



Bringing power and energy services to local communities

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CEO

**BRIAN HUGHEY**  
General Manager & CEO

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228-497-1313 or visit  
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Facebook: @singingriverelectric  
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SRE is an equal opportunity employer and provider.



**Nick DeAngelo**  
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### Appliance saturation survey

To start the year, Singing River Electric will be reaching out to several of you to participate in a member appliance saturation survey. The survey is intended to give us insight into data that will help drive future beneficial programs for our members and the cooperative. The survey should begin in early February. If you are contacted, please take a moment to respond. Thank you in advance for your willingness to participate, and Happy New Year!

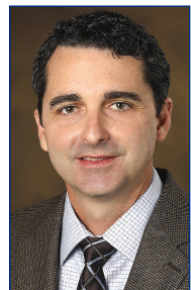
Visit [singingriver.com](http://singingriver.com) or [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov) for more tips.

# Three DIY efficiency projects to tackle this year

MAXIMIZE ENERGY SAVINGS AND INCREASE THE COMFORT IN YOUR HOME.



## If you don't like the weather today...



**Brian Hughey**  
General Manager & CEO

The new year has brought mild and rainy weather to south Mississippi. Many of us have become familiar with these winter weather conditions yet still have hope for periods of sustained cool weather. Long time residents of the Gulf Coast often proclaim, "if you don't like the weather, wait until tomorrow." Well, cold weather is likely on its way. As I glanced through this year's

farmers' almanac, it predicted unseasonably cold temperatures this winter. If projections are correct, we need to remember to take the time to protect our pets, pipes and plants from freezing temperatures. We also need to be mindful of the effects cold weather has on our electricity use. It takes more electricity to heat a home than to cool one. Fortunately, it is possible to conserve energy use and maintain or lower your power bill in cold weather. Singing River Electric has many tools available for our members. For more information visit our website at [www.singingriver.com](http://www.singingriver.com).

## 5 tips to avoid using more energy in COLD WEATHER

1. Dress for the weather, even indoors. Use blankets on beds and lower your heat setting.
2. Keep thermostat programmed at 65-68°.
3. Keep garage door closed and water heater temperature at 120°.
4. Avoid using space heaters for extended times.
5. Download "101 Easy Ways to Save" at [singingriver.com/ways-to-save](http://singingriver.com/ways-to-save).

### Notice of Singing River Electric Director Qualification Period

Candidates seeking election to the board of directors for Singing River Electric Cooperative must visit Singing River Electric's Lucedale office (11187 Old 63 South) and obtain a Director Candidate Packet. The forms and petitions in the packet must be completed and returned by close of business on the last business day in February (Friday, February 28).

#### by Abby Berry

A new year brings new opportunities to save energy — and money. You may think energy efficiency upgrades require a great deal of time and expense, but that's not always the case.

If you're interested in making your home more efficient but don't want to break the bank, there are several DIY projects you can tackle to increase energy savings. Let's take a look at three inexpensive efficiency upgrades that can help you save energy throughout the year.

#### Trim Dryer Vent

*Level of difficulty: easy. Supplies needed: tin snips, gloves, measuring tape and masking tape. Estimated cost: about \$25 depending on the supplies you already have.*

If your dryer vent hose is too long, your dryer is working harder than it has to, using more energy than necessary. The vent hose should be long enough for you to pull the dryer out a couple feet from the wall. A shorter, unobstructed vent hose increases the efficiency of your dryer, dries clothing faster and reduces lint buildup.

Simply measure, mark and trim the hose to the desired length, then reattach the hose to your dryer and exterior vent.

#### Seal Air Leaks

*Level of difficulty: moderate. Supplies needed: caulk and caulk gun, weather stripping, gloves, putty knife, paper towels. Estimated cost: \$25 to \$50 depending on the materials you purchase.*

Sealing air leaks in your home can help you save 10% to 20% on heating and cooling bills. Apply caulk around windows, doors, electrical wiring and plumbing to seal in conditioned air. You

should also weather strip exterior doors, which can keep out drafts and help you control energy costs. For more information, the Department of Energy provides step-by-step instructions for caulking and weather stripping: [bit.ly/2Kesu6W](http://bit.ly/2Kesu6W)

#### Insulate Attic Stairs Opening

*Level of difficulty: moderate. Supplies needed (if you build the box yourself): rigid foam board, faced blanket insulation, tape for foam board, measuring tape, utility knife, caulk and caulk gun, plywood. Estimated cost: \$50 to \$100.*

A properly insulated attic is one of the best ways to optimize energy savings and comfort in your home. An insulated cover box can seal and insulate the attic stairs opening. You can build your own insulated cover box or purchase a pre-built box or kit from a local home improvement store like Home Depot or Lowe's for about \$60. If you decide to build your own, check out these step-by-step instructions from the Department of Energy: [bit.ly/36YNCYQ](http://bit.ly/36YNCYQ). It should also be noted, if your attic opening is located in a garage that you do not heat and cool, this upgrade may not be necessary.

Saving energy doesn't have to be hard. With a little time and effort, you can maximize energy savings and increase the comfort of your home. To learn about additional ways to save, visit [singingriver.com](http://singingriver.com).

*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.*



# 2020 Mississippi Legislature

Singing River Electric salutes Mississippi's senators and representatives who represent our state in Washington, D.C., and at our state capital in Jackson. We appreciate their dedication and willingness to serve in the spirit of public service to help shape the future of our state.



**TATE REEVES**  
Governor



**DELBERT HOSEMANN**  
Lieutenant Governor

## ★ SENATE



**Sen. Dennis DeBar, Jr.**  
District 43: George, Greene and Wayne counties  
Address: P.O. Box 1090 Leakesville, MS 39451  
Years in Legislature: 9



**Sen. Chris Johnson**  
District 45: Forrest and Perry counties  
Address: P.O. Box 18247 Hattiesburg, MS 39404  
Years in Legislature: 5



**Sen. Joseph M. "Mike" Seymour**  
District 47: Jackson, Pearl River and Stone counties  
Address: 15417 Indian Fork Rd. Vanclave, MS 39565  
Years in Legislature: 5



**Sen. Jeremy England**  
District 51: Jackson County  
Address: P.O. Box 6363 Vanclave, MS 39565  
First Year in Legislature



**Sen. Brice Wiggins**  
District 52: Jackson County  
Address: P.O. Box 922 Pascagoula, MS 39568  
Years in Legislature: 9

## ★ CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION



**ROGER WICKER**  
United States Senator



**CINDY HYDE-SMITH**  
United States Senator



**STEVEN PALAZZO**  
United States Representative  
Fourth District

## ★ HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



**Rep. Shane Barnett**  
District 86: Greene, Perry and Wayne counties  
Address: P.O. Box 621 Waynesboro, MS 39367  
Years in Legislature: 5



**Rep. Dale Goodin**  
District 105: George, Greene and Perry counties  
Address: 72 Memorial Church Rd., Richton, MS 39476  
First Year in Legislature



**Rep. Douglas D. "Doug" McLeod**  
District 107: George and Stone counties  
Address: 1211 Bexley Church Rd. Lucedale, MS 39452  
Years in Legislature: 9



**Rep. Manly Barton**  
District 109: George and Jackson counties  
Address: 7905 Pecan Ridge Dr. Moss Point, MS 39562  
Years in Legislature: 9



**Rep. Jeremy D. Anderson**  
District 110: Jackson County  
Address: P.O. Box 311 Escatawpa, MS 39562  
Years in Legislature: 8



**Rep. Charles Busby**  
District 111: Jackson County  
Address: 470 Willow St. Pascagoula, MS 39567  
Years in Legislature: 9



**Rep. John O. Read**  
District 112: Jackson County  
Address: 2396 Robert Hiram Dr. Gautier, MS 39553  
Years in Legislature: 28



**Rep. Henry B. "Hank" Zuber III**  
District 113: Jackson County  
Address: 503 Minor Lane Ocean Springs, MS 39564  
Years in Legislature: 21



**Rep. Jeffrey S. Guice**  
District 114: Harrison and Jackson counties  
Address: 1208 Lola Rd. Ocean Springs, MS 39564  
Years in Legislature: 12



Available on the App Store

ANDROID APP ON Google play

**AVAILABLE!**

**A free, interactive legislative app for Mississippi**

The Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi offers free versions of the 2020 Legislative Roster. We hope they will be helpful in your involvement with state government.

Our easy-to-use mobile app provides information on Mississippi's state and federal elected officials. Look for "Mississippi Legislative Roster" in the Apple App Store. An Android version is also available through Google play.



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative