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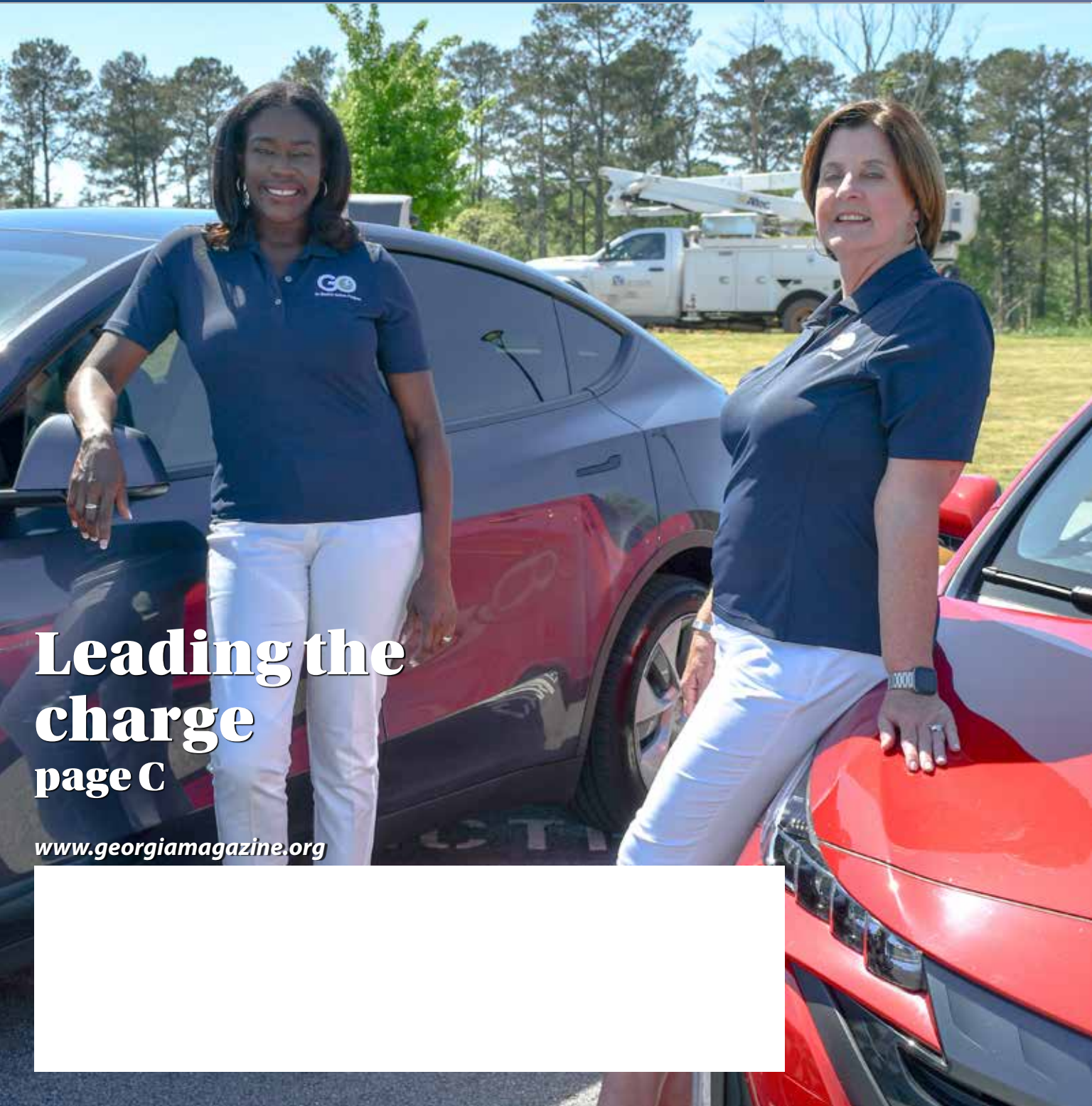
Georgia[®]

MAGAZINE

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JUNE 2023



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www.georgiamagazine.org



Photo Credit: Robb Maag

MILLER'S MINUTE

OUR GO PROGRAM

With electric vehicles on the rise, GreyStone Power wants to be a resource for our members who are exploring EVs or are ready to make the leap. Last year, we launched our electric vehicle program, GO, an initiative to educate and engage with members on all things electric vehicle related.

