

NEWS RELEASE

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Caring for the community

Carroll EMC employees put cooperative principle into action

CARROLLTON, Ga. (Nov. 18, 2009) — Employees of local consumer-owned electric utility Carroll EMC are putting an important tenet of cooperative business — community service—into practice in and around Carrollton.

Thirty-two Carroll EMC employees, who work at the co-op's headquarters in Carrollton, recently rolled up their sleeves to tackle three community service projects. The group joined other Georgia electric cooperative employees as volunteers for Hands On Georgia Week. The annual community service event is an initiative launched by Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue in 2004.

Volunteers from the co-op performed 138 hours of work in only three days to improve some community facilities and assist a local family.

At the Castle Playground in Carrollton, 13 employees spent a day performing maintenance and making repairs. "This is a great place for kids, so we want it to also be a safe and welcoming area for them," said Shane Warren, a lineman at the co-op who worked on the project.

Carroll EMC employees also volunteered at the Donation Center for Flood Victims at Tabernacle Baptist Church. "This center helped so many in times of need, so it was my pleasure to lend a hand," said Marshall Cauthen, Business Development Manager, who assisted in collecting and distributing supplies.

Helping those devastated by flooding was also a mission of the Carroll EMC volunteers. Seventeen employees and their family members provided cleanup services for a family whose home was swept away by rushing water.

"This relief effort was sad work because the family had lost so much," said Carroll EMC Member Services Assistant Carole Thompson. "I just hope that we helped them get on the road to recovery."

All cooperatives, including Carroll EMC, operate based on the values of self-help, self-

responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, cooperative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others. Participating in Hands On Georgia Week is one way Carroll EMC employees put these cooperative principles into practice.

Carroll EMC is a member-owned cooperative providing electricity to more than 49,000 homes and businesses. The co-op serves members in Carroll, Haralson, Heard, Paulding, Polk, Troup and Floyd counties. For more information about Carroll EMC, visit the cooperative's Web site at www.cemc.com.

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