

BEACON

Comments from the CEO



Todd Payne
President/CEO
Amicalola EMC

The future of reliable electricity

As our country’s economy continues to grow, so does the demand for reliable electricity. Data centers, new manufacturing facilities and our daily lives are requiring more and more electricity. In fact, U.S. power consumption is expected to rise to record highs this year and next, and the demand for electricity in the U.S. is expected to at least double by 2050.

As we prepare for this rising demand, Amicalola EMC is planning ahead to ensure local families and businesses have access to an affordable, reliable supply of electricity.

Meeting the challenge

To meet these challenges, Amicalola Electric Membership Corp. (EMC) is utilizing a balanced mix of always-available energy sources as a safeguard to maintain a reliable energy supply. We’re also investing in innovative technologies to bolster grid resilience and enhance data management to improve operational efficiency, expedite outage response times and minimize service disruptions.

As electricity demand in the U.S. continues to rise, upgrading and building new infrastructure is criti-

cal. To keep up with this demand, generation has been added from Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4, which came online in 2023 and 2024. Amicalola EMC receives emission-free nuclear energy from this project through our wholesale energy providers, Oglethorpe Power and Georgia Energy Cooperative. Nuclear is not only a clean energy source, but it’s one of the most reliable.

Another way we will meet the challenge is through a new substation (Whitepath 46kV Sub-Transmission Line Project). With completion expected around mid-2025, this substation will support the growing demand for electricity in the northern part of Gilmer County. This electrical line is being installed by Georgia Transmission Corp. (GTC), a not-for-profit cooperative owned by 38 electric membership corporations, including Amicalola EMC.

Although a large portion of your power bill is for energy use, the remainder covers business-related

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The chart below compares our previous rates to the new rates at various levels of kwh use per month.

Residential Rate Comparison Breakdown

	Average AEMC Member				
	500 kwh	1,000 kw	Regular Average 1,130 kwh	1,500 kwh	2,000 kwh
Previous Regular Rate (+.02 PCA)	\$81.00	\$144.20	\$160.84	\$208.20	\$274.20
New Regular Rate	\$86.00	\$148.20	\$164.58	\$211.20	\$283.20
	Winter Average 1,358 kwh				
Previous Winter Rate (+.02 PCA)	\$76.00	\$128.20	\$163.28	\$177.20	\$224.20
New Winter Rate	\$83.00	\$137.40	\$174.28	\$189.40	\$241.40

- Hot Water Heater Maintenance: \$3.49
- Security Light: \$3 increase
- Minimum bill: \$35

GHSA Cooperative Sportsmanship Award

Congratulations to Dawson County High School for receiving the 2023-2024 Georgia High School Association Cooperative Sportsmanship Award. This award recognizes high schools that demonstrate good sportsmanship in all sports throughout the school year. Winning this award is a testament to the school's dedication to excellence and integrity in high school sports and beyond.

Georgia's EMCs have sponsored this award since 2006, with the mission to emphasize, encourage and reward positive behavior in athletics. Amicalola EMC was proud to present this award to the Dawson County Tigers at one of their home basketball games this season.



Amicalola EMC Board of Director member Reggie Stowers, left, presents the 2023-2024 Georgia High School Association Cooperative Sportsmanship Award to Dawson County High School Athletic Director Bradley Fowler, center, and Principal Michael Negley at a home basketball game.

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expenses like this one. Updates to the grid are necessary to maintain and increase reliability for not only Amicalola EMC, but our sister EMCs as well.

Adjusting rates

As a co-op, our priority is ensuring

energy solutions that are tailored to the unique needs of our community to help it thrive now and in the future. Amicalola EMC has not seen a rate increase since 2012, but a temporary Wholesale Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) has been added to your bill

when necessary. Because we follow the cooperative business model, all operating expenses are passed on to our members. Effective March 1, 2025, our rates will be adjusted to better match expenses.

Retirements

Congratulations to Kenneth Payne, Tony Helton and Maxine Wade on their retirement. Thank you for your years of dedicated service to the members of Amicalola EMC.



Kenneth Payne
37 years of service



Tony Helton
36 years of service



Maxine Wade
12 years of service

“I dig here all the time.”

You might not know the area as well as you think!

Even if you've excavated an area previously, erosion, settling ground and other factors can change the depth and location of utilities over time. ALWAYS contact 811 before putting your shovel to the ground!



Contact 811 before you dig.

811beforeyoudig.com

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Don't forget to spring forward on Sunday, March 9.



Do we have your number?

No one likes power outages, but when they do occur, reporting them through our automated outage reporting system is the fastest way to get your information to us. Having your primary telephone number in our system means reporting it will go faster and smoother. By calling from the primary number listed on your Amicalola EMC account, the outage system will automatically identify your account.

Update your account information today, using one of the following:

- Use our member portal at www.amicalolaemc.com, My Account (upper right), then sign in (or create an account).
- Call your local office at 706-253-5200, 706-276-2362 or 706-864-7979 and speak to a member service representative.



- Stop by any of our office locations.
- Email your information to memberservice@amicalolaemc.com. Be sure to include your account number for verification.

Operation Round Up



We often underestimate the impact of a small act of kindness. However, when you're on the receiving end of that kindness, you may come to realize just how meaningful those small acts can be. That's one way to look at Amicalola EMC's Operation Round Up program.

As a member of the co-op, you have a choice to make. When you open a new account at Amicalola EMC you will be asked if you want to join Operation Round Up. If you decide to participate, your electric bill will be rounded to the next whole dollar each month. For example, if your bill is \$160.84, your amount due is \$161. The remaining 16 cents will

go straight into the Operation Round Up fund.

These funds are managed by the Amicalola EMC Trust, a nonprofit corporation with a volunteer board of directors independent from the cooperative. This board evaluates funding requests and decides on distributions. These donations help individuals and 501(c)(3) charities within our communities.

You might wonder how 16 cents could make a difference, but when combined, it has contributed to over \$2.6 million in donations from Amicalola EMC members over the past 26 years. Much like offering a smile to someone you pass, it might

seem like a small gesture at the time, but its impact could be far greater than you imagine.

To join Operation Round Up or to apply for assistance through the program, call 706-253-5200 or visit our website at www.amicalolaemc.com/community/operation-round-up to access the correct form.



Are we holding your money?

Amicalola EMC is a not-for-profit electric cooperative; any excess revenues are returned to member-owners in the form of capital credits refunds. We are seeking to find members who have unclaimed capital credits on file. We would like to find a current address and refund

these capital credits if possible. To determine if your name is on the list, please call 706-253-5200 during regular business hours or visit any Amicalola EMC office. **You will be required to provide proof of identity to claim ownership.**

After a mandatory five-year waiting period, any unclaimed



capital credits refunds are distributed in accordance with Georgia's unclaimed property laws O.C.G.A. §44-12-236.

Process for electing directors

Members of Amicalola Electric Membership Corp. are reminded that nominations for the AEMC Board of Directors will be posted July 6, 2025. The Nominating Committee's recommendations for the board will be posted on the bulletin board at the main office in Jasper, Ga., and on the AEMC website.

The Amicalola EMC Bylaws state "that the committee on nominations shall make at least one nomination for each post for director to be voted on at the annual meeting. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the cooperative at least ninety (90) days (July 6, 2025) before the meeting, a list of nominations for

directors, but any fifteen (15) or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signatures no less than sixty (60) days (Aug. 5, 2025) prior to the meeting, and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted."