

Snapping Shoals EMC Illuminator

A Monthly Newsletter for Snapping Shoals EMC Members

August 2018

Be a Part of the Solar Movement

Members can purchase up to 4 blocks



SNAPPING SHOALS EMC
COOPERATIVE
SOLAR

Cooperative Solar is the perfect solution for members:

- No maintenance hassles
- No red tape with zoning restrictions or homeowners' associations
- No holes or modifications to your roof to accommodate solar equipment 4519233
- No long-term contract
- Perfect solution for renters who want to be involved with renewable energy
- Solar energy will be allocated to your electric bill on a monthly basis

To purchase your own blocks of solar electricity for \$20 each per month, call 770-786-3484.



Co-op Rewarding Teachers' Ideas

SSEMC is awarding \$55,000 in grants to a number of teachers through the co-op's Bright Ideas program again this fall. The Bright Ideas grants, which are allocated from the co-ops unclaimed capital credit funds, are designed to help teachers who wish to extend educational opportunities and activities for students by developing student interests and abilities. 2477081

Teachers have innovative ideas about how learning can be made more exciting, effective and interesting and how curriculum can be expanded to meet the needs of particular groups or individual students; however, resources are sometimes not available for special instructional opportunities. The Snapping Shoals EMC Bright Ideas grants are designed to assist teachers in the planning and implementation of these ideas.

Teachers should contact their county's board of education to apply for a Bright Ideas grant.



Report Security Light Issues

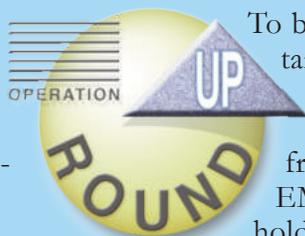
If you experience any problems with your security lights, or notice lights out, you can report them on our website at www.ssemc.com under the Security Lighting section. Please have the following information available when reporting the issue: your account number, the nearest address to the pole, the pole number (if available) and the type of pole.

College students get boost from program

27 students each receive \$925 in assistance through Operation Round Up

Twenty-seven students have been approved by the Snapping Shoals Electric Trust Board of Directors to receive education assistance through Operation Round Up this year. Each student will receive \$925 to help them continue their education, bringing the total assistance for all students to approximately \$25,000. 4441081

Every year, part of the funds collected through our Operation Round Up program are set aside to

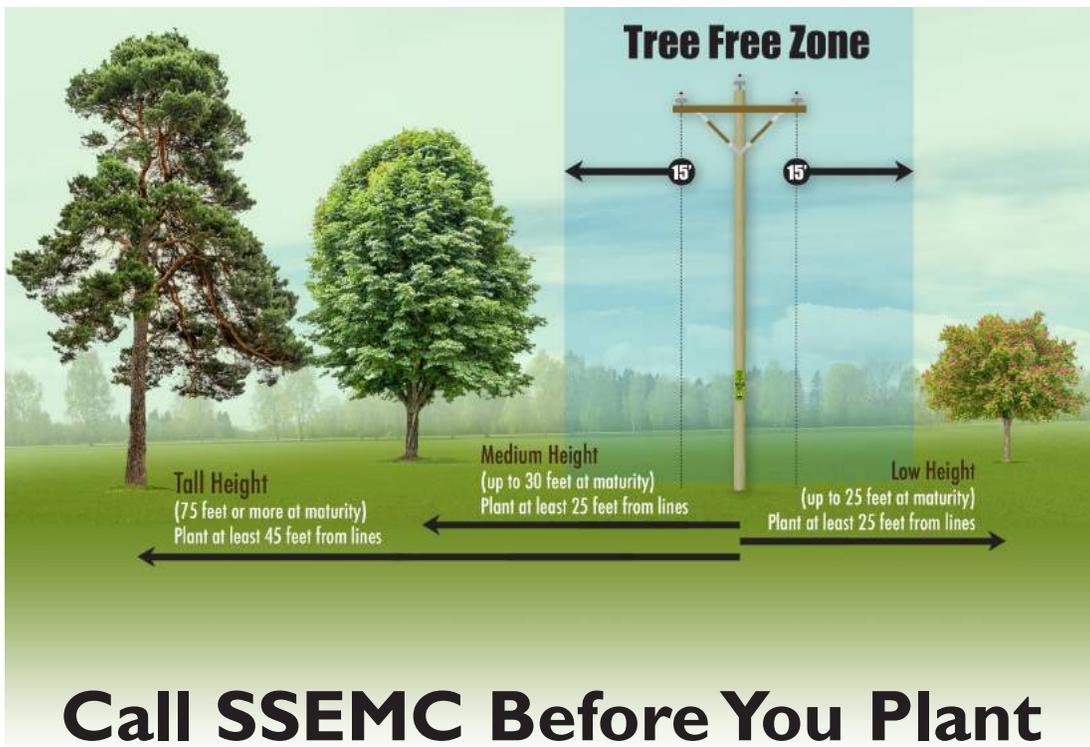


be used for education assistance. To be eligible for this assistance, students must live in a household receiving electric service from Snapping Shoals EMC, and total household income cannot exceed \$50,000. Applicants must complete our application process and provide proof of enrollment or acceptance at the college or vocational school they are seeking to attend.

