



# CONNECT

A newsletter for the members of JEFFERSON ENERGY COOPERATIVE

## WYT DELEGATES *Among Georgia's Best and Brightest*



LOUISE TONSMIRE



KATHRYN GREEN

*Georgia's 2024 WYT delegates pose for a picture on the steps of our nation's capitol.*

**G**eorgia's 112 delegates representing 37 electric membership corporations (EMCs) were among nearly 1,800 high school students nationwide who visited Washington, D.C., in June for the Washington Youth Tour.

The event June 14-21, 2024, was the 59th year Georgia's EMCs sent students on the Youth Tour (10079112-001).

Once a year, high school students are selected by the state's EMCs to represent Georgia as delegates on the all-expenses-paid trip. This leadership experience includes meetings with state and national leaders, leadership training and visits to many major sites.

The Washington Youth Tour experience gives delegates an opportunity to visit as many as 25 of Washington, D.C.'s most historic sites, as well as participate in team-building activities and events during which they can learn more about one another and meet delegates from throughout the United States.

Brandon Harrison, Chasade Norris, Judi Vasquez and Nya Williams were selected to represent Jefferson Energy Cooperative last year. Learn more about their experiences during the 2024 trip:

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### The 2024 Washington Youth Tour included visits to:

- National Mall
- Smithsonian Institution
- U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum
- National memorials: World War II, Martin Luther King Jr., Franklin D. Roosevelt, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Korean War Veterans, Vietnam Veterans, U.S. Marine Corps
- Arlington National Cemetery
- Lafayette Square of the White House
- George Washington's Mount Vernon
- Washington National Cathedral
- National Museum of African American History and Culture
- Library of Congress
- National Archives



From left, Nya Williams, Chasade Norris, Judith Vasquez and Brandon Harrison snap a photo on the front lawn of George Washington's home in Mount Vernon.



Jefferson Energy Cooperative's 2024 delegates bid their final farewells before leaving for Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

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## White House

One of the first stops on the weeklong Youth Tour was a photo opportunity at the White House. The location at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW in Washington, D.C., was selected by former President George Washington in 1791 as the future home of our nation's president (10075300-001). There are 132 rooms, 35 bathrooms and six levels in the White House, and, on average, 6,000 people visit it daily.

## Library of Congress

The Library of Congress was founded in 1800 and is the oldest federal cultural institution in the nation. It is the largest library in the world, with millions of items in a variety of formats. It includes international collections, a law library, rare books and manuscripts, and audiovisual collections.

## Riverboat Cruise

The Washington Youth Tour Riverboat Cruise allowed delegates to get a picturesque view of the landscape along the Potomac River. During the nearly three-hour cruise, Georgia students were joined by WYT delegates from North Dakota and Montana.

## George Washington's Mount Vernon

Located about 13 miles outside Washington, D.C., George Washington's Mount Vernon is the former home of the United States' first president and his wife, Martha. The estate features

a mansion and dozens of historic outbuildings, a blacksmith shop, farm and wharf.

During their visit, WYT delegates toured the grounds, checked out the inside of Washington's mansion, visited the tombs of George and Martha Washington, listened to historic reenactors describe the former president's farming practices and enjoyed lunch at the famed Mount Vernon Inn Restaurant.

## Presidential and War Memorials

There are seven presidential memorials and nearly 20 war memorials in Washington, D.C. These include the Jefferson Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial and the National World War II Memorial.

Georgia's delegation learned the history of many memorials from experienced tour guides, snapped photos along the Tidal Basin near the National Mall and at memorial parks, and read Father's Day messages left by family members at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

## Arlington National Cemetery

Established in 1864, Arlington National Cemetery encompasses 639 acres and contains the remains of service members from both world wars and the conflict in Korea.

Located within the cemetery is the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, where delegates attended a special wreath-laying ceremony honoring U.S. military and veterans (10031670-002).



## Apply for the 2025 Washington Youth Tour

The 2025 Washington Youth Tour is scheduled for June 13-20. This all-expenses-paid event will feature visits to and tours of some of the United States' most iconic and historic venues, such as George Washington's Mount Vernon, the Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Tamika Lampkin, Jefferson Energy Cooperative's WYT Coordinator, has scheduled visits to the qualifying schools our co-op supports this month. Please reach out to your principal or guidance counselors for more information about Lampkin's upcoming visit.

# Jefferson Energy Cooperative 2025 Meter Reading Schedule

\*\* Schedule is subject to change \*\*



To streamline our billing process, we have restructured our Meter Reading Schedule for 2025.  
Please take note of our new schedule.

