



AREA STUDENT PARTICIPATES IN EMC/FFA WIRING CONTEST



Dimas Guillen, a junior at Southeast Bulloch High School represented his school in the Area IV EMC/FFA Electrification Career Development Event (CDE), held on November 12, 2019, at Treutlen County High School.

The Electrification CDE, also known as the EMC/FFA Wiring Contest, is a unique way to encourage high school students to learn about electricity. Students enrolled in agricultural education courses take part in FFA-supervised projects which prepare them to compete in the Electrification CDE. These projects and the Electrification CDE are designed to promote the safe, efficient use of electricity.

Students who participate in the wiring contest also compete for scholarship money. The first place winners from each of the six area competitions throughout the state receive a \$500 scholarship, while the second place winners receive \$300. Both have a chance to compete in the state event and receive up to an additional \$1,000.

The wiring contest contains three primary components: a practical wiring exercise, a problem solving exercise which requires the students to interpret and apply the National Electrical Code, and a speech demonstration activity. Any active FFA member enrolled in a 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade high school agricultural education class is eligible to participate. Chapters are limited to one contestant per chapter.

Dimas is the son of Salvador and Alisa Guillen of Bulloch County. Southeast Bulloch High School FFA Advisor Brian Elrick helped Dimas prepare for the contest.

The FFA is a national organization of more than 650,000 members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. FFA is an integral part of the agricultural education program in our area public schools. Its mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.



Dimas works diligently to finish the practical wiring exercise within the one hour time limit. This exercise is worth 60% of the students' final score.



Pictured (left to right) is Southeast Bulloch High School FFA Advisor Brian Elrick and his student, Dimas Guillen.

Excelsior EMC would like to congratulate Dimas Guillen on his second place finish at the Area IV EMC/FFA wiring contest and wish him the best of luck at the state competition in Covington on March 7, 2020.

Line Items

BRONSON BRAGDON
Editor

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When your power goes off, don't stay in the dark longer than you have to. To restore your power as quickly as possible, we need your correct phone number. Your phone number is the quickest way for us to locate your home or business when you call to report an outage.

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Between the Lines

by
Greg Proctor
President/CEO

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

The holiday season is a special and enjoyable time of the year that many of us eagerly anticipate. Special foods, decorations, and festivities with friends and family create memories and add flavor to life.

The employees of Excelsior EMC have worked all year to make sure you have the safe, reliable, and affordable power you need to enjoy the leisure the holiday season brings. We will be on the job during the holiday season too, making sure you have power to enjoy the best of everything during this busy festive time.

From everyone at the Cooperative, we extend our heartfelt best wishes to you and your family as you enjoy the special excitement of Christmas and New Year's. We remain grateful for the blessings we enjoy.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

*In observance of the Holidays,
Excelsior EMC offices will be closed:*

Tuesday, December 24, 2019

Wednesday, December 25, 2019

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

*Emergency personnel will be available by calling our
24 hour dispatch center at (912) 685-2115 or (912) 764-2123.*



Every Member Counts

VOLTAGE CONVERSION A SUCCESS



Excelsior EMC Lineman Rhett Youngblood works from a bucket to upgrade a transformer's voltage.

