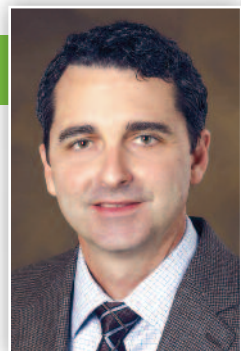
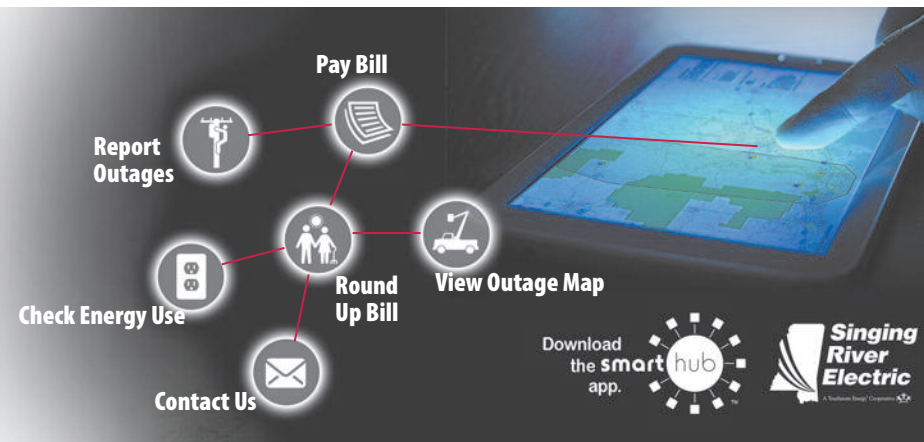


Singing River Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Brian Hughey, General Manager & CEO
 Lorri Freeman, APR, Manager of Public Relations
 Amanda Parker, Public Relations Specialist
 For more information, call 601-947-4211, 228-497-1313 or visit our website at singingriver.com. SRE is an equal opportunity employer and provider.



CEO's Message

Thank you to all who participated in our recent annual membership meeting

Member participation at our recent annual membership meeting was outstanding. Thank you to all members who voted online, on the SmartHub app, by proxy, or in person at Singing River Electric's annual meeting. Your participation is vital to the success of the cooperative. One director in each of the three districts was elected to serve a three-year term. In addition to the director election, many topics were covered during the

meeting, including outage response due to weather events from the previous year, our wholesale power provider's plans and challenges associated with solar power generation, various system upgrades, and broadband. But the primary topic of this year's annual meeting was emphasizing how Singing River Electric has and will continue to support the communities we serve through programs that provide education, assistance and value to members.

Last year, Singing River Electric and its employees engaged with the communities we serve by awarding numerous Neighbors Helping Neighbors community grants, hosting energy fairs within all three districts, participating in river clean-up events, serving food at local charities, and remaining involved with our local schools. Our youth and their education are vital to the economic growth and well-being of the communities where we live and work.



Josh Havard
 Energy Services Representative
joshhavard@singingriver.com

Install a smart thermostat

Smart thermostats help you control your energy use and manage your bill. They use Wi-Fi service to allow you to adjust heating and cooling temperatures in your home using your smart phone. Smart thermostats also learn your temperature preferences and establish a schedule that automatically adjusts to energy-saving temperatures when you are asleep or away.

Almost half of your energy use and costs comes from heating and cooling. Little changes in daily temperatures can make a big change in your electric bill.

Tips to consider when purchasing a smart thermostat:

- Make sure the thermostat is compatible with your heating and cooling system.
- If your smart thermostat uses Wi-Fi, make sure it's reasonably close to the router, or install a Wi-Fi range extender to prevent periodic disconnections.
- Each brand and model has slightly different features to help you save.

Heat pump owners can take advantage of the thermostat's smart balance feature, which allows the thermostat to consider weather forecasts, unit performance and comfort when determining the run time for your unit.

Smart thermostats are available for purchase at local hardware stores and online. For more information on smart thermostats, visit singingriver.com and energystar.gov.



Putting energy where it matters most

I get my power from my electric co-op, so I can put my energy into my family. Whether it's paying the bill on the go, monitoring my monthly energy use or reporting a power outage using the app, my co-op gives me power to live my life.

It's much more than a way to keep the lights on.



POWER in MEMBERSHIP

2019 Annual Meeting held June 27

Singing River Electric held the 2019 Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, June 28. As part of the meeting, the electric cooperative also held a FREE Energy Fair for participants and displayed Cooperative Energy's all-electric and hybrid electric vehicles.