Based on a recent survey of our members, many are not ready for the transition from gasoline-powered vehicles to electric or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. But for those who would like to learn more, GreyStone offers information and tools on our website, including a savings calculator, charger finder and facts that could help you determine if an EV suits your lifestyle. Visit www.greystonepower.com/ev to learn more.

In this issue, you can learn more about why one of our board members decided to purchase an electric vehicle, while another chose a plug-in hybrid EV. For those members who are already EV owners, GreyStone offers a Level 2 EV charger incentive for approved equipment. As your local electric cooperative, we can be your trusted energy advisor on all things EV.

- Gary

Gary Miller,
President/CEO

The GreyStone Connection, which wraps Georgia Magazine, is a quarterly newsletter published by GreyStone Power to keep you informed about the cooperative you own.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Johns, Chairman, District 8, Douglas County

Genevieve Cole, Vice Chairman, District 1, Paulding and Bartow counties

David Hagenow, Secretary-Treasurer, District 3, Douglas and Paulding counties

John Walton, District 2, Paulding County

Neal Dettmering, District 4, Carroll and Douglas counties

Billy Mayhew, District 5, Carroll and Douglas counties

Maribeth Wansley, District 6, Fulton, Fayette and Coweta counties

Milton Jones, District 7, Fulton County

Charisse Braxton, District 9, Cobb County

LOCATION

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Hiram, GA 30141

CONTACT US

Main 770-942-6576

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OTHER WAYS WE SERVE YOU

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Go Energy Financial Credit Union, 470-514-3000

Operation Round Up®, 770-370-2080

SurgeMaster Plus, 770-370-2070

Cooperative Solar, 770-370-2070

DOWNLOAD OUR APP

The GreyStone Power app allows you to pay your bill, view billing history and electricity use, and verify payments. This secure app also allows members to view an outage map and report outages. Download the app from the App Store or Google Play on your mobile devices.

FIND THE BOLT AND ENTER TO WIN!

Find the hidden lightning bolt (⚡) in the following GreyStone pages and send us an email to MemberMatters@greystonepower.com with the subject line: Find the Bolt!

Include the following information in the email: the page you found the lightning bolt on, your full name, your phone number and your member account number. You will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 Visa gift card.

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GreyStone Power Vice President of Engineering Nadia Faucette discusses GreyStone's fiber subsidiary, GreyStone Connect.

GREYSTONE NEWS

GREYSTONE CONNECT

GreyStone Power has unveiled its fiber subsidiary, GreyStone Connect, an entity which will deliver high-speed fiber internet access for unserved and underserved GreyStone Power members starting in early 2024.

The project, initially announced in November 2022, will span approximately 400 miles of aerial and underground fiber to unserved and underserved GreyStone Power members in areas of southern Fulton County, southern Douglas County, portions of eastern Carroll County and a small section of southern Paulding County.

"We're thrilled to officially unveil the name of our new fiber subsidiary—GreyStone Connect," says Nadia Faucette, GreyStone Power vice president of engineering. "We've been working hard behind the scenes on this project, not only getting ready for the soon-to-be constructed network, but also on ensuring our members see that GreyStone Connect is an extension of GreyStone Power. This reinforces our commitment that our fiber customers will be served under the same guiding principles of the cooperative."

GreyStone Connect's multimillion-dollar pilot project will begin construction later in 2023 with the first members expected to be connected in 2024. Learn more at greystoneconnect.com.