The majority of money raised

through Operation Round Up is used to directly support social, charitable and civic programs in our community, as well as individuals in need of assistance with household or living expenses; home repairs; and medical or health needs. 2777285

The Snapping Shoals Electric Trust Board of Directors investigates applications and meets every other month to determine how the funds will be used. They serve as volunteers and receive no compensation for their time and efforts.



Call SSEM EMC Before You Plant

Maintaining right-of-way keeps service reliable, safe

There are many ways that Snapping Shoals EMC provides you with safe, reliable electric service. One of the most common and crucial ways is referred to as right-of-way clearing (or vegetation management).

A right-of-way (ROW) refers to a strip of land underneath or around power lines that your electric cooperative has the legal responsibility to maintain and clear. Trees must grow at a distance far enough from conductors where they will not cause harm to individuals or disruption to electrical service. Specifications can vary, but at SSEM we maintain a minimum of 15 feet on either side with a maximum of 25 feet ground to sky. We also seek to maintain zero woody growth beneath the lines.

Clearing the ROW is critical to keeping our members' lights on. An average of 15 percent of power interruptions occur when trees, shrubs or bushes contact power lines. 4539953

If a tree encroaches on this safe distance, our vegetation management team will trim back branches and brush using chain saws, bucket trucks, tree climbers, brush chippers and mowers. Environmentally safe herbicides are also used as a way to maintain plant growth beneath our power lines.

ROW clearing is also critical to ensuring that we provide members with affordable electricity. Vegetation and structures of any type in the ROW can prolong outage restoration times and impede routine

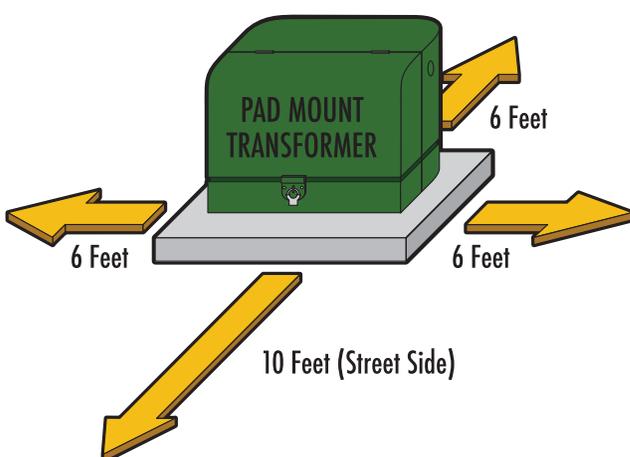


work on the lines. Staying ahead of the game keeps us from having to come out after a storm to restore power due to fallen trees.

For your safety and for more reliable service, always contact us first at 770-786-3484 before planting, trimming or removing any trees near power lines. Under the High Voltage Safety Act, if you are performing any activity within the vicinity of an overhead high-voltage line, you are required to give notice to the Utilities Protection Center at least 72 hours in advance. The center may be reached at 1-800-282-7411.

Our best opportunity to maintain safe and functional lines is with the cooperation of our members.

Pad-mounted transformers are designed to be cooled by the circulation of air around the unit. Clearance for the front of pad-mounted transformers is 10 feet of right-of-way and 6 feet of clearance on all other sides. (See illustration at left.) When bushes, plants, piled dirt or other obstructions are too close to pad-mounted transformers, they will not cool as necessary, which can lead to outages. In addition, our employees are not able to quickly access and operate the equipment during outages and routine inspections. Safety hazards include wasp nests, fire ant hills, snakes and other pests that are often hidden in bushes and shrubs.



P.O. Box 509
Covington, GA 30015
www.ssemc.com

24-Hour Phone Number
770-786-3484

Report an outage:
Use the mySSEM app
or call 678-814-4961

Pay your bill or check your account balance:
Call 1-888-999-1416 or
use the mySSEM app

Report power theft:
Call our anonymous tip line
at 678-729-8095

Call before you dig:
Call Utilities Protection Center
of Georgia at 811 or visit
www.georgia811.com

OFFICE LOCATIONS
14750 Brown Bridge Road
Covington, GA 30016

190 Fairview Road
Ellenwood, GA 30294

24-hour payment kiosks
are located at each of our offices

OFFICE HOURS
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday - Friday

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Chairman
Anthony Norton
Rockdale County, District 2

Vice Chairman
Walter Johnson
DeKalb County, District 3

Secretary/Treasurer
Ruby Woods
Newton County, District 1

Asst. Secretary/Treasurer
Gene Morris
Henry County, District 4

Lance Harper
Newton County, District 1

Jeanette Berry
Newton County, District 1

Dr. Joseph Sharp
Rockdale County, District 2

Dr. Millard Ross
Rockdale County, District 2

Frank Lineberger
DeKalb County, District 3

Jake Carter
Henry County, District 4

James I. White
Henry County, District 4

**Find your number
and win a \$50 credit!**

If your Snapping Shoals EMC account number is hidden in this issue of The Illuminator, call us at 770-786-3484 within the next month and you could win a \$50 credit on your bill.

The Illuminator is a monthly newsletter published for Snapping Shoals EMC customers.

Editor
Leigh-Anne Burgess

Report an outage, pay your bill and manage your account with the mySSEM app.



Find us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/SnappingShoalsEMC