



Line Items

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LOCAL STUDENT COMPETES IN AREA EMC/FFA WIRING CONTEST



Above: Cade has been a member of the Southeast Bulloch High School FFA Chapter since the 9th Grade.



Above: Cade has learned the basics of electrical wiring in his Ag Mechanics classes at SEB. These skills will be useful to him for years to come.

Cade Andrews recently competed in the EMC/FFA wiring contest held at Treutlen County High School in Soperton on January 10th, 2024. The competition is designed to promote electrification programs for agriculture students. Cade is the son of Johnnie and April Andrews and is a junior at Southeast Bulloch High School.

Sponsored by the Electric Membership Corporations of Georgia, including Excelsior EMC, the EMC/FFA wiring contest is a program of the Agricultural Education division of the Georgia Department of Education, organized as a Career Development Event by local FFA chapters. Participants can win scholarship funds to use at any college, university, or vocational school in Georgia.

Any active FFA member enrolled in a 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade high school agriculture education class is eligible to participate. Chapters are limited to one contestant per chapter. The top two individuals in each area contest will advance to compete in the state competition. The wiring contest contains three primary components: a practical wiring exercise, a problem-solving exercise requiring the students to interpret and apply the National Electric Code, and a speech demonstration activity.

The FFA is a national organization of more than 850,000 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 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.

Excelsior EMC would like to congratulate Cade Andrews on a job well done at the Area IV EMC/FFA wiring contest!

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Joseph Jones
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

Guide to the Grid

Electricity plays an essential role in everyday life. It powers our homes, offices, hospitals, and schools. We depend on it to keep us warm in the winter and cool in the summer, charge our phones and binge our favorite TV shows. If the power goes out, even briefly, our lives can be disrupted. This is why a reliable electric grid is so important. You may ask, though, "How does electricity make it to my home?"

The journey of electricity begins at the power plants. Power plants can be thought of as factories that make electricity using various energy sources, like natural gas, solar, wind and nuclear energy. Across the U.S., more than 11,000 power plants deliver electricity to the grid. Excelsior EMC receives power from our generation and transmission (G&T) co-ops, Oglethorpe Power and Georgia Transmission. We work closely with Oglethorpe Power and Georgia Transmission to provide electricity at the lowest cost possible. Being part of a G&T co-op benefits members like you by placing ownership and control in the hands of your local co-op, prioritizing affordability and reliability, supporting local economic development and fostering a sense of community.

To get the electricity from power plants to you, we need a transportation system. High-voltage transmission lines act as the highways for electricity, transporting power over long distances. These lines are supported by massive towers and travel through vast landscapes, connecting power plants to electric substations. Substations are like pit stops along the highway, where the voltage of electricity is adjusted. They play a crucial role in managing power flow and ensuring that electricity is safe for use in homes and businesses.

Once the electricity is reduced to the proper voltage, it travels through distribution power lines, like the ones you typically see on the side of the road. Distribution lines carry electricity from substations to homes, schools and businesses. Distribution transformers, which look like metal buckets on the tops of power poles or large green boxes on the ground, further reduce the voltage to levels suitable for household appliances and electronic devices. After traveling through transformers, electricity reaches you--to power everyday life.

We're proud to be your local, trusted energy provider. From the time it's produced to the time it's used, electricity travels great distances to be available at the flip of a switch. That's what makes the electric grid our nation's most complex machine--and one of our nation's greatest achievements.



Every Member Counts

TAKE THE WORRY OUT OF PAYING YOUR BILL

Excelsior EMC provides members billing options designed to take the worry out of paying bills. These options are called Bank Draft, Levelized Billing, Pay-Your-Way, and CheckOut by Pay-Go.

Bank Draft Program:

The Bank Draft Program makes paying your electric bill easier. When you pay your bill by bank draft, you will have one less check to worry about writing each month. You will continue to receive your monthly electric statement, but payment will be automatically deducted from your bank account on the due date shown on your statement.

Levelized Billing Program:

For the family that likes to live on a budget, Excelsior EMC offers the Levelized Billing Program. This billing option guards against large fluctuations in monthly electric bills that can occur during the summer and winter months. It does so by using a rolling average. Therefore, your monthly bill will change only slightly from month to month.

