





## **MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

Dear Member:

WREC began 2020 with strong growth, a bustling economy, and a very positive outlook for the ensuing year. However, the world was awakening to a new crisis, the Coronavirus otherwise known as COVID-19. As a first responding utility, known for weathering national disasters, no one could imagine the immense threat of the virus, nor the drastic measures we would have to take to respond to it.

As the virus began to spread throughout the country, Florida's infection rate began to climb dramatically. With hurricane season fast approaching, WREC made the painful decision to close its offices to the public on March 17, 2020 and implement strict safety measures to prevent the spread

of the virus within our organization. Based on the surmounting loss of life and new state and federal COVID-19 guidelines prohibiting large gatherings, WREC was forced to cancel its Annual Meeting. Conditions in our country were changing daily but our mission remained clear, to keep the power flowing to our Members.

With our economy suffering, basic supplies scarce, and millions of Americans unemployed, WREC's Board of Directors authorized an early \$21 million Capital Credits refund. We worked swiftly to refund these dollars in May to provide much needed relief to our Members!

WREC's charitable foundations, Operation Round-Up and the Educational Foundation program, remained active and instrumental throughout the year, disbursing over \$1.3 million. Although there was a large amount of uncertainty surrounding the pandemic, the Co-op remained actively involved when opportunities presented themselves. One such instance was the opportunity for several employees to deliver meals to homebound seniors, bringing a smile and a dose of hope to them.

With the demand for mental health services growing rapidly, construction of the Vincent House Pasco was completed and our second "recovery through work" center opened in December. The 9,500 sq. ft. facility offers life and job training skills to those living with mental illness. Vincent House Pasco was made possible through a collaborative partnership with the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners, Public Defender's Office, Pasco County Sheriff's Office, elected leaders specifically Florida Senate President Wilton Simpson, civic leaders, and local businesses.

WREC closed out the year successfully and even overcame hardships related to the Coronavirus. Seventy-seven Cooperative employees became ill with the virus and three had to be hospitalized. Despite the pandemic, we had many successes, including lowering rates for the third year in a row. Even in the most difficult of times, we had much to be thankful for.

As your General Manager, and neighbor, I ask you to stay safe, and please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of my staff if we can assist you during these trying times. We are all in this together.

Sincerely,

Billy E. Brown

**Executive Vice-President & General Manager** 



Billy E. Brown

Executive Vice-President
and General Manager,
Withlacoochee River
Electric Cooperative, Inc.









# **Keeping the Power On For Our Members!**

For the last 3 years WREC has significantly improved service reliability for our Members.

Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative SAIDI (SYSTEM AVERAGE INTERRUPTION DURATION INDEX) NUMBERS					
2018	2018 2019 2020				
<b>127.810</b> MINUTES	<b>95.025</b> MINUTES	<b>86.993</b> MINUTES			

SAIDI is a measurement of the average amount of time each Member was without power each year. We strive to keep the power on whether the outage is storm, equipment, or human/animal related (car vs. pole, etc.). By increasing our tree trimming, system upgrades, and the use of our drones for line inspection, our Member outage times have been reduced significantly over the last three years.

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## 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

## ensuring RELIABILITY

WREC's Control Center monitors your electric distribution system around the clock, 365 days a year.



## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



DISTRICT 1
Robert W. Strickland
Vice-President



**DISTRICT 2**David S. Hunnicutt



**DISTRICT 3**Patricia P. Bechtelheimer



**DISTRICT 4**Alan F. Hengesbach
Secretary/Treasurer



**DISTRICT 5**Robert J. Huss



**DISTRICT 6**Terrence E. Schrader
President



**DISTRICT 7**Desmond G. Little



DISTRICT 8
Paul R. Little



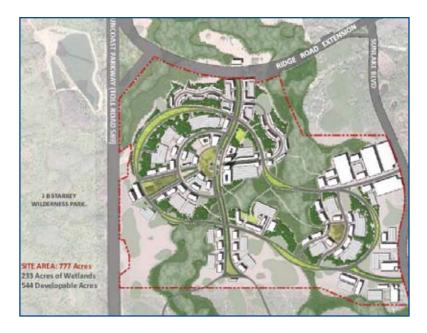
**DISTRICT 9**Kimberly L. Kinney

## **SERVICE AREA** LEVY COUNTY **CITRUS** COUNTY MARION COUNTY **SUMTER COUNTY** Crystal River 490 Homosassa Springs Floral City **CITRUS COUNTY** 490 HERNANDO COUNTY CITRUS COUNTY **HERNANDO COUNTY** Nobleton Brooksville Weeki Wachee HERNANDO COUNTY Spring Hill **PASCO** HERNANDO COUNTY COUNTY PASCO COUNTY 41 SUMTER SCOUNTY **POLK** COUNTY Land 0' Lakes Zephyrhills **Springs PASCO COUNTY** PASCO COUNTY PINELLAS COUNTY HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

## **Increasing Services**

WREC provides electricity to over 237,000 services in our nine Trustee districts with 4,410 new services added during 2020 in our 5-county service area.

This increase in new services is expected to continue, as the building of many new facilities such as the newly funded Moffitt Cancer Center. The Pasco County Commission recently approved a \$25 million incentive that will bring a new 125,000 square foot building on a 775-acre site to the county within the next five years. The development of this center alone could create at least 14,000 jobs in the region and put Pasco County on the national map as an important destination for both cancer treatment and research.



## **2020 YEAR IN REVIEW**

#### **JANUARY**

NRECA (*National Rural Electric Cooperative Association*) completed a study on WREC's economic impact on Florida's economy from 2013-2017. WREC had a \$2.6 billion Gross State Product impact and supported over 5,200 jobs, along with \$1 billion in direct labor.

#### **FEBRUARY**

Installations of our whole house generator is in full swing with over **250 Generac® Generators** installed throughout our 5-county service territory.

#### **MARCH**

WREC closes offices to the General Public to combat the spread of COVID-19 due to the essential nature of electric delivery.

#### **APRIL**

WREC 73rd Annual Meeting is canceled due to COVID-19.

#### **MAY**

WREC's Board approves an early **\$21** million Capital Credits refund to help Members affected by COVID-19.

#### **JUNE**

Began delivering meals to homebound seniors impacted by COVID-19.

#### **JULY**

Began promoting *Power Outage Notifications* on the *SmartHub*® app. At the end of 2020, there were more than 50,000 subscribers combined for the four types of notifications available.

#### **AUGUST**

Completed acquisition of property to build a new substation in Spring Hill.

#### **SEPTEMBER**

*Vincent House Pasco* has a ribbon cutting ceremony to open the new 9,500 sq. ft. facility designed to help those living with mental illness.

#### **OCTOBER**

Helped 20 families in 2020 by disbursing over \$109,000 from our *Operation Round-Up* program.

#### **NOVEMBER**

WREC expands outreach and adds an EV (*Electric Vehicle*) page to the WREC website to help promote EVs.

#### **DECEMBER**

Vincent House Pasco is fully staffed and opened to serve the community!





## **MANAGEMENT TEAM**



EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
& GENERAL MANAGER
Billy E. Brown



Paula Lewis 352-567-5133, x6101



ACCOUNTING & FINANCE Ronnie Deese, Manager 352-567-5133, x6200



ENGINEERING & TECH. SUPPORT Howard Prim, Manager 352-567-5133, x5100



MEMBER RELATIONS David Lambert, Manager 352-567-5133, x6102



BAYONET POINT Joe Marina, District Manager 727-868-9465, x2100



CRYSTAL RIVER Gary Steele, District Manager 352-795-4382, x4100



ONE PASCO CENTER Ricky Gude, District Manager 352-588-5115, x1100



SYSTEM OPERATIONS Marlin Sexton, Manager 352-567-5133, x5200



WEST HERNANDO
David Gonzalez, District Manager
352-596-4000, x3100





## ensuring RELIABILITY

A dedicated and experienced staff to oversee and direct Cooperative policies and procedures with the goal of helping to improve our local communities' economic well-being.

## **OPERATION ROUND-UP**

## Members Helping Members in Need



## Over a Quarter Century of Help for Our Members!

## "Meet Lynn Simon From Spring Hill"

Lynn Simon was a caretaker of her husband until he passed away in 2016. They were married for 42 years. Now she lives alone on a small income. Lynn is handicapped and walks with a cane 85% of the time. She also has several other health issues and was admitted into the hospital on multiple occasions due to double pneumonia.

Ms. Simon reached out to Operation Round-Up when her hot water heater stopped working.

She could not afford to have it replaced. She was without hot water for over a month, and due to her medical condition, it was vital that she had hot water in her home.

Thanks to the generosity of our Members who participate in this worthwhile program, Ms. Simon was able to replace the hot water heater with a new one.

