



# **ELECTRIC** **101**

## COOPERATIVES

*A Consumer-Owned Electric Utility Network*

### **Florida's electric cooperatives are:**

- Not-for-profit, private, independent electric utility businesses
- Established to provide safe, affordable, and reliable electric service
- Revenues beyond the cooperative's operating expenses go back to consumer-members over time
- Owned by the consumer-members they serve
- Governed by a Board of Trustees elected from the membership
- Incorporated under the laws of the state of Florida

Distribution cooperatives are the foundation of the electric cooperative network. They are the direct point of contact with their consumer-members in the delivery of electricity and other services. Generation and Transmission cooperatives (G&Ts) provide wholesale power and transmission service to their distribution cooperative members through a combination of their own generation and purchasing power from other utilities and independent power producers. In addition to providing high-quality electric service, electric cooperatives are deeply committed to their communities.

### **Florida Electric Cooperatives Association Facts at a Glance:**

- 16 Distribution and 2 Generation and Transmission (G&T) cooperatives
- Cooperatives serve an estimated 2.7 million people in 57 of 67 counties
- Cooperatives serve an average of 13 consumer-members per mile of line, while investor-owned utilities (IOUs) average 62 consumers per mile of line, and publicly owned utilities, or municipals, average 67 consumers per mile of line