

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CEO

# Determined to provide reliable service during extreme weather conditions



For the second straight winter, our members experienced temperatures in the teens across our service territory. Along with frigid January temperatures ranging from 12 to 18 degrees, south Mississippi saw something unique to our area – SNOW. This January weather event, formally known as Winter Storm Enzo, brought anywhere from 6 to 10 inches of snowfall to parts of our service territory within an 8-hour timeframe.

For many, it was a time to build snowmen, make snow angels, and enjoy time by the fireplace. For your electric cooperative, it was a time of being there for our members if called upon. Singing River Electric employees are very familiar with work conditions following a hurricane, but navigating roads and bridges covered with ice is completely different. Through advanced planning, distribution system upgrades, and proper right-of-way clearing practices, Singing River Electric's distribution system performed

exceptionally well. Electric loading on our distribution system set a record peak. With this extreme weather event came a few power outages. Knowing this was a strong possibility leading up to the event, Singing River Electric set its plan in motion by staging equipment, material, and linemen throughout our service territory to minimize the risk of our employees' safety and to better our chances of responding to member outages in a timely and safe manner. Other employees were designated to work in our offices to answer member calls and provide additional support to our control center. The plan worked, and employees and members were kept safe in the process.

I thank all our employees for a job well done and most importantly, done in a safe manner. With careful planning and skilled employees, Singing River Electric remains determined to provide our members with the most reliable electric service during all weather conditions. Now, like many of you, I look forward to warmer temperatures over the next couple of months.



by **Brian Hughey**

General Manager and CEO

## Energy Tips



**Gabe Robbins**  
Energy Services Representative  
[robbins@singingriver.com](mailto:robbins@singingriver.com)

### Unit maintenance and smart thermostats

March normally brings comfortable weather with temperatures rarely falling below 53 degrees or exceeding 83 degrees. This time of year is ideal to service your cooling system and make sure it is working efficiently before the summer heat sets in, also helping lower your energy use.

**Replacing filters, checking freon levels, and inspecting parts now will help you avoid costly emergency repairs and extend the lifespan of your unit.** Scheduling now can also help you beat the peak-season rush.

Smart thermostats are becoming more popular in today's homes. They allow you to connect directly to the thermostat via Wi-Fi signal. Doing this allows you to view how much your HVAC system is operating daily and allows you to change the temperature from a smart phone or tablet, even if you are away from home.

For example, if you leave your house in the morning and forget to turn your thermostat up on a day when temperatures reach 90-100 degrees, you can change the temperature on your smart thermostat to avoid having your air conditioner run all day long, saving 40-80 kWh in energy use.

With Singing River Connect fiber internet available for many Singing River Electric members, smart thermostats are now an option thanks to a reliable Wi-Fi connection.

[singingriver.com/ways-to-save](http://singingriver.com/ways-to-save)

## Annual Membership Meeting Notice

**Date:** Thursday, June 26, 2025

**Time:** Registration – 5 p.m.  
Meeting – 6 p.m.

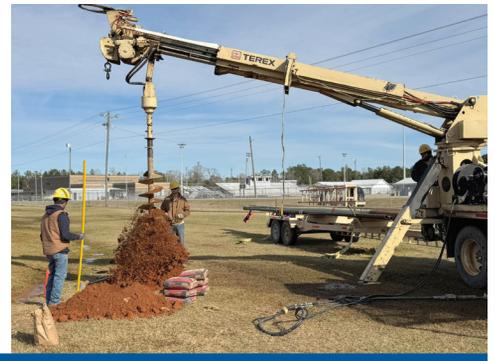
**Location:** Singing River Electric's  
Lucedale office

*The meeting will include cooperative business and director elections.*





Greene



# COOPERATIVE DAYS OF SERVICE highlights commitment to community

Every January, employees across Singing River Electric's offices roll up their sleeves to honor Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy during Cooperative Days of Service. Three volunteer events, highlighting our commitment to the communities we serve, allow us to live out the 7th cooperative principle – Concern for Community.