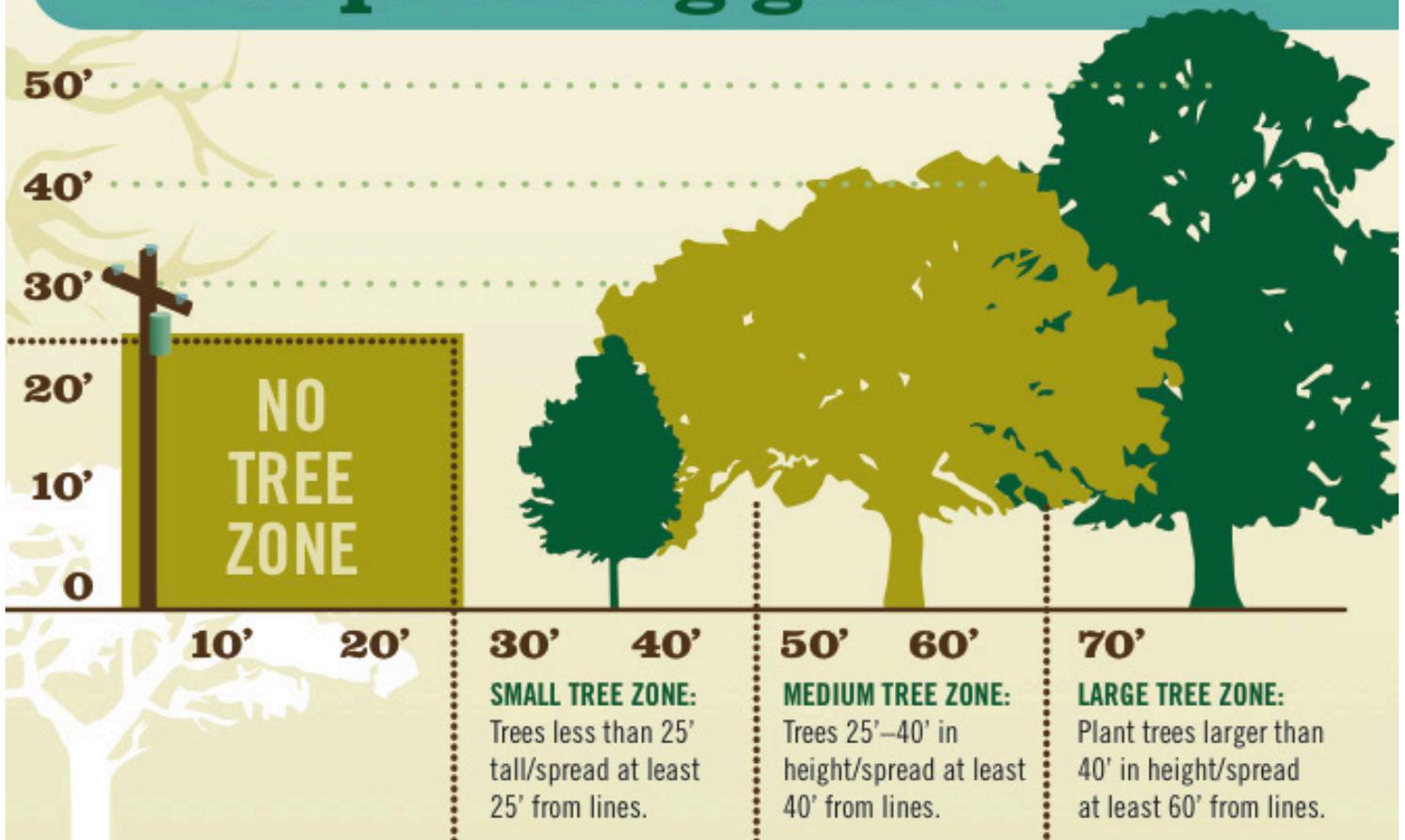
On November 4th Excelsior EMC crews completed the re-insulation and voltage conversion of a portion of the Northeast Emanuel Substation. Members experienced a planned outage of about three hours as our linemen upgraded the voltage on the power lines that feed 202 of the 553 locations that receive power from this substation.

This project was part of a long-term effort to upgrade our electrical system from 7,200-volts to 14,400-volts. This conversion allows us to better serve you as our membership grows and demand on our electrical system increases. Voltage conversions like this require almost our entire workforce and involve a tremendous amount of planning and coordination.

During this conversion we worked hand in hand with our neighbor, Altamaha EMC, in order to complete this task as efficiently as possible. Power was interrupted so linemen could upgrade substation equipment and increase the voltage to affected transformers down the line, providing better reliability and more efficient distribution of electric power.

No matter the weather or season, we work year-round to strengthen our system in order to better deliver the power you rely on.

tree planting guide



According to the Georgia Forestry Commission, winter (December through February) is the best time to plant forest tree seedlings. Use this handy guide to avoid power line conflicts with your trees.

Georgia Agricultural Tax Exemption

Expires December 31

Georgia Agricultural Tax Exemption (GATE) is an agricultural sales and use tax exemption certificate issued by the Georgia Department of Agriculture. The document identifies its user as a qualified farmer or producer who is exempt from sales tax on the inputs used in the production of their commodity.

Qualified producers must apply/re-apply with the Georgia Department of Agriculture each year to receive the exemption. Excelsior EMC members that qualify must provide Excelsior EMC with a copy of their renewed GATE card. **We must receive a copy of the new card by December 31, 2019 for the exemption to continue.**

Producers that have never received GATE can also apply. First time applicants to Excelsior EMC will need to provide a copy of their GATE card as well as an Excelsior EMC GATE form that can be picked up at either our Metter office or Statesboro office. Additionally we can email or fax the form by simply calling our customer service department at (912) 685-2115 or (912) 764-2123. For more information or to renew visit www.agr.georgia.gov or call 1-855-FARM-TAX.

Please mail updated copies of GATE cards to:
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