Thank you for your support of this noble program.

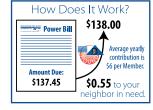
For more information visit our website at: wrec.net.





Catastrophic events can occur at any time throughout our lives, but thanks to the generosity of our Members, a helping hand is there to provide assistance through **WREC's Operation Round-Up**.

This program now has over 31,778 participating Members, who have their monthly energy bill rounded up to the nearest dollar. Since 1994, Operation Round-Up has helped 638 families and provided over \$2.2 million in assistance to those in need.



#### **DURING 2020, OPERATION ROUND-UP HELPED 20 FAMILIES!**

Twenty More Reasons to Join! A total of 638 WREC Families Helped!

This worthwhile program has disbursed \$2,221,019.74!

## **INVESTING IN EDUCATION**

Helping Our Children Rise to Their Fullest Potential

# Providing Opportunity Through Education \$14.5 Million In Scholarships Awarded!

Dear WREC Scholarship Committee,

I want to express my sincerest gratitude for the very generous scholarship you have bestowed upon me. As the recipient of this gift, I will be able to continue my educational journey. My inter-personal, community, and social relationships will strengthen as I pursue my academic goals thanks to the generosity of the Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative. My target moving forward is to immerse myself in the Honor's Program and the Engineering Department within the University of South Florida's Tampa campus, creating a positive track for my future and the world. Again, thank you for your generosity and kindness.

Sincerely, James "Ryley" Price Class of 2020 - Lecanto



James "Ryley" Price Class of 2020 - Lecanto

Congratulations to all of the WREC scholarship recipients.

For more information visit our website at: wrec.net.



Investing in our communities and families continues to be one of the guiding principles of electric cooperatives across the country. Since 1997, your Cooperative's Educational Foundation has awarded 2,084 college scholarships with a potential payout of \$14.5 million. The recipients of these scholarships may attend any in-state regionally accredited college, university or technical school.

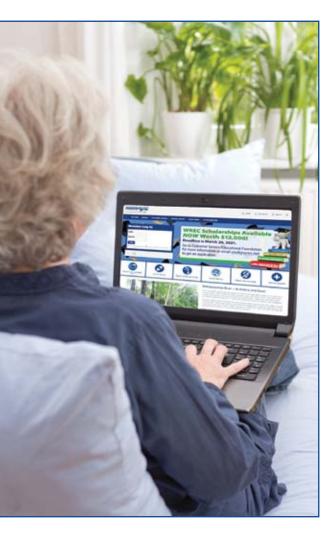
The Cooperative funds this worthwhile program using abandoned Capital Credits that would otherwise be forfeited to the State of Florida as abandoned property.

\$14.5 MILLION IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED AS OF 2020!

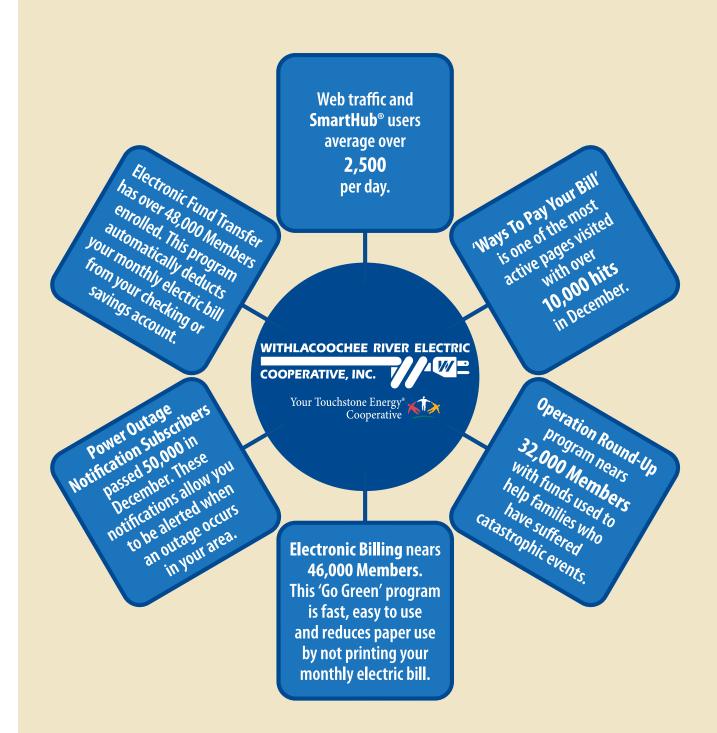


## **WREC WEBSITE FACTS**

Making It Easier For Members to Connect!