Save the date for Annual Meeting!

Mark your calendars and save the date for the GreyStone Power Annual Meeting of Members, which will take place on Saturday, Oct. 14! The co-op plans to host the event in person at the new headquarters located at 3400 Hiram Douglasville Hwy., Hiram. Members can expect food, games and family-friendly entertainment!

The business portion of the meeting starts at 11 a.m. and will include reports of officers, directors and President/CEO Gary Miller. To learn about the latest updates and registration information, stay tuned to our website and Facebook page.





Members of the GreyStone Power GO team with their personal EVs.

LEADING THE CHARGE

With more and more electric vehicles (EVs) filling up our roadways, you may have been wondering if an electric vehicle is right for you. In an effort to continually meet the needs of our members, GreyStone Power has launched GO.

GO is GreyStone's electric vehicle program, an initiative to educate and engage with members on all things electric vehicle related. GO was launched by a team of GreyStone employees, many of whom are EV owners themselves, working together to gather research and information about EVs to better educate our members.

For those who are unfamiliar with EVs or don't know where to start, the transition from a gas-powered vehicle can be daunting, but your co-op is here to help. GreyStone offers members a wide range of information at greystonepower.com/ev. In addition, GreyStone offers members a Residential Electric Vehicle rate as well as an EV charger rebate. For further discounts, GreyStone members are eligible for discounted Level 2 chargers at greystonepowermarketplace.com.

For more information and resources about battery electric vehicles (BEVs), plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) and hybrid electric vehicles (HEVs) and if they are right for you and your household, please visit greystonepower.com/ev.

Charisse Braxton, GreyStone Power Board Director, District 9: Cobb

How long have you had your EV? *Purchased Dec. 8, 2022*

What model of EV do you have? *Tesla Model Y*

What prompted you to purchase an EV? *I drive over 80 miles round trip daily. My furthest office is in Coweta County, over 50 miles away from my home one way. I would frequently need to fill up my gas tank, spending almost \$400-\$500 a month on gas. Thought I would give an EV a try to avoid spending so much on gas.*

What has been the biggest benefit to you from owning an EV? *The cost of gas versus charging my EV has been the biggest benefit. Also, I am not concerned about an oil change. The Tesla Model Y has built-in safety features, and the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) named it a Top Safety Pick+ (TSP+), the organization's highest level of recognition.*

What would you say to someone who is considering purchasing an EV? *I would encourage them to give it a try if they drive as many miles as I do daily. You don't have to go to a gas station unless you want a cup of coffee! It handles very well. With all of the safety features, I would love to be able to buy one for my teenager as a new driver.*



Maribeth Wansley, GreyStone Power Board Director, District 6: Fulton, Fayette, Coweta

