

Average Residential Cost of Electricity by State

As of March 2014
(Shown in Cents per Kilowatt Hour)

Alabama	11.63
Alaska	18.66
Arizona	11.32
Arkansas	9.05
California	15.94
Colorado	11.73
Connecticut	19.51
Delaware	12.20
District of Columbia	12.63
Florida	11.86
Georgia	11.22
Hawaii	38.51
Idaho	9.16
Illinois	10.73
Indiana	10.98
Iowa	11.00
Kansas	11.74
Kentucky	10.01
Louisiana	9.17
Maine	15.22
Maryland	13.57
Massachusetts	17.33
Michigan	14.14
Minnesota	11.87
Mississippi	11.28
Missouri	9.79
Montana	9.91
Nebraska	9.48
Nevada	13.39
New Hampshire	17.33
New Jersey	15.93
New Mexico	11.63
New York	20.87
North Carolina	11.07
North Dakota	8.64
Ohio	11.56
Oklahoma	9.66
Oregon	10.19
Pennsylvania	13.01
Rhode Island	16.86
South Carolina	12.26
South Dakota	9.81
Tennessee	10.58
Texas	11.70
Utah	10.41
Vermont	17.36
Virginia	10.60
Washington	8.71
West Virginia	9.24
Wisconsin	13.34
Wyoming	10.05
U.S. Total	12.36
VEC	9.95*

*Average residential rate with May 2014 TVA Fuel Cost added

State and U.S. figures courtesy of the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

VEC Annual Meeting is Easy to Find

Meigs County Middle School is centrally located in the Volunteer Energy Cooperative service region in Decatur, Tennessee. Once you get to Highway 58 in Decatur turn east on Z Street (across from Piggly Wiggly), left on Main Street, and right into the Meigs Middle School parking lot. Or you can just follow the signs – there will be plenty of signs pointing you in the right direction once you get into the Decatur area.

If you want to plug the address into your GPS it is: Meigs Middle School, 564 N. Main Street, Decatur, TN 37322.

To get to Decatur from:

Kingston:

Follow Highway 58 heading south into Decatur. Turn left on Z Street, left on Main Street, and right into Meigs Middle School.

Crossville:

Take Highway 127 South out of Crossville. Follow Highway 27/68 over Watts Bar Dam. Make a right turn onto Highway 58, go nine miles, turn left on Z Street, left on Main Street, and right into Meigs Middle School.

Cleveland:

Take Highway 60 to the intersection with Highway 58. Turn right onto Highway 58 and follow that into Decatur. Turn right on Z Street, left on Main Street, and right into Meigs Middle School.

Athens:

Take Highway 30 into Decatur. At the intersection with Highway 58, turn right. Turn right on Z Street, left on Main Street, and right into Meigs Middle School.



Rody Blevins
President/CEO
Volunteer Energy Cooperative

VEC Annual Meeting Set for October 4

I've interrupted the series of columns on VEC's expenses to offer my invitation to you to attend our Annual Meeting – an important event that will help you get to know your cooperative better. Next month I'll resume the series with a column on substation expenses.

As those lazy days of summer turn to fall, many of us get caught up in the hectic, back-to-school rush and return to our more normal routines. But before your calendar gets too full, please make it a point to mark Saturday, October 4th on your calendar. That's the date for this year's Volunteer Energy Cooperative Annual Meeting.

Volunteer Energy Cooperative's Annual Meeting is an excellent opportunity to learn more about your cooperative and about the differences between being a member of an electric cooperative and being a customer of a different type of electric company.

Registration, free flu shots, and your choice of a pancake or a continental breakfast begin immediately after the doors open at 8 a.m. Morning entertainment will precede the business meeting which convenes at 10 a.m. The featured entertainer David Browning as "The Mayberry Deputy" will take the stage at 10:30 a.m.

In between the entertainment you can stroll through numerous displays about VEC's products and services, energy efficiency, and how to save money on your electric bill. There will also be plenty of great door prizes and every family will receive a free goody-bag.

There will also be balloons, face painting, and safety demonstrations designed for the young and the young-at-heart.

Don't miss out on the fun, the food, the entertainment, the prizes and giveaways, or the chance to learn about your electric cooperative on October 4th at Meigs County Middle School in Decatur. Directions and a pre-registration form are included in this issue of *Powerlines*.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Why Stand in Line?