In 2020, WREC went live with an all new website. Moving to a new platform increased our efficiency, reliability, and performance to help us stay connected with our Members. Please be sure to visit us and become familiar with our Member website at: **wrec.net** 



## DID YOU KNOW ELECTRIC VEHICLES (EVS) HAVE...



#### LOWER OPERATING COSTS

Fuel and maintenance costs are lower because they have fewer and simpler components and do not require fluid changes or tune-ups.

#### **LESS POLLUTION**

They have lower carbon emissions and produce no smog-causing tailpipe emissions.

#### **UNIQUE FEATURES**

EVs are quiet, provide instant power, fun to drive, and charging at home is convenient.













Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative is dedicated to electric vehicle integration into our electric system.

## **ELECTRIC VEHICLE PROGRAM**

Electric Vehicles Are The Future!



WREC launched its new **Choose EV** feature on our website last year to allow Members to make informed decisions about EVs and provide them with the most accurate and updated information available. This new feature allows you to:

- find out if an EV is right for you; the facts and benefits of EVs.
- see the gas savings calculator over the life of the vehicle!
- choose an EV model that includes average cost, range, kWh consumption, charge time, and federal tax credits associated with the model.
- compare the environmental advantages of CO2 emissions on gas vs. electric vehicles.
- locate charging stations along with the level of the charging station.

# SYSTEM RELIABILITY

One Of Our Most Important Goals



Our drone program has been operational now for over two years and continues to help isolate and locate potential outages in areas we cannot access on foot. They are used to examine all our lines, poles, and substations to look for possible problems before they occur. Their infrared cameras allow for night use as well as day use, and they are a big reason why our system reliability is improving.

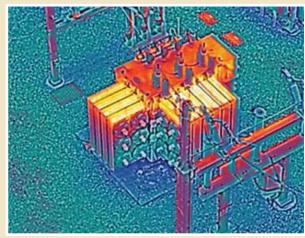
Average outage times are measured by SAIDI (System Average Interruption Duration Index) numbers. Keeping our Members' power on, our system up-to-date and reliable is a very important goal at WREC. This past year, WREC invested \$4 million more than in 2019 to trim right-of-way. We continue to invest in right-of-way maintenance to improve our system reliability. In 2020, the average outage time per Member was 86.993 minutes, another decrease from 2019 when it was 95.025 minutes. WREC logged 1,723 miles of power lines trimmed, an increase of almost 100 miles over 2019 numbers. WREC also invested



over \$29.7 million in new materials and equipment to improve our system reliability.

SYSTEM RELIABILITY CHART				
Year	Cost	<b>Total SAIDI</b>		
2018	\$ 8,407,607.56	127.81		
2019	\$14,157,325.23	95.025		
2020	\$18,205,123.58	86.993		





Substation images without and with infrared sensors taken by our drones.

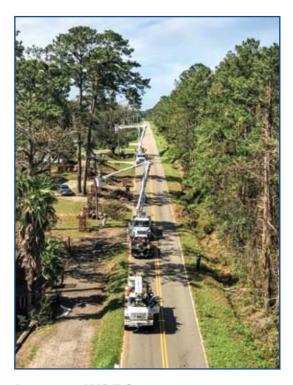
	2010	2019	2020
Average Number of Active Accounts	199,982	220,365	224,681
Total kWh Purchased by Cooperative Members	4,078,477,844	4,052,449,888	4,247,097,165
Average Monthly Residential kWh Usage	1,331	1,199	1,252
Total kWh Purchased by Cooperative	4,238,126,656	4,202,051,135	4,385,792,947
Cost of Power Purchased by Cooperative	\$ 341,509,373	\$ 308,043,210	\$ 308,791,519
System Peak Demand in Kilowatts (KW)	1,355,070	932,560	1,007,470
Number of Full-Time Employees	444	513	504
Retirement of Capital Credits/ Deferred Revenue Reduction Refunds	\$ 14,207,534	\$ 21,195,458	\$ 21,343,468

## Your Cooperative grew steadily in 2020.

One of the key elements critical to Member satisfaction is reliability. WREC improved its average Member outage time by 8.5% over 2019, and the average outage time has decreased over the last three years.

