



## **The Youth Tour Experience**

America's electric co-ops feel strongly about the education and development of tomorrow's leaders. Giving students the opportunity to see their nation's capital up close and learn about the political process is an important part of this mission.

Youth Tour has brought high school students to Washington, D.C., for a week in June since the late 1950s. Through educational and sightseeing activities, students participating in Youth Tour gain a better understanding of American history and their role as citizens. They also have the opportunity to meet and interact with U.S. representatives and senators, as well as other government leaders. While student groups are organized at the state level, students from across the country come together for Youth Day, where they meet new friends and hear featured speakers who provide insight into the important role that electric cooperatives play in their local communities.

High school sophomores and juniors who reside in a home served by one of the nation's 900 electric cooperatives can apply for Youth Tour through their local co-op. Based on their applications, students are then selected by their local cooperative to participate in this **COMPLETELY FREE** program.

Approximately 40 students from cooperatives throughout Ohio participate in Youth Tour each year. Students meet at Ohio's Electric Cooperatives' headquarters in Columbus and then travel by chartered bus to Washington, D.C. Several chaperones from the community, including teachers and electric co-op employees, accompany students on the weeklong trip.

As part of Youth Tour, students also have the chance to be selected to represent their state on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) Youth Leadership Council (YLC). One student from each state is selected to come back to Washington, D.C., in July for a leadership workshop, which focuses on the electric cooperative industry. YLC members also have the opportunity to attend NRECA's Annual Meeting the following spring.

From approximately 400 youth in 1964, to nearly 1,800 students and over 250 chaperones today, this popular and rewarding program has given tens of thousands of students a once-in-a-lifetime view of our nation's capital.

***Don't miss out on your chance to earn a spot  
on this trip of a lifetime!***