During the meeting, General Manager and CEO Brian Hughey reviewed the highlights from 2018 and shared some of the cooperative's plan for 2019. Three Singing River Electric members were elected to serve on the cooperative's board as Post 1 candidates in all three geographic districts.

- **Ralph Hicks, District 1**
- **Ron Wilson, District 2**
- **Howard Davis, District 3**

Singing River Electric members Milton Driskell, Marvin Blankinchip, Linda Eckford, Phillip Busby, Obie Wells and Richard Fleming served on the Credentials and Election Committee. This committee works to review board applicants prior to the election and monitors voting at the annual membership meeting. They see first-hand how Singing River Electric's board election process is conducted and the efforts to be transparent when conducting the business of our cooperative.

Singing River Electric consumer-members participated in the board elections online, by SmartHub app, by mailed proxy or in-person at the annual meeting.



Top Left: Project engineer Clark Rounsaville hands an attendance prize to a member.



Top Right: Cooperative Energy corporate communications manager Sara Peterson shows SRE members an all-electric car.



Left: Members cast their ballots for the board of directors at the Annual Meeting.



2018 highlights discussed at the membership meeting:

- ◆ Retirement of over \$2.3 million in capital credits to members. This was a return of member investments in the cooperative. The credits were for the years 1987-88.
- ◆ Retirement of an additional \$857,000 of capital credits for the year 1987. These credits were refunded to Singing River Electric members from Cooperative Energy, our power provider.
- ◆ Increase in the amount of solar energy included in Cooperative Energy's generation resource mix. Specifically, the 100-megawatt solar facility to be constructed and completed in 2022 near Greenwood, Mississippi.
- ◆ Planning the conversion of Cooperative Energy's R. D. Morrow coal-fired generating plant to become a more efficient natural gas plant.
- ◆ Sustained and record-setting cold was experienced with mixed precipitation in the winter. Singing River Electric also assisted Southern Pine Electric restore power during this icy weather.
- ◆ Electric power was restored to all Singing River Electric members who could receive power within 24-hours of Tropical Storm Gordon's landfall.
- ◆ Assisted West Florida Electric Cooperative following Hurricane Michael. Nearly 30 SRE employees assisted over a three-week period.
- ◆ Brought energy fairs to four different local communities. The fairs were well attended and educated members on how to use energy wisely.
- ◆ Completed construction of the new Helena Industrial Park substation, and began planning a substation along Frank Snell Road in the Hurley community of Jackson County.
- ◆ Sponsored four local high school juniors to participate in the Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi Youth Leadership Program and NRECA Youth Tour of Washington, D.C.
- ◆ Awarded more than \$18,000 in Neighbors Helping Neighbors Community Grants in 2018. The grants assisted in areas of education and community development.

2019 Annual Meeting Proxy/Online Ballot Prize winners included: Paul Havens of Moss Point, Cindy Hicks of Leakesville, James Dungan of Lucedale, Jill Allen of Lucedale, Paige Henderson of Richton, Joseph Forehand of Vancleave and Justin Rude of Ocean Springs.



YOUTH TOUR STUDENTS

Left to right: Madisyn Peterson of St. Martin High School, Sarah Hults of Resurrection Catholic School, Jeb Wells of Vanleave High School and Carly Jones of East Central High School



Visit to nation's capital inspires
Youth Tour Students

The Youth Tour is sponsored locally by Singing River Electric, organized statewide by the Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi and nationally by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). This year, Sarah Hults, Carly Jones, Madisyn Peterson and Jeb Wells represented Singing River Electric. Sarah, the daughter of Amy Vuyovich and Chris Hults, will be a senior at Resurrection Catholic School. Carly, the daughter of Shanda Jones, will be a senior at East Central High School. Madisyn, the daughter of Melanie Tucker and Willie Peterson, will be a senior at St. Martin High School. And Jeb, the son of Forest Wells, will be a senior at Vanleave High School.

"It is an honor for Singing River Electric to annually participate in the Washington D.C. Youth Tour program," said SRE General Manager and CEO Brian Hughey. "This educational program provides an opportunity for local students to learn about history and government while building their leadership skills. We are proud to make this investment in these young leaders."

These students were chosen to participate through a one-day Cooperative University and interview process in November 2018 during their junior year in high school. In February 2019, they attended the Youth Leadership Workshop in Jackson.

"Youth Tour has inspired me and many others, to take an active role in my community," said Sarah Hults. "The most special part of Youth Tour is not the tour, but the youth."

Though the workshop and the Washington D.C., trip are invaluable experiences for the students, the relationships they had the opportunity to make with like-minded peers from across the state and the country will be one of the most long-term and rewarding measures of the Youth Tour.

During the seven-day Youth Tour, the students visited historical and cultural sites, monuments



If you know a high school junior who receives electricity at home from Singing River Electric and has strong grades and leadership skills, visit www.singingriver.com/my-community to view criteria for the 2020 Youth Leadership Program.



Above: The Einstein Memorial is situated near the National Academy of Science. The bronze figure was unveiled in 1979 to celebrate the 100th birthday of Albert Einstein.



Top: The Jefferson Memorial was just one of the many stops on Youth Tour. Above: The students stopped for a photo in front of the North Lawn of the White House.

and memorials, such as the World War II Memorial, Korean War, FDR, Lincoln, Air Force, Jefferson, The United States Marine Corps War Memorial and the memorial dedicated to the victims of the tragic 9/11 terrorist attack at the Pentagon.

They also toured museums, including the Newseum, the Smithsonian Museums of Air and Space, American History, Natural History and the National Gallery of Art, the National Portrait Gallery and the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Many students elected to visit the Museum of the Bible as well.

"This has been the trip of a lifetime," said Carly Jones. "The people that I have met while on this trip are truly Mississippi's future leaders. Going forth from this trip, I feel that I have a firmer grasp on how our nation's capital works. I am so grateful to have been given this amazing opportunity. Mississippi's cooperatives are awesome!"

A visit to Nationals Park was another highlight for the participants, where they watched

an exciting Major League Baseball game between the Washington Nationals and the Arizona Diamondbacks. Following the game, they watched a beautiful sunset from the roof of the John F. Kennedy Center located on the Potomac River.

"Youth Tour has been the most amazing experience of my life," said Jeb Wells. "It is a once in a lifetime trip, and I am so honored to have been given this great opportunity."

The students enjoyed a guided tour of Washington National Cathedral, the second largest cathedral in the U.S.

A respectful visit to Arlington Cemetery gave the students the opportunity to reverently look on for the changing of the guard. Here, they also visited the gravesites of several of our nation's prominent figures, including John F. Kennedy and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.

The pinnacle of each Youth Tour is the day spent on

Capitol Hill. Freshman Rep. Michael Guest of Mississippi's 3rd Congressional District graciously continued the tradition of guiding the students on a VIP tour of the United States Capitol building that kicked-off with a tour of the U.S. House Floor.

"My experience visiting our nation's capital was absolutely amazing," said Madisyn Peterson. "I met some of the greatest friends that I hope to have for a lifetime while making memories that I will forever cherish. I am so thankful to be able to participate in such an astounding organization. Thank you so much Singing River Electric and ECM."

After the tour, the day was filled with special visits with our state's leaders. Sarah, Carly, Madisyn and Jeb visited with Rep. Steven Palazzo in his D.C. office. The students also had the opportunity to meet Sen. Roger Wicker and Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith.



YOUTH TOUR SITES

- Lincoln Memorial
- ★
- Jefferson Memorial
- ★
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial
- ★
- World War II Memorial
- ★
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- ★
- U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial
- ★
- Arlington National Cemetery
- ★
- Newseum
- ★
- Washington National Cathedral
- ★
- U.S. Capitol
- ★
- Smithsonian Museums
- ★
- Nationals Park

FUN FACT:

Over the seven days of the Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., each student and advisor took more than 100,000 steps, 65 flights of stairs and walked a total of 50 miles!

Storm Ready!

EMERGENCY RESOURCES

www.singriver.com
www.fema.gov
www.msema.org
www.ready.gov

www.coastepa.com
www.nhc.noaa.gov
www.gomdot.com
www.weather.com/newscenter/stormwatch

OUR PLAN

Your local electric cooperatives believe in the power of preparation and have extensive storm plans that have guided the cooperatives through severe storms and major hurricanes. The five-stage plan organizes employee efforts before, during and after storms.

PHASE ONE - Storm Warning: The storm is monitored, and the plan goes into effect. The response team reviews their duties.

PHASE TWO - Storm Warning: A Storm Operations Center is established. The CEO/General Manager directs the response team.

PHASE THREE - During the Storm: Operations personnel are dismissed when winds reach 35 mph and employees seek shelter.

PHASE FOUR - After the Storm: (Restoration) Personnel organize service restoration. Damage assessment crews are sent out. Additional crews assistance is called in if necessary.

PHASE FIVE - After Restoration: (Recovery) After all power is restored, normal operations resume. Any temporary repairs are corrected.

GENERATOR SAFETY

If you plan to use a generator following a storm, always think safety first.

- Never connect a generator to your home's wiring. This can energize power lines, endangering our workers and even you! It is best to connect generators by using a transfer switch, or connect appliances directly to the generator.
- Operate your generator outdoors, NOT in a garage, storage room or near your open window. Always read the instructions first.
- Be sure the generator you have selected has ample capacity to supply the lighting, appliances and equipment you plan to connect.
- Do not operate your generator while standing in wet conditions.
- Do not attempt to fill your generator's fuel tank while it is operating.
- Do not tamper with engine's speed adjustment. This could cause a fire.
- Have a charged fire extinguisher nearby as a precaution.

OUTAGE REPORTING

COAST ELECTRIC
24-Hour Outage Call Number: 877-769-2372
Download the CE on the Go app for instant outage reporting
View an outage map at www.coastepa.com

SINGING RIVER ELECTRIC
24-Hour Outage Call Numbers: 601-947-4211, 228-497-1313, 601-989-2345
Download the SmartHub app for instant outage reporting
View an outage map at www.singriver.com

THINK SAFETY FIRST!

MEN AT WORK

Get Prepared. Stay Ready.

Download our newest storm preparedness document or pick up a copy at any SRE office, and stay ready for severe weather.

Members with Special Needs

Your electric service provider cannot guarantee uninterrupted electric service. Members who use medical equipment or have special needs that require uninterrupted service should make plans to be in a location that can provide your area for assistance. Contact the Emergency Management Agency in your area for assistance.

After the Storm

- Treat all downed lines as energized. Beware of downed lines hidden by debris.
- Report all downed lines immediately by calling your local electric cooperative. If there is immediate danger, call 911.
- Prevent generator back feed. Plug any appliances or equipment directly into the generator. Keep the machine in an open area to reduce carbon monoxide emissions.
- Avoid areas where line crews are working.
- Do not step crews to report an outage. Instead, call your cooperative's outage reporting number or use the mobile app.

When is an Electrician Needed?

Damage to a home's electrical system must be repaired before your co-op can restore power. Damage should be repaired by a licensed electrician and not by local officials. If water enters the walls or ceilings, turn off circuit breakers and do not use electrical outlets.

A professional electrician must assess the damage and make necessary repairs before electric service can be restored. If a temporary residence is established and electricity is needed to make repairs to a home or property, a temporary service pole must be installed by a professional electrician and inspected by local government authorities before power can be reconnected.

Staying Connected:

Coast Electric Power Association
www.coastepa.com
Mobile App: CE on the Go
www.facebook.com/coastelectric
www.twitter.com/coastelectric
@CoastElectric on Instagram

Singing River Electric Cooperative
www.singriver.com
Mobile App: SmartHub
www.facebook.com/SingingRiverElectric
www.twitter.com/SRECooperative
@singriverelectric on Instagram

When Will My Power Be Restored?

These are the steps we need to take as we work our way to your home.

- Transmission Lines:** These high voltage lines carry electricity from the generating plants to the substations. Next, we repair main lines from the substations that serve hospitals, police stations and services we all rely on.
- Substation:** This is where your local electric cooperative receives electricity and becomes responsible for restoring power.
- Facilities that Benefit Everyone:** Now, we repair power lines that serve multiple homes and businesses.
- Home and Businesses:** Finally, if any members are still without power, we visit each one individually. These repairs take the most time.
- Individual Members:** Why does it seem like my house is the last to come on? It all depends on where you live. To restore power for the most members as the shortest time, we have to follow the steps above. But now that you know more about these steps, you'll have a better idea of what to expect next time the lights go out.

Defining Degree Days

By Abby Berry

Weather can have a major impact on energy bills, and when the outdoor temperatures become extreme, your heating and cooling equipment works harder to keep your home comfortable.

Did you know the energy experts at Singing River Electric use degree days to anticipate heating and cooling needs for you, our consumer-members?

Never heard of a degree day. Don't worry, you're not alone. Let's take a look at what degree days are and why they're important for electric utilities.

Degree days measure how cold or warm a location is by comparing the average of the high and low (mean) of the outdoor temperatures recorded in that location to the standard U.S. temperature, which is 65 F. The assumption is that we don't need heating or cooling to be comfortable when this is the outdoor temperature.

So, the more extreme the outdoor temperatures, the higher the number of degree days. And the higher the number of degree days, the higher the amount of energy used for space heating and cooling. Summer is in full swing, so let's look at cooling degree days.

Cooling degree days are a measurement of how hot the temperature was on a given day or during a period of days. With summer temperatures rising, you'll likely require more cooling for your home or business, which results in more cooling degree days. Variations in electric bills often follow closely with degree days, which is why electric utilities use this data to anticipate future energy demand.

Degree days are tracked for a variety of reasons. Farmers can better plan the planting of crops and timing for pest control, and weather experts can better assess climate patterns.

To view degree days for our area, visit www.energystar.gov and search "degree days calculator."

If charts and data aren't your forte, no problem. Here are a few tips to help you save on energy bills this summer:

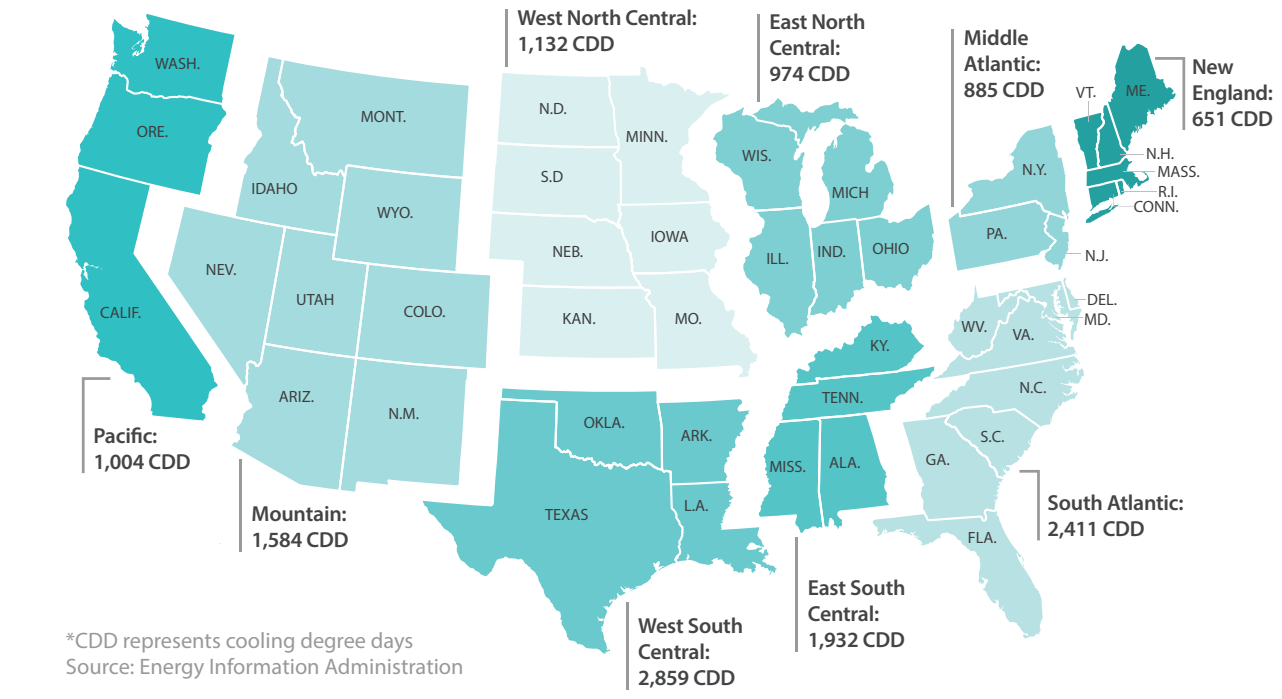
- Set your thermostat as high as comfortably possible. The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, the lower your cooling costs will be. The Department of Energy recommends setting your thermostat to 78 F when you're home and a higher setting for when you're away.
- Turn off ceiling fans when you leave a room.
- Close window coverings, like curtains and blinds, during the day to block sunlight.
- Use caulk and weather stripping to seal air leaks around doors and windows.

If you have questions about your energy use or to learn more ways to save, visit our website at singriver.com, give us a call or stop by our office. Our energy professionals are here to help.

Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56 percent of the nation's landscape.

U.S. COOLING DEGREE DAYS

Cooling degree days measure how hot the outdoor temperature was on a given day or during a period of days. The map below shows measurements of U.S. cooling degree days in 2018 by census region. Extreme outdoor temperatures bring a higher number of degree days, which results in higher energy use.



*CDD represents cooling degree days
Source: Energy Information Administration

LUCEDALE Energy Fair

Singing River Electric held its George County Energy Fair on June 27 at the Lucedale office. The event featured stations on lighting, insulation, heating and cooling, online tools, and efficient building techniques. Members spoke to energy consultants and received custom advice for their efficiency questions.



Lighting



Heating/Cooling



Insulation

Staying Connected



www.singriver.com
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www.twitter.com/SRECooperative
@singriverelectric on Instagram



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