



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CEO

Strengthening our communities

October is National Cooperative Month, an opportunity to celebrate how cooperatives operate to benefit their members and communities. Many communities rely on cooperatives to provide locally grown food, housing, electricity, financial services, internet, retail services, and so much more. Singing River Electric joins more than 800 electric cooperatives in recognizing Cooperative Month and reflecting on why and by whom we were formed.

Since 1938, Singing River Electric has been operated by and for the people of the communities we serve. In addition to our steadfast mission to provide safe, reliable, and affordable electricity, we continuously seek ways to live out the seven cooperative principles. One of those principles is “concern for community.” Taking care of the communities we serve continues to be a priority for Singing River Electric board members and employees.

Singing River Electric puts a strong emphasis on community support through programs that provide

education, assistance, and value to members. When our employees volunteer in the community, they get to focus on what really matters – the people. Our Neighbors Helping Neighbors Community Grant Program, community cleanup events, and youth education programs are just a few ways we add value to the place we call home.

The decision to build and maintain a fiber network is another way we’ve shown our dedication to the communities we serve. Not only do these fiber lines allow us to monitor our substations in real time and shorten outage response times, but they also provide our members with high-speed internet. We are seeing the excitement of those in the communities we serve as this fiber internet movement has added value to our subscribers’ lives.

As a member-owned electric cooperative, Singing River Electric will continue to act in ways that support and strengthen our local communities.



by **Brian Hughey**

General Manager and CEO



October is National Co-op Month.

Energy Tips



Gabe Robbins
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Spooky energy savings

This October, let a fun Halloween theme inspire your energy-efficiency efforts.

- **Conjure savings with smart thermostats.** Home heating and cooling account for a large portion of monthly energy use, so one of the easiest ways to save energy is through thermostat control. Smart thermostats can help you manage heating/cooling costs by learning your daily routine and adjusting the temperature settings accordingly.
- **Are energy vampires lurking in your home?** These are devices that consume electricity even when you’re not using them. Unplug chargers, turn off lights, and use smart power strips to vanquish energy vampires.
- **Get rid of goosebumps by eliminating ghostly drafts!** The winter chill is just around the corner, so now is the time to seal air leaks around your home. Apply caulk and weatherstripping around drafty windows and doors to make your home more comfortable (and lower energy use).
- **Illuminate your lair with energy efficient lighting.** LED bulbs use 75% less energy and last 25 times longer than incandescent light bulbs.

ILLUMINATE YOUR LAIR WITH LEDS.



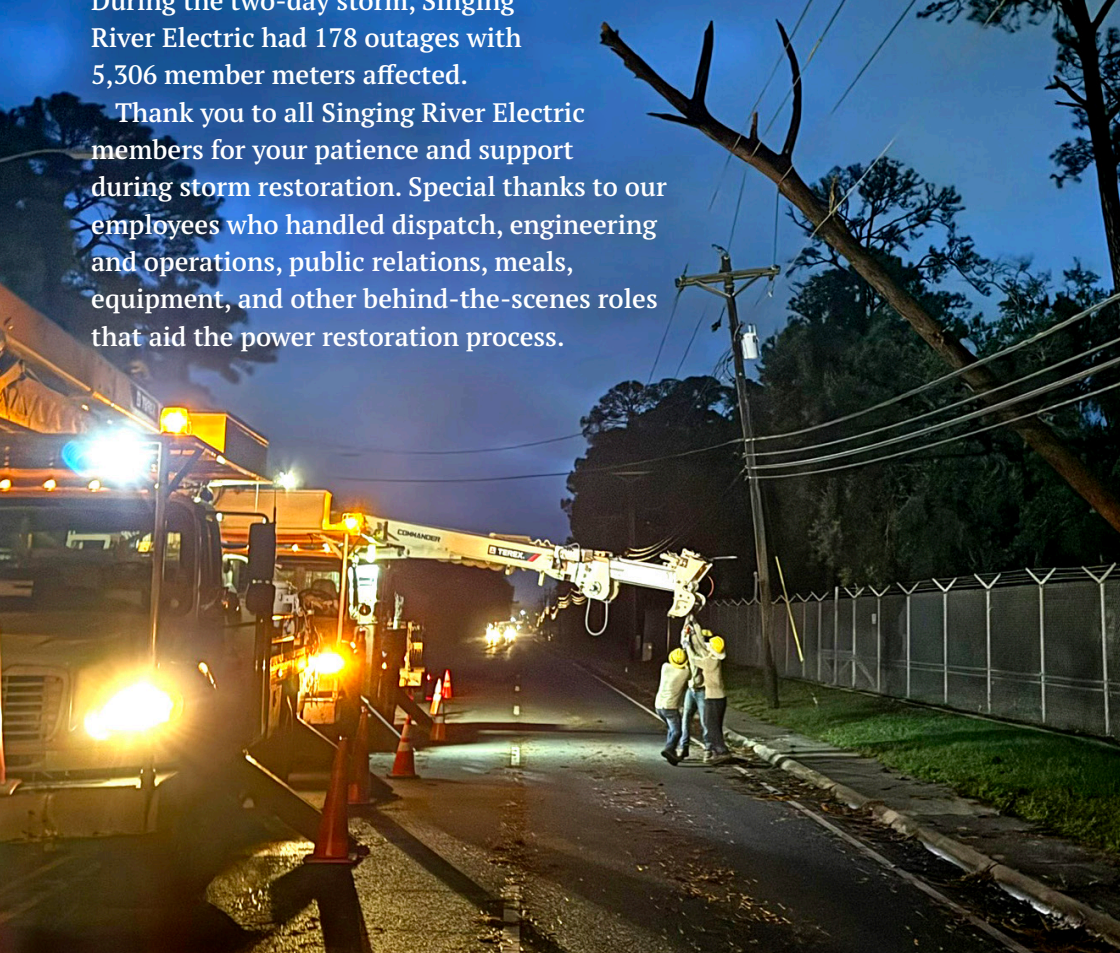
HURRICANE FRANCINE

Hurricane Francine made landfall in Louisiana's Terrebonne Parish as a Category 2 storm on September 11, 2024. Singing River Electric's service area began experiencing gusty winds and heavy rain that evening as a result. Our linemen responded to outages until tropical storm-force winds prevented them from continuing. Power restoration began again before daylight on September 12 with all power being restored by early afternoon.

Outages were primarily caused by wind blowing trees and limbs onto the power lines. There were fortunately few broken poles.

During the two-day storm, Singing River Electric had 178 outages with 5,306 member meters affected.

Thank you to all Singing River Electric members for your patience and support during storm restoration. Special thanks to our employees who handled dispatch, engineering and operations, public relations, meals, equipment, and other behind-the-scenes roles that aid the power restoration process.



Upcoming right-of-way projects

Singing River Electric clears trees, limbs and underbrush from the area around and below the power lines called the right of way. Right-of-way clearing helps decrease the number of outages and reduces the risk of someone coming in contact with power lines.

Here are the substations and surrounding areas that are either currently being cleared or where clearing will begin soon:

- **Gautier substation** - Graveline Road, Highway 90, Old Spanish Trail, and surrounding areas.
- **Gulf Park substation** - Beachview Drive, Spring Avenue, Riley Road, and surrounding areas.
- **Leakesville substation** - Highway 57, Highway 63, Old Avera Road, and surrounding areas.
- **Sand Hill substation** - Highway 42, Highway 63, Turkey Fork Road, and surrounding areas.



SR CONNECT REACHES 10,000 SUBSCRIBERS

Singing River Connect recently installed fiber internet service to our 10,000th subscriber!

To celebrate this milestone, we recognized George County's Nicole Harvey as our 10,000th subscriber and presented her with a smart home kit.

Nicole raves about her service, saying: "Singing River Connect has been wonderful in our home! Uploads for my business are much faster, and my daughter's gaming experience is seamless without buffering. Our work-from-home time has never been better!"

Thank you to all our subscribers for helping us reach this milestone and for allowing Singing River Connect to be your trusted local provider. We are excited to continue bringing fast, reliable fiber internet to Singing River Electric members.



TAKE THE SMART SHOT - NOT THE EASY ONE.

The 2024 dove hunting season began September 1, and Singing River Connect has already experienced multiple internet outages because fiber lines were shot.

Shooting doves off fiber lines or power lines can interrupt service and damage expensive equipment. Do not shoot at or near electrical equipment, fiber lines, power lines, or substations.

Any fiber internet lines damaged due to gunshots will be repaired at the expense of the landowner.



Fiber Construction Timeline - October 2024

Step 1: Make-ready engineering

Examine. Design.

Monaco Lake and Kreole substation areas



Step 4: Splicing

Connecting the dots.

Wade, Helena, Helena Industrial, and Escatawpa South substation areas



Step 2: Make-ready construction

Planning the most efficient approach to fiber deployment.

Fountainbleu, Singing River Mall, Gautier, and Hamill Farm substation areas



Step 5: Service drop & drop splicing

The last outdoor step. Almost there...

Benndale, Rocky Creek, Leakesville, Lucedale North, Vancleave, Joe Batt, and all previously opened areas



Step 3: Fiber Construction

Building a network from the ground up.

Sunplex, Ocean Springs, Gulf Park, Fort Bayou, Martin Bluff, Hickory Hills, St. Martin, Tucker Road, and Forts Lake substation areas



Step 6: Installation

The speed of light, right to your home.

Rocky Creek, Leakesville, Lucedale North, Vancleave, Joe Batt, and all previously opened areas



Blazing-fast fiber internet from local people you trust.

New areas are announced by electric substation and feeder; text a SRE member service rep. at 228-591-9166 to find out which one serves you. Visit singingriverconnect.com/signup to apply for service and to see all areas where SR Connect fiber internet is available.

MISSISSIPPI STATE FLAGS GIFTED TO GREENE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Leakesville Elementary and Sand Hill Attendance Center recently received 5'x 8' embroidered Mississippi state flags. Mississippi's flag design, approved by voters in 2020, includes a white magnolia blossom encircled with 20 white stars, one gold star, and the words "In God We Trust." Other schools in the district will receive flags in the coming months.

Singing River Electric employees enjoyed a special treat when presenting the state flag to Leakesville Elementary – the first-grade class recited the pledge of allegiance to the Mississippi flag.



PLEDGE TO THE MISSISSIPPI STATE FLAG

I salute the flag of Mississippi and the sovereign state for which it stands with pride in her history and achievements and with confidence in her future under the guidance of Almighty God.

NHN Grants awarded to Salvation Army and Resurrection School



Neighbors Helping Neighbors Community Grant funds benefit two child-focused projects in our local community.

Resurrection Catholic Elementary in Pascagoula created a music program to help students develop their musical talents, learn about musical genres, and participate in performances. A \$2,500 NHN Grant purchased castanets, frame drums, floor tom drums, toddler drums, rhythm sticks, rain sticks, egg shakers, maracas, and a tambourine.

A \$2,500 NHN Grant purchased a play structure with swings and a slide as well as foundation surfacing for the Salvation Army's Center of Hope in Jackson County. The playground equipment is an extension of the Character Education Program, which is aimed at youth of all ages to build on positive social and communication habits, decision-making and life skills, and spiritual and physical wellness.

For more information on SRE NHN Community Grants and how to apply, visit singingriver.com/my-community. Grants for up to \$2,500 are awarded to nonprofits in SRE's service area three times a year in January, May, and September.