**Article Title**: [*Co-op Name Collaborates*] -or- [*Florida Electric Co-ops Collaborate*] with Walmart to Better Serve Community

**Use:** Internal and/or External

Commercial and Industrial (C&I) businesses are a large part of any community’s economy. They are often some of the largest employers in our communities and, for your local electric co-op, the largest energy users.

On March 20, representatives from many of Florida’s electric cooperatives took a behind-the-scenes tour of a Walmart Supercenter in Gainesville. The event was designed to help co-op and Walmart leaders learn more about our shared energy future and build stronger connections.

*[If your co-op had an attendee – add a quote here regarding their experience.]*

Attendees on the tour met with Walmart Energy Team leaders who went over Walmart’s goal of zero emissions by 2040 and any other unique energy needs and ever-changing challenges the stores are facing. During a roundtable discussion, attendees discussed various other topics, including store refrigeration, EV charging, outages, and storm recovery in the community.

Walmart is much like any home in our community. They strive to decrease their expenses by saving energy and money, and they depend on electric cooperatives for reliable affordable power. Their slogan is “Save Money. Live Better.” This is why we collaborate with our C&I businesses, like Walmart, to benefit everyone in our shared communities. After all, strong C&I accounts can drive economic growth in a community, by creating new job opportunities and improving the quality of life for residents. Electric cooperatives strive to go beyond just powering communities, we want to empower our consumer-members.

**Walmart’s Powered by Florida Electric Co-ops:**

21 Supercenters & Neighborhood Markets 80,801,984 total average annual kWh usage

2 Distribution Centers 14,400,000 total average annual kWh usage