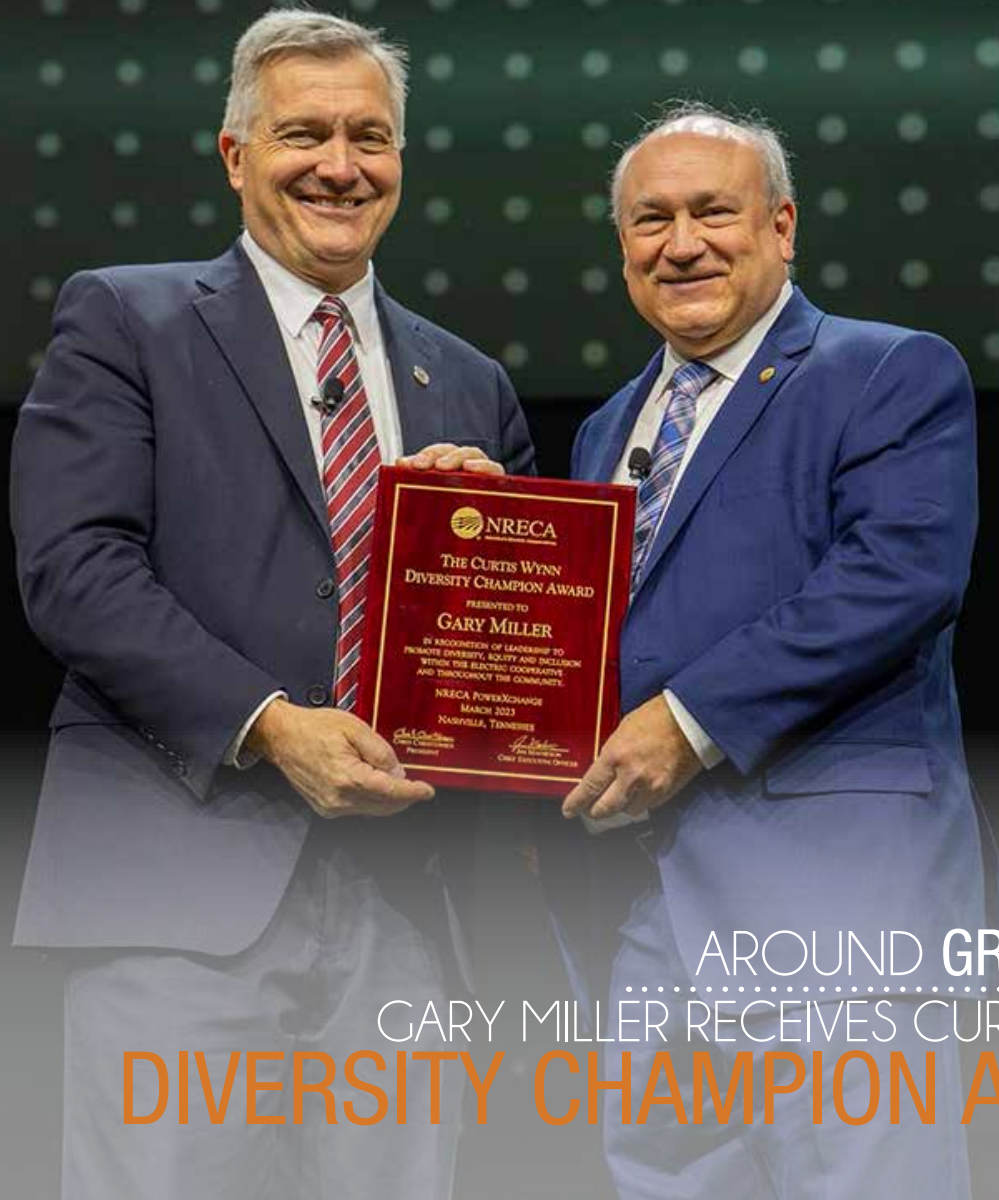
How long have you had your PHEV? *My husband and I bought our PHEV in the summer of 2020.*

What model of PHEV do you have? *Toyota Prius Prime*

What prompted you to purchase a PHEV? *We are interested in doing what we can for the environment and purchasing a PHEV was a good move. We didn't go for a battery electric vehicle (BEV) because the fast-charging infrastructure was not yet in place where we live or on our route during frequent trips to south Georgia.*

What has been the biggest benefit to you from owning a PHEV? *We seldom need to buy gas because the majority of our driving is within our battery's 30-mile range. We charge the battery with a 110V plug-in cord, so our cost to drive 30 miles is less than a dollar! If we take a longer trip, the car's gas hybrid mode takes over, with a mileage of approximately 60 miles per gallon.*

What would you say to someone who is considering purchasing a PHEV? *The plug-in hybrid system provides all the benefits of BEVs, but with no range limitations. If you are wanting to dip your toe into the EV water before diving in, then a hybrid may be for you.*



AROUND GREYSTONE GARY MILLER RECEIVES CURTIS WYNN DIVERSITY CHAMPION AWARD

GreyStone Power President/CEO Gary Miller has won the new Curtis Wynn Diversity Champion Award, which recognizes individuals who make outstanding contributions to lead and promote diversity, equity and inclusion within their co-ops.

