



Community Electric
Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

2018 Washington Youth Tour



**The Power to Make a
Difference**

**Current High School Juniors are Eligible to Apply!
Application Deadline: February 11, 2018**



Community Electric
Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

est. 1964 YOUTH TOUR



“Speaking with those who create our laws gave me a greater understanding of how our government works and how lawmakers tackle the critical issues of the day.”

Ian MacDonald, REC Youth Tour delegate from Central High School

Senator Lyndon Baines Johnson inspired the Youth Tour when he addressed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Annual Meeting in Chicago in 1957. The Senator and future president declared, "If one thing goes out of this meeting, it will be sending youngsters to the national capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents."

In 1958, a rural electric cooperative in Iowa sponsored the first group of 34 young people on a weeklong study tour of the nation's capital. Later that same year, another busload came to Washington from Illinois. The idea grew and other states sent busloads of young people throughout the summer. By 1959, the "Youth Tour" had grown to 130 youths.


In 1964, the NRECA began to coordinate joint activities among the state delegations and suggested that co-op representatives from each state arrange to be in Washington, D.C. during Youth Tour week. The first year of the coordinated tour included approximately 400 young people from 12 states. Word of the program has continued to spread and today, more than 1,500 young people and their chaperones participate in the Youth Tour every year.

In the 1960's, both Virginia Electric Cooperative and Northern Piedmont Electric Cooperative came to understand the importance of the newly created National Rural Electric Washington Youth Tour. Not only could high school students learn about electric cooperatives, the legislative process, and meet with their peers from across the country, they would also learn a valuable life lesson. Through this once in a lifetime experience, these students would later become concerned community citizens better aware of the issues facing their communities. Since 1980 alone, nearly 275 students representing their communities have taken part in this experience. You can add to the Youth Tour legacy and make a difference in your community.

Log on to www.youthtour.coop today to learn more!



Community Electric
Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

2018 Washington Youth Tour

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete this application in its entirety by **5 p.m. February 11, 2018** and return to:

Communication Manager
Community Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 267
Windsor, VA 23487
Fax: 757-242-3923 - E-mail: JParr@comelec.coop

Applications may be dropped off at the CEC office, faxed, emailed or postmarked by the deadline.

NAME: _____ AGE: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

PHONE (H): _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PARENTS/GUARDIANS NAME: _____

NAME OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL: _____

CURRENT GRADE IN SCHOOL: _____ CAREER GOALS: _____


SCHOOL/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: List scholastic activities that you have participated in for school or in your community, any special awards or honors you have received or offices you have held. Be sure to include dates of participation.

PLEASE LIST ANY PUBLIC SPEAKING OR WRITING EXPERIENCE: _____

HOBBIES & SPECIAL INTERESTS: _____



Community Electric
Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

To complete application, please submit the following:

LETTER: Write a letter to an elected official about an important issue you are interested in and attach it to this application. This letter should be no more than one page in length. You may choose to write in favor of or against this issue. The topic for the letter may be of local, state or national interest. And depending on the topic, the letter should be addressed to your representative on your county board of supervisors, to Richmond to your General Assembly members or to Washington, D.C. to your members of Congress.

ALSO

Letter of Recommendation: Attach a letter from an adult who is a school, community, or church leader. This person should not be your parent, guardian, or other relative. Reference should include the following information: How have you become acquainted with the student? How long have you known this student? Why do you feel this student would be a valuable representative on the Washington, D.C. Youth Tour?



Questions concerning the Washington Youth
Tour should be addressed to:

Jessica Parr, Communication Manager
JParr@comelec.coop