Fill out the registration form below and you can avoid standing in the registration line at VEC's Annual Meeting. Complete the form below, bring it with you on October 4th, and you can breeze right past the registration lines. Just hand this form in at the special express registration table and head right for the displays, breakfast, flu shots, or entertainment.

Why stand in line if you don't have to?

VEC Annual Meeting Registration/Door Prize Form

This will be your official registration form for the Annual Meeting door prizes.

Please write your **name** and **account number** in the spaces provided below. Your account number can be found on your VEC billing statement.

Name: _____

Account Number: _____

"The Mayberry Deputy" Bringing a Blast from the Past to VEC Annual Meeting

If you think Volunteer Energy Cooperative's Annual Meeting is not going to be a lot of fun this year, we're going to take that idea and nip it ... nip it in the bud.

This year's event, slated for Saturday, October 4 at Meigs County Middle School in Decatur, promises to bring laughs, nostalgia, and good family fun. David L. Browning, an accomplished actor, director, host, and speaker will be portraying "The Mayberry Deputy."

"We live in the world where people are searching for their own Mayberry," Browning says. "I value this character for what it gives to people today ... a laugh, a lift, and memories."

Browning has portrayed Sheriff's Andy Griffith's right-hand man at Mayberry Reunion Shows with original cast members of the "Andy Griffith Show," including Grand Ole Opry appearances. He routinely opened for Don Knotts who played the original "Barney Fife" on "The Andy Griffith Show" and George Lindsey who played "Goober" on the show.

"The Mayberry Deputy, David Browning, is a bridge between 'The Andy Griffith Show' and today," says Don Knotts.

Browning has been featured in about 5,000 performances and has appeared with Faith Hill, the Charlie Daniels Band, Aaron Tippin, Neil McCoy, and the Marshall Tucker Band. He was also featured in a music video by Confederate Railroad and has also appeared in numerous radio, print, and television advertising campaigns.

"We are very excited about having David Browning perform at our annual meeting," said VEC president/CEO Rody Blevins. "I think we are all going to have a great time."

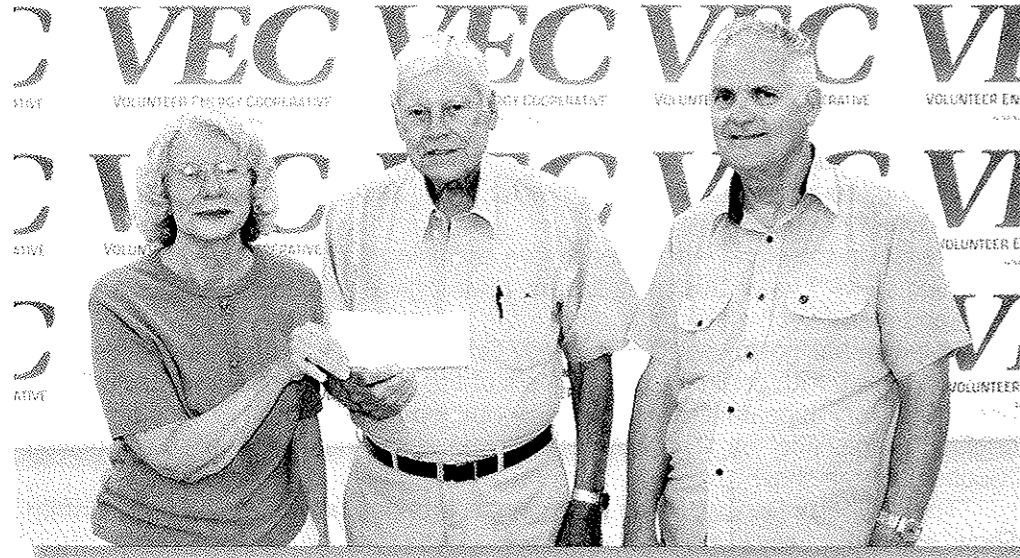
Browning is known for using costume, gesture, facial expression, and audience participation to provide an atmosphere of good will and clean fun. He provides a slice of America's cultural past which is worth preserving and celebrating.



VEC Customers Share Your Change Changes Things



The VEC Customers Share program funded \$30,600 in community service grants in June. Since the inception of the program in October 2001, more than \$4.9 million in grants has been awarded. The deadline for grant applications is the last day of each month. For additional information, contact the office of Marketing and Economic Development, at 423-334-7051. Applications are also available online, at www.vec.org.