Steve Goodson, vice president of communications and business strategy at Jones-Onslow Electric Membership Corp. in Jacksonville, North Carolina, has also received the award.

The award is named in honor of NRECA's president from 2019 to 2021. Wynn is currently the CEO of SECO Energy in Sumterville, Florida, and previously served as president and CEO of Roanoke Electric Cooperative in Aulander, North Carolina.

"Gary and Steve have prioritized the integration of diversity, equity and inclusion at their cooperatives, with the understanding that significant change requires bold leadership that is not afraid to ask for help, seek

understanding or pick up the mantle," says NRECA President Chris Christensen.

"They also recognized the imperative of engaging all employees, encouraging them to share their unique perspectives and ideas without fear of judgment. By creating a safe space for diversity of thought, they created the space necessary for a culture of DEI to flourish."

Miller says he is "deeply honored to be the first recipient of the Curtis Wynn Diversity Championship Award."

"DEI is an integral part of the success GreyStone Power has experienced," Miller says. "The diverse backgrounds, experiences and opinions of our team are assets that we've been able to leverage in making good decisions for our members and building a positive, inclusive work environment. We have been striving for our leadership to reflect the diverse communities we serve, and this award feels like validation that we are on the right track."



BOARD ELECTIONS

Three seats on the GreyStone Board of Directors are up for election in 2023. The winners will be announced Saturday, Oct. 14, at the Annual Meeting of Members.

HOW TO BECOME A CANDIDATE

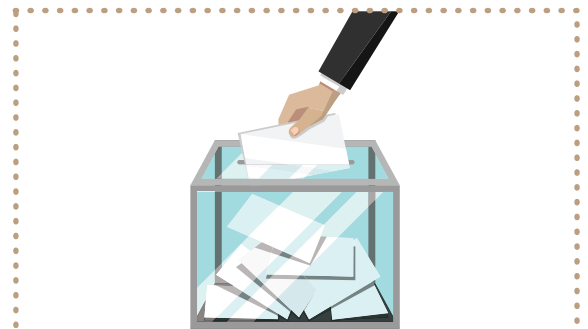
Eligible members may become a candidate by being selected by the GreyStone Nominating Committee or by nomination by petition of members. Directors seeking re-election this year are John Walton in District 2 (Paulding County); Maribeth Wansley in District 6 (Fulton, Fayette and Coweta counties); and Milton Jones in District 7 (Fulton County).

The deadline has passed to be nominated by the Nominating Committee, but eligible members may still run by petition. An eligible member may be nominated by submitting a petition signed by 50 or more GreyStone members of record (the name must appear on the electric bill). The petition, along with a Candidate Affidavit, must be submitted by Thursday, July 6. Forms for petitions and the affidavit can be found at greystonepower.com/board-elections.

NOMINEE REQUIREMENTS

All nominees are subject to a criminal and financial background check, must live within the geographic boundary of the district they seek to represent, have no more than three late payments in the last two years and must meet all other conditions of eligibility.

Candidates desiring to have their name and biographical information included in the Annual Meeting ballot edition of *Georgia Magazine* must submit information in the format and manner required by the Credentials and Elections Committee by Thursday, July 6. If you are unable to determine the district in which you reside, or need additional information, call GreyStone's independent legal counsel, Steve Minor, at 770-214-5108.



DIRECTORS NOMINATED FOR RE-ELECTION THIS YEAR

John Walton in District 2 (Paulding County); Maribeth Wansley in District 6 (Fulton, Fayette and Coweta counties); and Milton Jones in District 7 (Fulton County).

