

GEMC
Celebrating the Georgia lifestyle
Georgia[®]
MAGAZINE

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GREYSTONE
POWER CORPORATION
Making Life Better



MILLER'S MINUTE

SAFETY ON THE LINE

When it comes to the electricity distribution business, safety must be at the forefront of everything. With our new safety trailer, we can help children understand the dangers of electricity and give members a closer look at power restoration work. This educational tool features a generator and functional pad-mount transformer. During a demonstration, thousands of volts run through its power lines.

As our linemen restore power following an outage, members can play an important role in keeping them safe. Our safety trailer is designed, in part, to illustrate the dangers that arise when a generator is used incorrectly. It is possible for backfeeding to occur, re-energizing the power lines and posing a deadly risk for linemen.

Members will have the opportunity to witness a live line demonstration with our safety trailer at Greystone events, such as our Annual Meeting. We hope that this is the closest you ever get to live power lines. Remember to always treat downed lines as deadly and to report them to us. Thank you for doing your part to keep our community safe.

- 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

Lucy Andres, District 9, Cobb County

LOCATION

3400 Hiram Douglasville Hwy.

Hiram, GA 30141

CONTACT US

Main 770-942-6576

Outage 1-866-GREYSTONE (473-9786)

OTHER WAYS WE SERVE YOU

Co-op Connections® Card, 770-370-2436

EMC Security, 770-370-2030

Gas South, 1-855-802-2768

Go Energy Financial Credit Union, 470-514-3000

Operation Round Up®, 770-370-2080

SurgeMaster Plus, 770-370-2070

Cooperative Solar, 770-370-2252

DOWNLOAD OUR APPS

The Greystone Power app allows you to pay your bill, view billing history and electricity use, and verify payments. The Outage Helper app lets you report an outage, receive live restoration times and view an outage map. Download both apps 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.

Not available in the EU

Ribbon- CUTTING



GreyStone Power Corporation held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new Paulding County headquarters on Feb. 22. The new facility is located at 3400 Hiram Douglasville Highway in Hiram.

Prior to the move, GreyStone's last major expansion at its former headquarters in Douglasville was in 1990, when the cooperative served around 50,000 members. Since then, the co-op's membership has more than doubled, along with the operating revenue and miles of lines.

"Due to the cooperative's success and growth, we vastly outgrew our space in Douglasville," says GreyStone President/CEO Gary Miller.

The new headquarters site sits near the geographic center of GreyStone's eight-county service area, allowing GreyStone to respond quickly to members' needs. It also gives the co-op room to grow.

"Our new headquarters was planned in such a way that we can incorporate growth for the next 10 years, and the campus approach to our new facilities should allow for easier expansion in the future," Miller adds.

With proceeds from the sale of its Douglasville office and Dallas district office property, combined with funds the cooperative has saved for many years, GreyStone built its new campus without incurring any new debt.



Top: The GreyStone Power Board of Directors cut the ribbon to the new headquarters. Bottom: Georgia Public Service Commissioner Tim Echols speaks at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

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. 9! 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 entertainment, as well as a few new surprises!

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.



SAFETY ON THE GO



Electrical safety is one topic that GreyStone Power strives to educate the community on through training, information and demonstrations. You can frequently find co-op employees speaking to classrooms about safety. There is a new addition to the co-op's educational tools with GreyStone's safety trailer. The safety trailer is a mobile unit that shows how electricity powers energy into our homes.

GreyStone has other energy education tools such as Touch-a-Truck and Safety City, but the new safety trailer gives GreyStone the opportunity to educate a larger group of people.

"Typically, we take our Safety City which is a really small-scale inside version of the trailer, but now we're able to take this and do some larger demonstrations," says Director of Safety & Loss Control Jarred Stevens. "The trailer is an opportunity to present classroom material in a real-life scenario."

Viewers of the trailer can expect to see how power goes from transformer to power lines to powering our homes. They can also see what happens when a tree falls on a power line, as well as the importance of staying away from power lines.

Through the hot dog demonstration, members can see how our bodies can be a conductor to electricity. A hot dog is placed between two wires that total 240 volts.

"A hot dog is a good tool to use because it's mostly water inside, which is what our bodies are made out of, and it has a skin texture," says Stevens. "The hot dog shows what a human body would look like with an electrical current going through it. The outside of the hot dog looks perfectly fine, but when you break it open, you see it's cooking from the inside out."

While the trailer is a great educational tool for schools, it is also beneficial as a training tool. GreyStone plans to use the safety trailer to present demonstrations to first responders in the community. This training for first responders can help to foster a safer, more collaborative effort in emergency situations.