## **2020 YEAR-END STATS**

## Committed to Strategic Management



## In 2020, WREC...

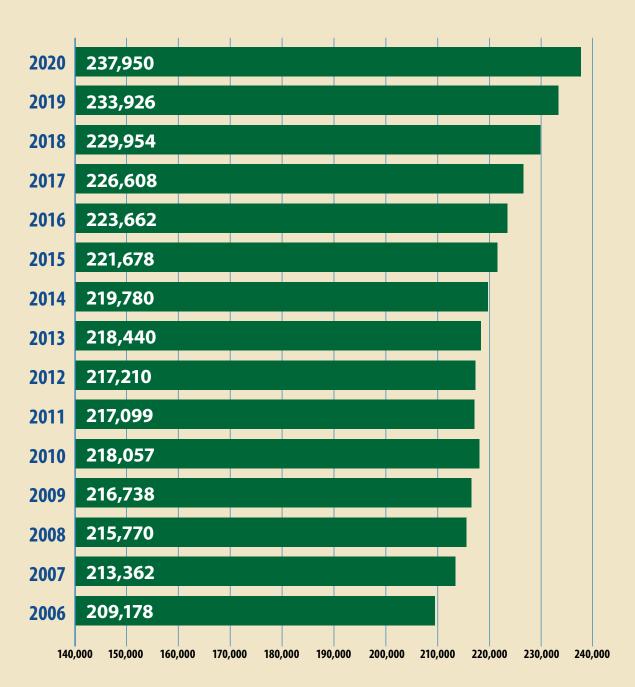
- Ended the year with 504 employees
- Added 4,410 new services
- Closed the year with 11,303 miles of energized power lines
- Completed 10,605 reconnects
- Completed 8,310 disconnects
- Answered 335,720 customer calls
- Trimmed tree limbs away from 1,723 miles of power lines and completed 4,105 right-ofway related service orders to help prevent unnecessary power outages
- Invested over \$29.4 million in new materials and supplies
- · Maintained a fleet of 304 vehicles

## **COOPERATIVE SERVICES**

**Better Services For Our Members** 

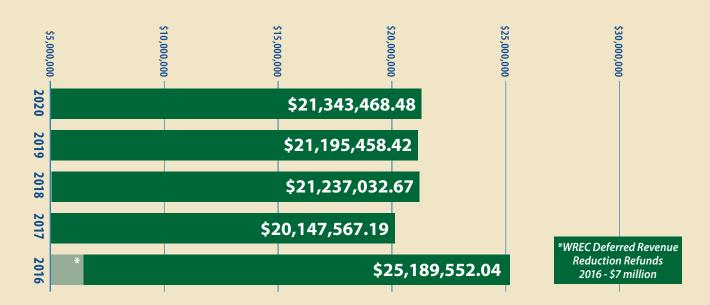


This chart displays your Cooperative's growth for the past 15 years.



## **CAPITAL CREDITS and DEFERRED REVENUE REDUCTION REFUNDS**

## WREC's Commitment to Strategic Management



2020 \$	21,343,468.48	2008	14,163,123.30
2019	21,195,458.42	2007	14,151,954.90
2018	21,237,032.67	2006	14,000,041.79
2017	20,147,567.19	2005	13,735,562.17
2016	25,189,552.04	2004	13,074,532.82
2015	25,187,905.58	2003	12,082,542.22
2014	15,186,202.39	2002	12,029,598.91
2013	15,173,453.48	2001	11,949,301.35
2012	14,177,947.24	2000	10,000,136.94
2011	14,205,748.61	1999	9,999,990.72
2010	14,207,534.22	Prior	69,632,025.83
2009	14,394,160.28	Totals \$	416,464,841.55



Your Cooperative
has returned
more than
\$344 million in
Capital Credits
and \$72 million
in Deferred Revenue
Reduction Refunds.

## STATEMENTS OF

## REVENUE AND PATRONAGE CAPITAL AND BALANCE SHEETS

#### STATEMENTS OF REVENUE AND PATRONAGE CAPITAL

(For years ended December 31)	2019	2020
OPERATING REVENUES		
Energy Sales	445,915,842	\$ 453,417,626
Other Electric Revenues	18,575,695	 18,608,497
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES\$	464,491,537	\$ 472,026,123
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Purchased Power	308,048,255	\$ 308,805,132
Operations	20,975,455	 21,294,920
Maintenance	30,672,322	 34,421,613
Consumer Accounting	13,286,619	 13,542,243
Customer Service	532,519	 455,537
Administrative and General	11,332,862	 11,779,592
Depreciation	28,189,078	 28,892,365
Taxes	11,230,737	 11,327,271
Interest	16,070,575	 15,058,173
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES\$	440,338,422	\$ 445,576,846
MARGINS		
Operating Margins	24,153,115	\$ 26,449,277
Non-Operating Margins	11,338,993	 7,358,406
Capital Credits from		
Associated Organizations	8,935,868	 7,970,638
Net Margins	44,427,976	\$ 41,778,321