Pay-Your-Way Program:

The Pay-Your-Way pre-pay billing option puts you in control of your electric account. This program lets the member control how much electricity they use as well as when they pay for it. Pay-Your-Way allows you to keep track of and buy electricity as needed, 24 hours a day through Excelsior EMC's smartphone app or online at www.excelsioremc.com. This program is not subject to late payment penalties, payment arrangement fees, or reconnect fees.

CheckOut by Pay-Go:

CheckOut by Pay-Go introduces a hassle-free payment method for electric bills across 50,000 retail outlets nationwide, including Walmart, Dollar General, Family Dollar, and CVS Pharmacy. Particularly advantageous for members residing in distant areas, it eliminates the need to travel to Cooperative offices for bill payment. Members opting for CheckOut receive a personalized barcode linked to their electric account. Accessible on Excelsior EMC's website, members can print or email the barcode to their smartphones. At participating locations, present the barcode to the cashier, specify the payment amount, and witness the transaction applied within minutes. For assistance or barcode inquiries, contact Customer Service at (912) 685-2115 or (912) 764-2123.

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- Get your barcode.
- Find CheckOut retailers near you.
- Watch a short video for a brief overview.
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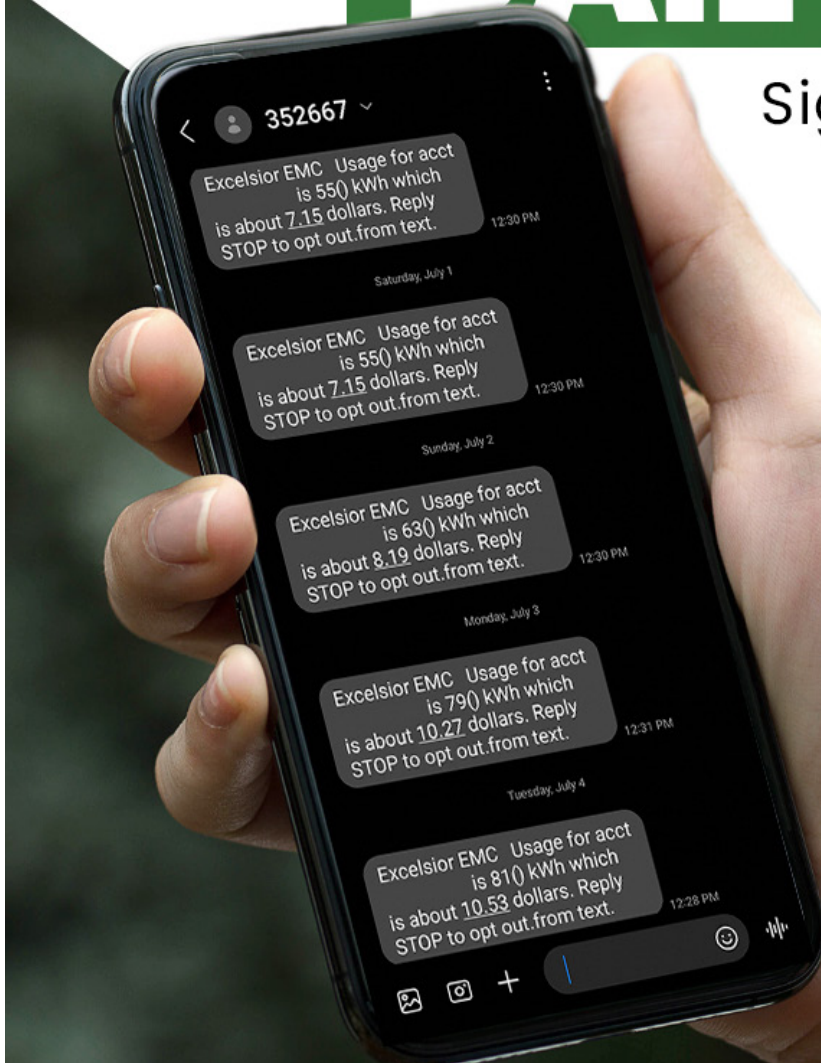
Members desiring the Levelized Billing, Bank Draft, or Pay-Your-Way option are encouraged to call or come by our Metter or Statesboro office to enroll. Make your life a little easier by signing up today.



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