



POWERLINES

August 2024

Official Newsletter of Tri-State Electric Membership Corporation

Local Students Participate in Washington Youth Tour Experience

Three students from the Tri-State EMC area spent a week in the nation's capital as delegates of the 2024 Washington Youth Tour (WYT). Josie Adams from Copper Basin High School, Bella Patton from Fannin County High School and Olivia McNabb from Hiwassee Dam High School joined other students from across Tennessee on the weeklong trip that began on Friday, June 14, 2024.

This annual event is sponsored by Tri-State EMC and the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. Students were selected for the trip by writing an essay titled "Co-ops Connect," which explains how co-ops connect Tennessee communities with energy, education, broadband, economic development and more.

"The Washington Youth Tour is more than just a trip, It's a transformative experience."

— Todd Blocker

Tri-State EMC Human Resources Manager Chris Hulsey believes Youth Tour delegates are the future leaders of our region.

"Through the Youth Tour, these young people are given an extraordinary

chance to explore history and public policy in a direct way, cultivate their leadership skills and acquire knowledge that will be valuable for their communities down the road," Hulsey says.

"The Washington Youth Tour is more than just a trip," adds Todd Blocker, WYT Director and Vice President of Member Relations for the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. "It's a transformative experience that ignites a love of history, inspires leadership and empowers young minds to shape the future. By witnessing awe-inspiring monuments, engaging with our nation's leaders and connecting with a community of peers, the Youth Tour can cultivate a lifelong passion for active citizenship."

While in Washington, D.C., Tennessee's Youth Tour delegates visited the White House and memorials of past Presidents Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, as well as memorials honoring the sacrifices of veterans of World War II, the Vietnam War and the Korean War.

During visits to the museums of the Smithsonian Institution, the touring Tennesseans saw and experienced natural, historical and artistic treasures. Other fun stops included historic homes



From left, Emma Wood, a Copper Basin High School teacher, with Tri-State EMC's 2024 WYT delegates, Josie Adams, Bella Patton and Olivia McNabb, and Tri-State EMC Human Resources Manager Chris Hulsey.

of former presidents—George Washington's Mount Vernon and Thomas Jefferson's Monticello—and the National Museum of the Marine Corps and the Washington National Cathedral, as well as a boat cruise down the Potomac River. The group also paid a solemn and sobering visit to Arlington National Cemetery, where delegates laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The Washington Youth Tour was inspired by former President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1957, when he encouraged electric cooperatives to send young people to the nation's capital. Since then, more than 6,000 young Tennesseans have participated in the Washington Youth Tour as delegates.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Official Announcement of the Tri-State EMC Annual Meeting

Join us for our 76th anniversary on Saturday, September 21, 2024

Tri-State Electric Membership Corp.'s Annual Meeting of Members will be held at the Fannin County High School Performing Arts Center on Saturday, September 21, 2024. Registration will be from 8-10 a.m., followed by a brief business meeting at 10 a.m.

The meeting will include reports of officers, directors and committees. The results of the election of directors will be announced, and members will consider other business that may properly come before the meeting.

Special door prizes will be drawn at the conclusion of the business meeting.



Holiday Office Closing

The Tri-State EMC office will be closed Monday, September 2, 2024, in observance of Labor Day.