## **BALANCE SHEETS - ASSETS, EQUITIES & LIABILITIES**

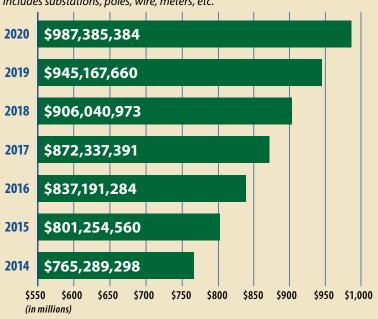
(As of December 31)	2019	2020
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents \$	277,577,420 \$	222,509,221
Investments in		
Associated Organizations	131,530,943	140,130,638
Accounts Receivable	14,806,152	18,885,976
Notes Receivable		784,737
Inventory	23,977,637	29,465,821
Special Deposits	108,895	104,895
Prepayments	12,885,719	32,658,032
Interest Receivable/Deferred Debits	29,343,312	30,242,518
Non-Utility Property	593,491	565,695
Utility Plant*	639,141,509	663,730,537
TOTAL ASSETS \$	1,129,965,078 \$	1,139,078,070
MEMBER EQUITIES		
Membership Fees \$	068 840 \$	994,510
Capital Credits		598,189,853
	<del></del>	
TOTAL EQUITIES \$	5/8,/23,84/ \$	599,184,363
LIABILITIES		
Long-Term Debt \$	423,749,812 \$	402,335,895
Accounts Payable	29,311,465	35,925,078
Customer Deposits	23,853,804	24,616,516
Non-Current Liabilities	108,895	104,895
Other Current & Accrued Liabilities	40,166,671	36,692,653
Deferred Credits and		
Miscellaneous Reserves	34,050,584	40,218,670
TOTAL LIABILITIES \$	551,241,231 \$	539,893,707
TOTAL EQUITIES & LIABILITIES \$	1,129,965,078 \$	1,139,078,070

\*Net of Accumulated Depreciation

#### 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

#### **WREC UTILITY PLANT -**

Includes substations, poles, wire, meters, etc.



## **USAGE (kWh) -**



1,100

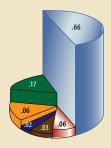
1,200

## THE ENERGY DOLLAR **SOURCE OF REVENUE**

\$1.00	\$1.00	
.04	.04	
.21	.20	
\$ .75	\$ .76	
2019	2020	
	\$ .75 .21 .04	

#### **USF OF REVENUE**

	2019		2	020
Purchased Power	\$	.66	\$	.66
Operations/Maintenance	e	.17		.17
Depreciation		.06		.06
Taxes		.02		.02
Interest on Debt		.03		.03
Operating Margins		.06		.06
TOTAL	\$1	.00	\$1	.00



## **WREC PROPERTY TAXES -**(In millions) \$8,856,849 2020 \$8,631,310 2019 \$8,022,402 2018 \$7,965,964 2017 \$7,761,285 2016 \$5 \$6 \$7 \$8 \$9

## **UTILITY PLANT**

## **AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL USAGE**

## **ENERGY DOLLAR**

## **PROPERTY TAXES**



WREC's Commitment to Strategic Management



## Withlacoochee River Electric CO-OP OFFICES

#### **BILLY E. BROWN CORPORATE CENTER**

14651 21st Street • Dade City, Florida 33523 **Phone: 352-567-5133** 

#### **ONE PASCO CENTER DISTRICT OFFICE**

30461 Commerce Drive • San Antonio, Florida 33576

Phone: 352-588-5115

#### **CRYSTAL RIVER DISTRICT OFFICE**

5330 West Gulf-To-Lake Highway • Lecanto, Florida 34461

Phone: 352-795-4382

#### **BAYONET POINT DISTRICT OFFICE**

12013 Hays Road • Shady Hills, Florida 34610

Phone: 727-868-9465

#### **WEST HERNANDO** DISTRICT OFFICE

10005 Cortez Boulevard • Weeki Wachee, Florida 34613

Phone: 352-596-4000