MEMBERS OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Tony Wilson, District 1; Glenn Richardson, District 2; James S. Smith, District 3; Pat Skinner, District 4; Julie Moore, District 5; Jim Hancock, District 6; Ronald Wright, District 7; Andrew Pilgrim, District 8 and Kathy Boehm, District 9.

EFFICIENCY 101

Summer laundry SAVINGS

Looking for additional ways to save energy this summer? Your laundry room is a great place to start.

Your clothes washer and dryer account for a significant portion of energy consumption from major appliances, and let's face it — laundry is no one's favorite chore! Make the most of your laundry energy use.

Wash clothes with cold water, which can cut one load's energy use by more than half. Your washing machine will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the clothes load, so fill it up when you can. Use the high-speed or extended spin cycle in the washer. This setting will remove more moisture before drying, reducing your drying time and the extra wear on clothing.

When drying clothes, separate the heavier cottons. Loads will dry faster and more evenly if you separate heavier cottons like linens and towels from your lightweight clothing. Make use of the "cool down" cycle. If your dryer has this cycle option, you can save energy because the clothes will finish drying with the remaining heat in the dryer.



Cooperative Solar

Cooperative Solar is a program that will allow our residential members, who care about reducing their environmental impact, an affordable way to meet some of their electricity needs from a large solar facility in GreyStone's solar portfolio, including a site that GreyStone has built, manages and maintains in Paulding County. The program makes the benefits of clean, green solar power more widely available to GreyStone residential members at a reasonable price compared to the purchase of a home rooftop or yard solar system. Sign up today at greystonepower.com/cooperativesolar.



improving service

FOR GREYSTONE MEMBERS

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- Pay bill from anywhere
- View energy use
- Report outages
- View outage map

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The GreyStone Power app is a convenient way for you to access and manage your account no matter where you are. We've even made it easier to report and view power outages with the touch of a finger. So, when you're on the go, don't forget to take us with you! Download the free app at greystonepower.com/mobileapp today.

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Schooled on so



safety

YOUTH EDUCATION AND SAFETY TRAINING

One of the seven cooperative principles that GreyStone operates by is education, training and information. Multiple times a year, the co-op honors this principle by visiting schools within GreyStone's service area to teach students how to stay safe around electricity.

This year on Georgia STEM Day, Meter Apparatus Techs Zachary Puckett and Damon Galloway spoke to students at McGarity Elementary School in Hiram, where they gave Safety City presentations to students.

Safety City is an interactive display that demonstrates the dangers of electricity using real-life scenarios. This display not only allows students to learn from GreyStone employees, but also gives them the opportunity to ask questions as well.

"My favorite part about talking to kids are the questions they ask. They are so interactive and want to learn about what we do and about the safe way to act around electricity," Galloway says.

Students also got the opportunity to learn how GreyStone operates, as well as to see up close the personal protective equipment employees wear to stay safe.

"The students were very interested in electricity and power companies in general. We received some very good questions from students as young as they were," Puckett adds.

While piquing the students' interest is a welcomed result, for Galloway, the ultimate goal is for the students to learn the importance of electrical safety.

"The most important thing I want them to take from us is how to be safe around electricity and to encourage them to always be mindful of their surroundings when near substations and other power company equipment."

Meter Apparatus Techs Zachary Puckett and Damon Galloway spoke to students at McGarity Elementary School in Hiram on Georgia STEM Day about their jobs and how to be safe around electricity.



PURSuing PERFECT POWER FOR YOU

With a 99% reliability rating, GreyStone Power is in pursuit of perfect power.

Last year alone, crews trimmed a record 700 miles of vegetation around power lines to prevent outages from ever occurring.

Remote system monitoring, satellite and drone imaging allow team members to detect where repairs and vegetation management need to be addressed.

The cooperative has upgraded many miles of power line with a version that's better able to withstand adverse weather conditions. It's also installed state-of-the-art technology that can prevent outages and reduce outage times.

GreyStone Power.
Pursuing perfect power for the people we serve.

