

Energy Lines

The official publication of Flint Energies

October 2026

Local voices shape local solutions

October is National Co-op Month

When you hear the word cooperative, what comes to mind? As your local electric co-op, we hope you think of Flint Energies. Regardless of the services offered, all cooperatives have one thing in common: they're led by the people they serve—and that simple idea makes a meaningful difference.

Cooperatives come in all shapes and sizes, each created to meet a specific need. Credit unions help Members save and borrow money. Producer cooperatives, like Ocean Spray and Land O'Lakes, help farmers bring their products to market. Retail cooperatives, like REI and ACE Hardware, are owned by their shoppers or a membership of store owners, while housing cooperatives give residents a voice in managing their communities. And utility cooperatives—like Flint Energies—provide reliable electricity to the communities they serve.

Unlike many businesses that answer to outside investors or shareholders, cooperatives are built for their Members. Their goal isn't simply to earn a profit—it's to provide value, meet unique local needs and strengthen the communities they call home.

That's exactly what makes Flint Energies different. Our story began in 1937, when neighbors came together to bring electricity to an area when other utilities wouldn't. While a lot has changed since then, our purpose has remained steady. We're still here to provide power and make decisions with our community's best interests in mind.

Being locally owned means we have the flexibility to focus on what matters most to the communities we serve. That's why no two electric cooperatives are exactly alike. Every community has different needs, and every cooperative reflects those priorities.

For some co-ops, that means expanding programs that help Members save energy and money. Others may focus on supporting economic development, investing in emerging technology or creating new opportunities for local students and teachers through scholarships and classroom grants. We value our Members and strive to invest in the future.

You'll also find the co-op difference in the little things. It's the lineworkers restoring power after a storm. The employees answering your questions when you call. The team members volunteering at community events. The Board members—your neighbors—who help guide decisions for the future.

We're your neighbor and local energy partner, and we're committed to serving this community for generations to come.

Whether it's Flint Energies, your local credit union or ACE Hardware, cooperatives prove that when people work together, everyone benefits. Your membership is what makes our mission possible—and it's what keeps us focused on serving the people and communities that matter most.

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Power pole clutter

Flyers, satellite dishes, posters, basket-ball hoops, decorative lights, even hunting stands. You name it, someone has tried to staple, nail or tie it to a power pole. Here's a quick look at the dangers and pitfalls associated with unauthorized pole attachments:

Unauthorized

Many state and local laws and the National Electrical Safety Code prohibit any unauthorized items on poles.



Pole Damage

Even small holes can allow moisture and insects past the pole sealant, which can shorten the life of the pole or weaken it and cause it to fall in a storm.



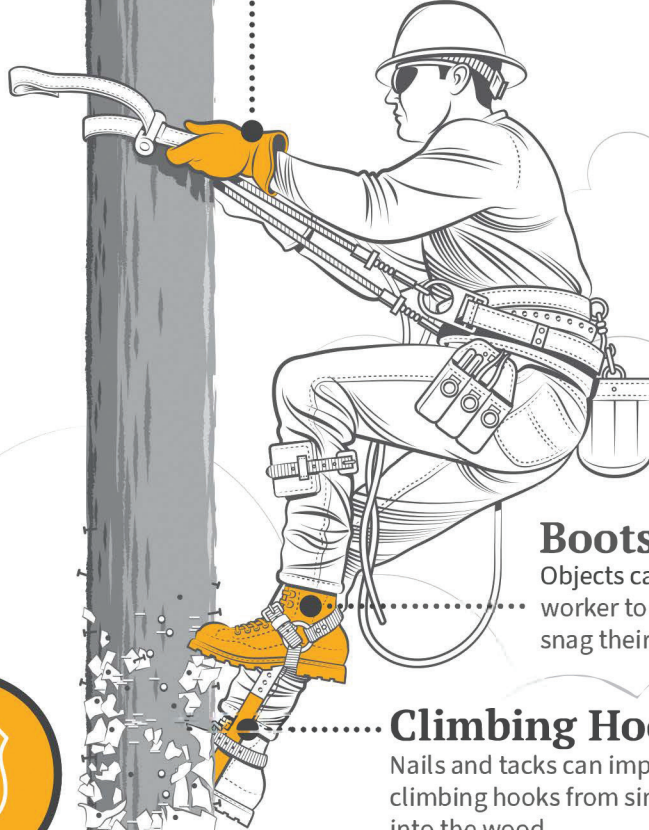
Hinders Repairs

Posters and flyers can hide identifying markers on poles and slow repair work.



Gloves

Staples, tacks and nails can puncture a lineworker's insulated rubber gloves and expose them to electric shock.



Boots

Objects can cause a worker to fall if they snag their boots.

Climbing Hooks

Nails and tacks can impede climbing hooks from sinking into the wood.



Dangerous

A person who gets too close to energized lines while attaching an object can be electrocuted.



Distraction

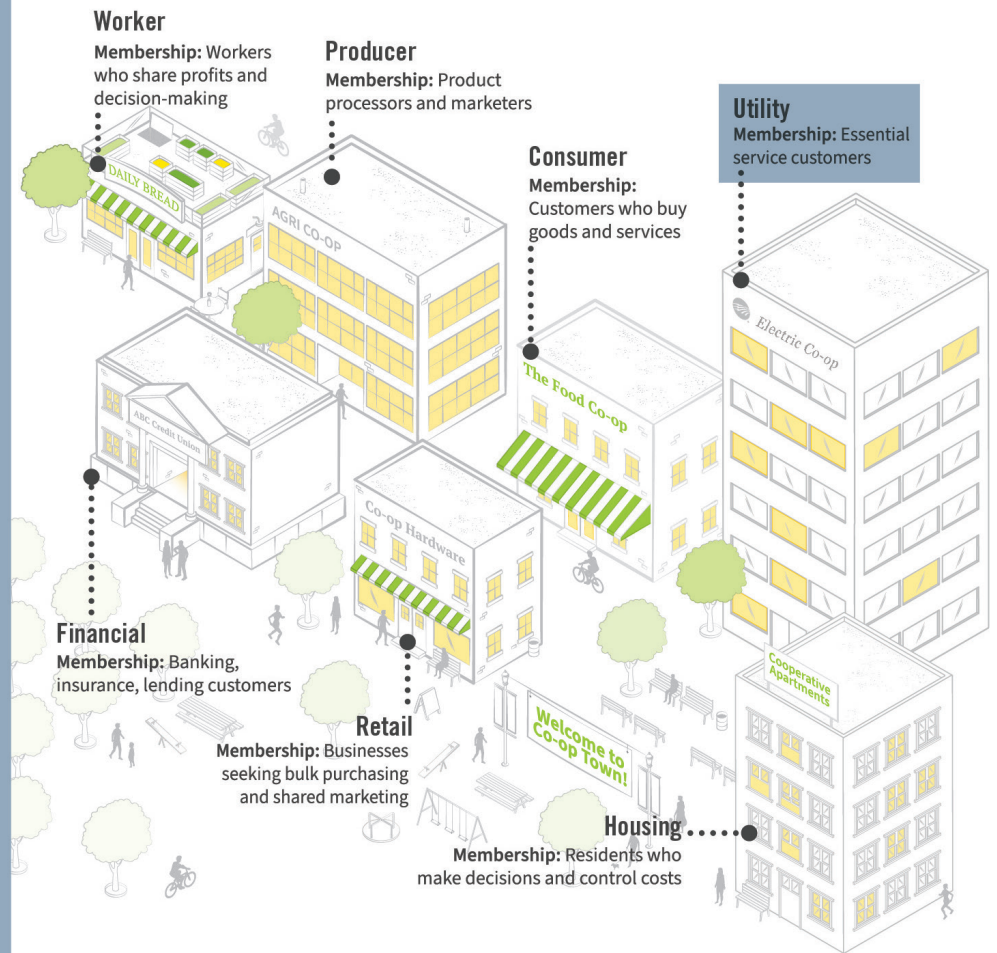
Some materials posted on poles, like mirrors or holiday decorations, can be a distraction to drivers.

KINDS OF CO-OPS

Cooperatives come in many forms—from electric utilities and credit unions to farm supply stores and housing co-ops—but all cooperatives are built with a common purpose: to meet the needs of the members they serve.

Co-ops strengthen local communities, keep decisions close to home and invest in long-term success.

October is National Co-op Month.



Flint Members gain co-op knowledge at annual conference

Flint Energies sponsored three couples to the 2026 Georgia Cooperative Council's Adult Co-op Conference, held August 21–23 at the Historic Windsor Hotel in Americus. This annual event brings couples from across the state together to learn about the cooperative business model and its far-reaching impact on communities locally, statewide and nationwide.

"As a cooperative, our mission goes beyond keeping the lights on—we're dedicated to empowering future leaders and strengthening the communities we serve," said Blair Brown, Flint Energies' Youth & Education Specialist.

The three-day conference featured engaging workshops, networking opportunities and fellowship, all set against the backdrop of Americus' historic charm.



Left to right: Willie and Sebrina Hayes, Liz Almendra and Jacob Hancock, and Gordon and Morgan Grizzle

Couples explored the unique values of cooperatives and gained insight into how these principles help build strong communities.

Representing Flint Energies were Members Liz Almendra and Jacob Hancock of Centerville, Gordon and Morgan Grizzle of Perry, and Willie and Sebrina Hayes of Byron.



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Blair Brown, CCC, Editor/Designer

89th Annual Meeting of Members

**Tuesday,
October 6th**

Southside Baptist Church
1040 South Houston Lake Road | Warner Robins

Doors open: 8:30 a.m. | Meeting starts: 10 a.m.

New All Flint Energies Members must register upon entrance with their account number and identification.

☀ **Opportunity to win \$2,000 in electric bill credit**

☀ **FREE barbecue lunch and entertainment**



flintenergies.com/annual-meeting

Are you a co-op voter?

Co-ops are a trusted voice in Washington, D.C. The more our community Members turn out to vote, the greater the opportunity we have to elect leaders who understand co-ops and the issues we face. The co-op voice is powerful, and it starts with you!

**CO-OPS
VOTE**

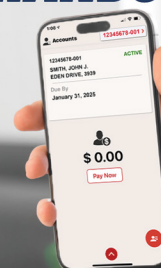
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