VEC Customers Share Board Member Pete Williams, center, presents a grant check to Patricia Wood, left, and Marshall Patterson, right, of the Friends of Audrey Park Memorial Library.

Organizations receiving grants in June

Pickett County High School Lady Bobcat Support Group	\$2,500	Bradley County Master Gardeners	\$500
Fentress County Agricultural Fair	\$1,800	Youth Achievement Foundation, Crossville	\$500
Unaka District: Great Smoky Mountains Council of the Boys Scouts Of America	\$1,750	Polk County High School Future Business Leaders of America	\$500
Friends of Audrey Park Memorial Library, Spring City	\$1,300	Homestead Elementary School Technology Club, Crossville	\$500
Miracle Lake Christian Training Center, Etowah	\$1,250	Crossville Housing Authority Resident Council	\$500
Midway Middle School Wave Serves Club	\$1,250	Ocoee Middle School Beta Club, Cleveland	\$500
Burks Flag Team Booster Club, Monterey	\$1,218	Camp Agape, Benton	\$500
Spring City Volunteer Fire Department	\$1,200	Martin Elementary School FCCLA Club, Crossville	\$500
Maple Grove Women's Outreach, Harrison	\$1,100	Luminary United Methodist Church Women's Sewing Circle, Ten Mile	\$500
Midway Youth League	\$1,000	Cumberland County Rescue Squad Crewettes	\$500
Cleveland Emergency Shelter	\$1,000	Obed Watershed Community Association, Crossville	\$500
Peavine Care Center, Crossville	\$1,000	Bradey Central High School Varsity Basketball Cheerleaders Boosters	\$500
Ooltewah High School Band Booster	\$900	Central High School Baseball Boosters, Harrison	\$350
Cherokee Removal Memorial Park, Blythe Ferry	\$750	Polk County Basketball Cheerleader Boosters	\$250
Polk County Friends of the Library Association	\$750	West-Daysville-Ozone Volunteer Fire Department	\$250
Meigs County FFA	\$750	Decatur Civitan Club	\$250
Cumberland County TAD Center	\$750	Meigs County Ministries	\$250
Fentress County Senior Citizens	\$700	Ooltewah High School Redhots Dance Team Booster Club	\$200
Girl Scouts of America Troop 1611, Monterey	\$650	Ooltewah 10 and Under All-Star Baseball Team	\$200
Monterey Mission Center	\$632		
Polk County High School Technology Students Association	\$600		

VEC Sponsors Local Students on Trip of a Lifetime

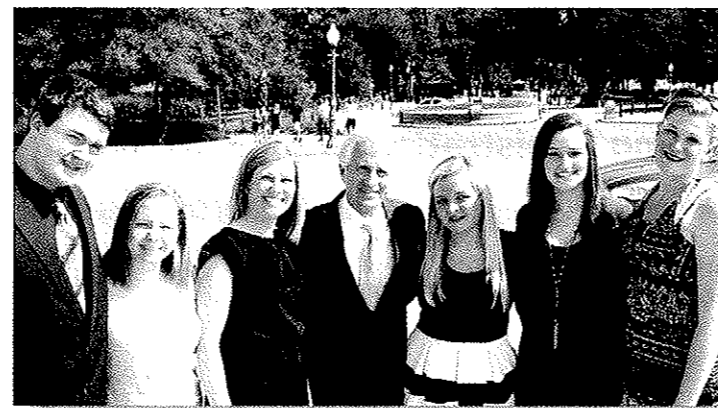
More than 140 high school juniors from across Tennessee experienced an in-depth look at our nation's capital during the electric cooperative's 2014 Washington Youth Tour.

Cody Brantley of Rhea County High School, Anna Lowery of Meigs County High School, Sara Johnson of Pickett County High School, and Haley Snyder of Walker Valley High School participated in the weeklong tour of Washington, D.C., for writing winning short stories describing how locally owned, member-controlled electric cooperatives provide valuable community-building support in addition to reliable and affordable electric service. English teacher Stacey Wielfaert of Walker Valley High School, was also awarded a spot on the trip to recognize her invaluable support of the co-op's youth programs.

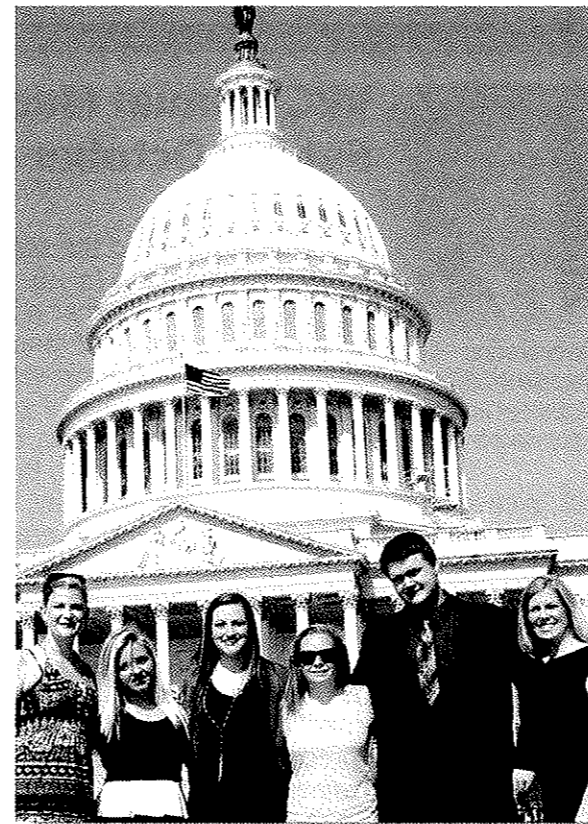
The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour is a joint effort of Volunteer Energy Cooperative, the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association, and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Each school year, VEC sponsors a short story contest for high school juniors. Winners are awarded an expense-paid trip to our nation's capital the following June as part of the Washington Youth Tour. This year's trip ran June 13-19.

"Youth Tour is one of the most rewarding things I do all year," said VEC Communications Coordinator Robert McCarty who served as a chaperone along with VEC's Paige Finnell. "These students not only learn about our nation and their electric cooperative, but they also learn leadership skills that will benefit them in college and beyond."

Students on the tour visited the White House and memorials to past presidents Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Delano Roosevelt as well as monuments honoring the sacrifices of veterans of World War II and the Vietnam and Korean conflicts. Strolls through the varied museums of the Smithsonian Institution afforded the students opportunities to learn more about science, history and art.



VEC's participants meet with U.S. Senator Bob Corker. From left: Cody Brantley, Anna Lowery, Paige Finnell, Corker, Sara Johnson, Haley Snyder, and Stacey Wielfaert.



VEC's group visits the U.S. Capitol Building. From left: Stacey Wielfaert, Sara Johnson, Haley Snyder, Anna Lowery, Cody Brantley, and Paige Finnell.

Other fun stops included homes of former presidents — George Washington's Mount Vernon and Jefferson's Monticello — a performance of "The Lion King" at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and tours of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial.

The Youth Tour also included a

solemn and sobering visit to Arlington National Cemetery, where the group laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. And the Tennessee group marveled at the precision and skill of the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps and Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon at the Sunset Parade, performed in front of the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial's iconic statue re-creating the flag-raising over Iwo Jima.

No trip to Washington, D.C., would be complete without a lesson or two in government and civics. Students met Senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker as well as Representatives Diane Black, Scott DesJarlais, and Chuck Fleischman.

"We are owned by our members, and it is so important that our members understand how that makes us different. Our communities and our co-ops need strong leadership, and youth tour is one way we can help prepare students for the roles they may one day fill," said VEC President/CEO Roddy Blevins. "Youth tour and similar educational opportunities made possible by VEC are designed to help students understand what it takes to be a leader in their communities and why leadership is so important."

Anna Lowery, a Youth Tour participant who is beginning her senior year at Meigs County High School said the Washington Youth Tour was one of the best experiences of her life.

"The friendships I've made and the things I've learned will last a lifetime," Lowery said. "I don't think I've ever enjoyed a trip as much as I have this one. It's truly the trip of a lifetime, and I would not trade the week I had with some of the most amazing people for anything."



VEC's students prepare to tour Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington. From left: Haley Snyder, Anna Lowery, Cody Brantley, and Sara Johnson.

A Letter to Our Members

Dear Cooperative Member:

The 77th Annual Meeting of the Members of Volunteer Energy Cooperative will be held at Meigs County Middle School. The business meeting will begin at 10 a.m. EDT, on Saturday, October 4, 2014.

The following action is to be taken: To consider reports of officers and to transact all business which may come before a regular Annual Meeting.

Sammy Norton
Secretary-Treasurer

Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)

Residential & Outdoor Lighting Fuel Cost Adjustment
Effective August 1, 2014

2.626¢

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