CYCLE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>METER READING DATE:</b>												
319-359	6-Jan	4-Feb	4-Mar	7-Apr	5-May	3-Jun	7-Jul	5-Aug	3-Sep	6-Oct	4-Nov	3-Dec
369-399	13-Jan	10-Feb	10-Mar	14-Apr	12-May	9-Jun	14-Jul	11-Aug	8-Sep	13-Oct	10-Nov	8-Dec
419-459	20-Jan	17-Feb	17-Mar	21-Apr	19-May	16-Jun	21-Jul	18-Aug	15-Sep	20-Oct	17-Nov	15-Dec
469-499	27-Jan	24-Feb	24-Mar	28-Apr	27-May	23-Jun	28-Jul	25-Aug	22-Sep	27-Oct	24-Nov	22-Dec
40 996 69	30-Jan	27-Feb	28-Mar	29-Apr	29-May	27-Jun	30-Jul	28-Aug	29-Sep	30-Oct	25-Nov	30-Dec
<b>DUE DATE:</b>												
319-359	28-Jan	26-Feb	26-Mar	29-Apr	27-May	25-Jun	29-Jul	27-Aug	25-Sep	28-Oct	26-Nov	25-Dec
369-399	4-Feb	4-Mar	1-Apr	6-May	3-Jun	1-Jul	5-Aug	2-Sep	30-Sep	4-Nov	2-Dec	30-Dec
419-459	11-Feb	11-Mar	8-Apr	13-May	10-Jun	8-Jul	12-Aug	9-Sep	7-Oct	11-Nov	9-Dec	6-Jan
469-499	18-Feb	18-Mar	15-Apr	20-May	18-Jun	15-Jul	19-Aug	16-Sep	14-Oct	18-Nov	16-Dec	13-Jan
40 996 69	21-Feb	21-Mar	21-Apr	21-May	20-Jun	21-Jul	21-Aug	19-Sep	21-Oct	21-Nov	17-Dec	21-Jan



**JOIN US FEB. 20 AT 6 P.M.**

### Directors Town Hall

Jefferson Energy Cooperative members are invited to attend an informative Directors Town Hall, where you can learn more about your co-op and the initiatives we are taking on your behalf.

Join us Feb. 20 at 6 p.m. in the Assembly Room at our Wrens office.

This is a great opportunity to engage with your Board of Directors and learn how we are working to serve you better. Your membership matters!



# CONNECT

## Jefferson Energy Cooperative

### Jefferson Energy Cooperative

P.O. Box 457  
3077 Highway 17 N  
Wrens, GA 30833-0457  
[www.jec.coop](http://www.jec.coop)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*Richmond County Region*

A member-owned Georgia cooperative since 1937

### OFFICE HOURS

All offices: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

**WAYNE A. GOSSAGE, JR.**

*President/CEO*

**TAMIKA LAMPKIN**

*Director of Cooperative Communications*

For your convenience, bills can be paid anytime at the corporate headquarters, or in the Richmond, Louisville or Thomson offices.

### TOLL-FREE SERVICE NUMBER

**(877) 533-3377**

*24-hour Dispatching Daily*

*Published monthly and mailed to all members of Jefferson Energy Cooperative.*

### KEEP INFORMED AND WIN \$25

It pays to keep informed about JEC's business. Read and find your account number in "CONNECT." Call our member services department to claim your award—a \$25 credit on your bill.

### WITH YOUR CORRECT PHONE NUMBER, WE CAN GET THE LIGHTS ON FASTER

During large outages, Jefferson Energy Cooperative receives thousands of calls at once. Having your correct phone number helps our Outage Call Answering System retrieve your information faster.

Please check the phone number and service address listed on your electric bill. If they are incorrect, please call 877-JEFFERSON (877-533-3377) with the correct information so we can better serve you.

*Jefferson Energy Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*



## Jefferson Energy Foundation Scholarship

We are now accepting applications for the JEC Foundation Scholarship. The last day to submit applications is March 28.

Applications will be accepted ONLINE ONLY.

## Walter Harrison Scholarship: Apply by Jan. 31



The cost of attending a public college is continually increasing. Private colleges take an even more significant chunk out of a student's or family's budget.

Keeping in mind those sobering statistics, and to provide a measure of relief for those seeking a college education, Jefferson Energy encourages students to submit applications for the Walter Harrison Scholarship, a program sponsored by Georgia's 41 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 used for consideration include grade-point average, SAT scores, academic standing, scholastic honors and financial need.

A scholarship committee, composed of EMC directors and managers, selects students who excel in these areas and struggle with college expenses.

Students who apply for the scholarship must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited undergraduate degree program in Georgia. (10053698-001) They must also complete an application and write an autobiographical sketch with a preview of their future plans. (9995064-002)

The scholarship is partially funded through a silent auction held each year at Georgia EMC's Annual Meeting. The 41 electric co-ops throughout Georgia donate unique items representative of every region of the state.

Sixteen scholarships were awarded statewide in 2024. To apply for the Walter Harrison Scholarship during the 2024-25 school year, students should contact Jefferson Energy at (877) 533-3377, ext. 5055, email us at [ssaunders@jec.coop](mailto:ssaunders@jec.coop) or visit [www.jec.coop](http://www.jec.coop). Completed applications are due by **Jan. 31**.

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 electric movement, and a leader at local, state and national levels in the electric cooperative program.