"When we demo this to our first responders, we're able to give some scenarios that would be specific to their industry. A lot of times, the first responders arrive at the scene before we do. This will show them

how dangerous an electrical emergency is and to keep the scene secure until we're able to get there and clear everything," Stevens adds.

In addition to first responders, apprentice linemen will also use the safety trailer as a training tool. It will allow the apprentices to get up close and personal with the equipment and train for different scenarios in a controlled environment.

Though safety trailers aren't unique to electric cooperatives, GreyStone's trailer has a few items that make it stand out from other trailers in surrounding co-ops. The major difference is that GreyStone's trailer runs off a generator. Other trailers have to be hooked up to a system. The addition of a generator allows for a teachable moment about generator safety.

"This really shows how dangerous a generator can be. We can show our members how hooking their generators up improperly can cause backfeeding on our lines," says Stevens.

If you are interested in having the GreyStone safety trailer do a demonstration at your school, please contact Rita Wilson at rita.wilson@greystonepower.com. Members can see the safety trailer in action at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, Oct. 9.



Apprentice Lineman III Philip Evans shows the inside of a hot dog during the hot dog demonstration.

SUPPORT

Local Businesses



Membership has BENEFITS

As the world starts to see some normalcy, local businesses have started to bounce back. Many have reopened and are starting to thrive, while others struggle to make ends meet.

By shopping locally, you can have a hand in their success, while helping your community. Let your Co-op Connections® Card (CCC) help you find deals locally, like the Farmer's Table in Douglasville (pictured at left), and save money on everyday purchases for yourself or your family.

When you show your card at the Farmer's Table, you will receive 10% off your purchase of \$20 or more. This is just one of hundreds of deals waiting for you throughout our community.

So, how do you get a card? As a GreyStone Power member, simply visit connections.coop to download a card or the app. You can also request to have one mailed or pick one up when you visit the office.

To learn more, or to find more local deals, visit www.connections.coop or call 770-370-2273 and start saving today!



Find all the ways to save at connections.coop.





BOARD ELECTIONS

Three seats on the GreyStone Board of Directors are up for election in 2021. The winners will be announced Saturday, Oct. 9, 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. While incumbents Genevieve Cole, District 1; Neal Dettmering, District 4; and Jim Johns, District 8, have been nominated by the Nominating Committee, 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 1. Petition and affidavit can be found at greystonepower.com/boardelections.

NOMINEE REQUIREMENTS

All nominees are subject to a criminal background check, must live within the geographic boundary of the district they seek to represent 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 1. 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

Genevieve Cole, District 1, Paulding, Bartow; Neal Dettmering, District 4, Carroll, Douglas; and Jim Johns, District 8, Douglas.

MEMBERS OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Tony Wilson, District 1; Glenn Richardson, District 2; James S. Smith, District 3; Pat Skinner, District 4; Barry Tysor, District 5; Susan Calderon, District 6; Harold Reid, District 7; Ed McCray, District 8; and Kathy Boehm, District 9.

EFFICIENCY 101

Summer Energy SAVINGS

For members looking to save money during the summer months, there are two areas of focus that can make a big impact on your electrical bill: your thermostat setting and your HVAC system.

A thermostat setting of 78 degrees Fahrenheit or higher is recommended in the summer. Each degree setting lower in summer can result in 3% to 5% more in energy costs.

Avoid placing lamps or TV sets near your room air-conditioning thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause the air conditioner to run longer than necessary.

Routinely replace or clean your air conditioner's filter. Replacing a dirty, clogged filter can reduce your air conditioner's energy consumption by 5% to 15%.

The cost of heating and cooling your home likely represents the largest portion of your utility bill, which is why it is also very important to have a licensed heating and cooling contractor service your HVAC system annually.

The GreyStone Marketplace is offering \$30 off Nest thermostats from June 20 to July 7. Please visit greystonepowermarketplace.com to redeem the promotion.

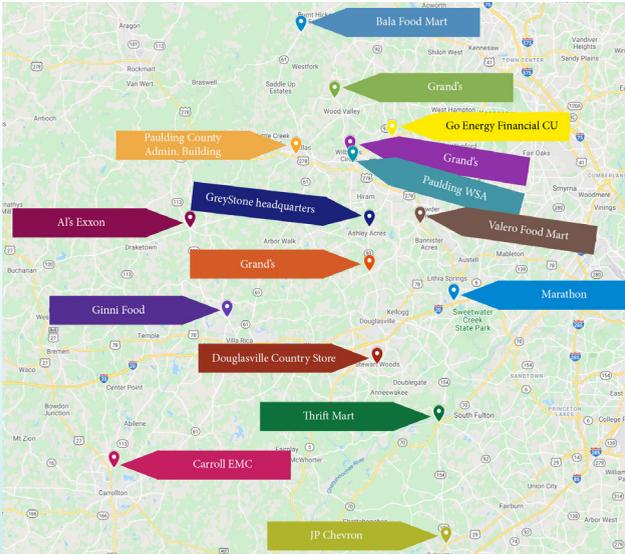


EV CHARGER REBATE

Electric vehicles (EVs) are the future, and more and more automakers are jumping into the arena. As this happens, more resources have become available for consumers in the way of tax credits, rebates and special electricity rates. GreyStone Power offers members a \$250 rebate for residential members who purchase a Level 2 charger and have it installed at their home. The requirements for the rebate are: The EV charger must be purchased within the last 90 days; proof of charger installation; and charger must be UL rated. To request an EV charger rebate, please visit greystonepower.com/rebates.

improving service

FOR GREYSTONE MEMBERS



New kiosk improvements

Self-service just got easier. All payment kiosks have been updated with new features, allowing you more access to your account. You can now view both current and past due balances (if applicable), and pay by check at any kiosk.

You can even set up a personal MyPaySite account and PIN the next time you pay at a kiosk, speeding up future kiosk visits by using the bar code on your receipt. A MyPaySite account has other helpful features too.

For more information about our many kiosk locations, visit greystonepower.com/paymentkiosks.

Go paperless!

Log in to our member portal to sign up for e-billing.



Having trouble finding where you placed your bill each month? Try a new filing system that includes your email! Simply sign up for e-billing and always have access to your account information with the touch of a finger.

Once signed up, you will receive an email notification that the power bill is available online. A direct link will be included to link directly to the bill without having to sign in separately. Once signed up, be sure to keep your email address up to date so there will be no disruption to your notifications.



Photo Credit: Robb Maag

CLEAN ENERGY COLLABORATION

CO-OPS SHARE RENEWABLE ENERGY

GreyStone Power is among 32 electric cooperatives in Georgia that now collectively share in power production from a new 200-megawatt (MWAC) solar portfolio that includes three utility-scale projects in south Georgia. GreyStone has a 40 MW share of the 200 MW portfolio. The total capacity of the three sites is distributed across two counties in the southwestern and southeastern parts of the state and will collectively provide enough low-cost, renewable energy to serve more than 35,000 EMC households. As a clean energy source, its environmental offset is equivalent to more than 350,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually.

The first site, known as Hazlehurst III, was commissioned in December 2019 and is a 40 MW facility located in Jeff Davis County. In August 2020, a second site was commissioned, the 74 MW Terrell Solar Farm, in Terrell County. Most recently, the third and final site in the portfolio was commissioned in December 2020, Snipesville I, an 86 MW facility also located in Jeff Davis County. GreyStone receives 20% of the output from each of the three projects.

All three sites feature single-axis tracking modules that rotate to follow the sun – a technology advancement that produces approximately 20% more energy than fixed-tilt installations, allowing participating cooperatives to maximize the energy output.

Green Power EMC, the renewable energy provider owned by 38 Georgia electric membership corporations, including GreyStone Power, is purchasing the full power output of the three solar facilities and providing it to participating electric cooperatives.

GreyStone Power President/CEO Gary Miller said energy received from the 200-megawatt (MWAC) portfolio will be added to the electric cooperative's diverse fuel mix.

"We're proud to participate in this innovative renewable energy project that helps us offer both clean and affordable power," Miller says. "Solar power has become a vital part of our diversified energy portfolio used to serve our members as efficiently and economically as possible. With this addition to our energy portfolio, renewables represent a little more than 10% of GreyStone's total resource capacity for the coming summer," Miller adds.

Green Power EMC President Jeff Pratt said that Georgia's cooperatives are driving renewable energy growth in Georgia and delivering long-term benefits to the communities they serve. "Through collaboration, Georgia's EMCs have been able to secure lower-cost solar power by taking advantage of economies of scale. And with their communities in mind, those savings are then passed on to their member-consumers," he says.



YOUR CO-OP HAS YOUR BACK

Owned by those we serve, GreyStone Power looks out for members 24/7. Crews are always ready to roll, customer care is a priority, and our members pay some of the lowest prices in the state.

As a not-for-profit cooperative, electric rates are **18%* less than Georgia Power's** in summer and 11%* less in winter. Our member-owners also pay less for electricity than any electric cooperative member in Georgia.

And if bad weather causes problems, those co-ops — and others across the nation — pitch in to help restore power as quickly and safely as possible.

That's because your co-op has your back.



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*According to 2020 and 2021 rate surveys by the Georgia Public Service Commission. Based on 1,000 kilowatt-hours monthly residential use.

greystonepower.com



GreyStone Power is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Not available in the EU.