2173. Completed applications are due by January 26, 2024.



Foundation Scholarship Applications Now Available

Four scholarships, worth \$1,000 each, will be awarded to local students in March 2024. The Altamaha EMC Foundation Scholarship program was founded in an effort to help local students further their education. The scholarships are funded entirely by members’ donations through Operation Round Up. Applicants must be a high school senior and live in the household of an Altamaha EMC member.

Applications are available on our website, www.altamahaemc.com. You can also request an application by contacting Will NeSmith via email at will.nesmith@altamahaemc.com or call 912-526-2173.

Scholarships will be awarded based on academic ability and financial need. Winners will be announced in March 2024. Completed applications are due by February 29, 2024.



Your Pennies at Work: Operation Round-Up Nurturing Leaders and Enhancing Safety



The Altamaha EMC Foundation proudly highlights two impactful grants, showcasing its commitment to education, leadership development, and community safety.

Montgomery County FFA: Cultivating Leaders

The Altamaha EMC Foundation’s grant enabled Montgomery County FFA officers to attend the FFA National Convention in Indianapolis, fostering leadership skills and providing exposure to the national agricultural landscape. This investment not only enriched the officers’ education but also contributed to the broader development of Montgomery County. The convention served as a unique platform for networking with fellow members nationwide, learning from the National FFA Officer Team, and participating in leadership workshops. Furthermore, the grant facilitated valuable agricultural operations tours in Indiana, exposing the officers to diverse perspectives within the industry. By supporting the future leaders of Montgomery County, the foundation’s contribution extends beyond the educational realm, actively shaping the local community’s trajectory.

Treutlen County Library System: Safety Through Technology

Prioritizing community safety, the Altamaha EMC Foundation awarded a \$5,000 grant to the Treutlen County Library System for a new camera system in its circulation area. This contribution ensures



a secure environment, reinforcing the library’s role as a cornerstone of education and resources within the community. The grant not only

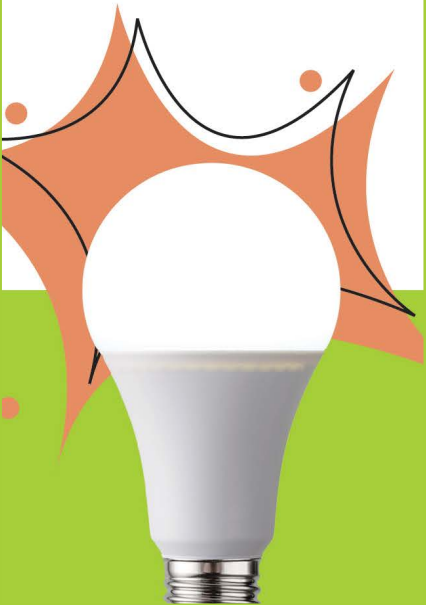
addresses immediate safety concerns but also strengthens the library’s capacity to serve as a hub for learning and community engagement. By investing in the technology infrastructure of community institutions like libraries, the foundation actively contributes to the overall resilience and vitality of Treutlen County.

In conclusion, the Altamaha EMC Foundation’s dedication to education and community safety is evident through these impactful grants. By supporting the Montgomery County FFA and the Treutlen County Library System, the foundation’s contributions serve as investments in the future and wellbeing of the local community, showcasing the tangible impact of every Operation Round-Up penny at work.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Area rugs are an easy, cost-effective solution to cold floors. Adding area rugs to hard-surface flooring can add warmth to any room and keep your feet cozy on cold winter days.

Choose rugs made from wool or other natural fibers and plush or high-pile textures for the most insulation. Place rugs in areas where you need additional warmth, like the foot of a bed or under a coffee table. Area rugs can enhance the aesthetic of your home and keep you cozier.



CRITICAL CONNECTIONS: HOW ELECTRICITY GETS TO YOU

The electric grid is considered one of the most complex machines in the world, delivering the electricity we need for everyday life.

step 1

GENERATION

Power plants generate electricity using a variety of energy sources, like solar, natural gas, nuclear and wind energy.

step 2

STEP-UP TRANSFORMER

A step-up transformer increases the voltage to push the electricity over long distances.

step 3

TRANSMISSION LINES

High-voltage electricity travels over long distances through these lines.

step 5

DISTRIBUTION SUBSTATION

These substations lower the voltage again so the electricity is ready to travel on distribution lines.

step 6

DISTRIBUTION LINES

Lower-voltage electricity travels through distribution lines, like the ones you typically see on the side of the road.

step 4

TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION

Voltage is lowered at a transmission substation so electricity can travel across the local distribution system.

step 7

FINAL STOP

A transformer located on the ground or a utility pole reduces the voltage a final time, then electricity is sent inside your home, school or business.



ALTAMAHA
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Member RECIPES

Chocolate Bourbon Pecan Pie Bars

Courtesy of Georgia Grown

CRUST INGREDIENTS:

8 ounces unsalted butter
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 cups all-purpose flour



TOPPING INGREDIENTS

3/4 cup sorghum syrup
3/4 cup light brown sugar
2 farm eggs
2 tablespoons butter, melted
1 tablespoons vanilla extract
1 ounce ASW Resurgens Rye bourbon
2 1/2 cups pecan pieces
4 ounces chocolate chips

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a 9×13-inch baking dish with parchment paper and spray with cooking spray. Brown butter in a pan, about 5-8 minutes over medium-high heat. Allow to cool for 5 minutes. In a large bowl, combine browned butter, sugar, vanilla and salt. Mix together. Gradually stir in flour until mixture is crumbly and begins to stick together. Press into the bottom of prepared pan and bake for 15 minutes. Meanwhile, whisk sorghum syrup, brown sugar, eggs, melted butter, vanilla and bourbon together in a medium bowl. When crust has finished baking, remove from oven and sprinkle chocolate chips and pecan pieces evenly over the crust. Pour sugar mixture over pecans and chocolate, and spread evenly and gently with a spatula over the crust. Return to oven and bake for 30 minutes. Remove from oven and cover with foil, then return to oven and bake 10 minutes longer. Remove from oven and allow to cool. Chill in refrigerator for 2 hours, then cut into bars and serve. Makes 9 dessert-sized bars or 18 snacking bars.

*For recipes from farms and producers
across our state, visit
www.georgiagrown.com*