On Jan. 14, Sand Hill linemen set three flag poles at the Greene County Rural Events Center and raised the American, Mississippi, and Christian flags. Continuing our volunteer work, Lucedale employees set, leveled, and installed new concrete pads, benches, and planters at Lucedale City Park on Jan. 16.

Gautier employees wrapped up the Cooperative Days of Service on Jan. 17 by raking and bagging more than 60 bags of leaves and washing the van used to transport guests at Community Care Network – Sue's Home in Ocean Springs, a faith-based non-profit that empowers clients to move forward from addiction, homelessness, and/or incarceration.

The three service days represent the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his dream for communities to support one another regardless of differences.

"Everybody can be great because everybody can serve." - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



George



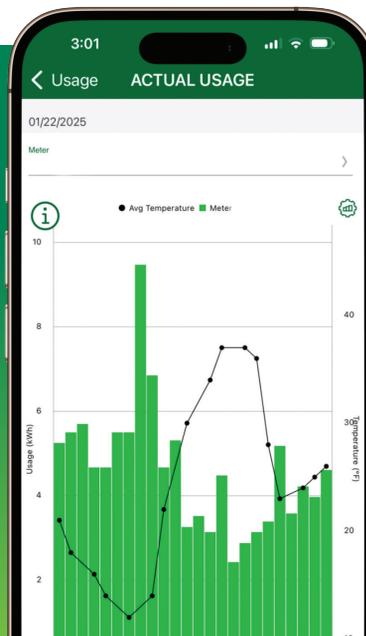
Jackson



## DOWNLOAD THE APP TO MONITOR ENERGY USE

[singingriver.com/smarthub](http://singingriver.com/smarthub)

You will need your account number the first time signing in.



- Pay your **ELECTRIC BILL**
- Review your **BILLING HISTORY**
- Manage your **ELECTRIC USE**
- Report a **POWER OUTAGE**
- View a **LIVE OUTAGE MAP**



# Can YOUR Wi-Fi do

↓ THIS



↓ THIS



↓ & THIS



## at the same time?

Get the internet service that connects all your devices with no buffering, has local customer service, and offers 24/7 tech support.

**SR Singing River Connect**

[singingriverconnect.com/signup](https://singingriverconnect.com/signup)

**SR Singing River Connect**

## Fiber Construction Timeline - March 2025

### Step 1: Make-ready engineering

*Examine. Design.*

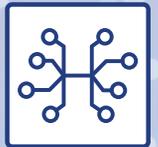
This step is complete!



### Step 4: Splicing

*Connecting the dots.*

St. Martin, Martin Bluff, and Hickory Hills



### Step 2: Make-ready construction

*Planning the most efficient approach to fiber deployment.*

Bayou Cassotte, Kreole, and Monaco Lake



### Step 5: Service drop & drop splicing

*The last outdoor step. Almost there...*

Tucker Road, Forts Lake, Helena, Helena Industrial, Escatawpa South, Wade, Cumbest Bluff, Benndale, Rocky Creek, Vancleave, Joe Batt, and all previously opened areas



### Step 3: Fiber Construction

*Building a network from the ground up.*

Singing River Mall, Gautier, Fountainbleu, Hamill Farm, Ocean Springs, Gulf Park Estates, Sunplex, and Fort Bayou



### Step 6: Installation

*The speed of light, right to your home.*

Tucker Road, Forts Lake, Helena, Helena Industrial, Escatawpa South, Wade, Cumbest Bluff, Benndale, Rocky Creek, Vancleave, Joe Batt, and all previously opened areas



Blazing-fast fiber internet from local people you trust.

[singingriverconnect.com/signup](https://singingriverconnect.com/signup)



## NHN Community Grants

Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) Community Grants help Singing River Electric merge efforts with the hard work of those within our communities.

# NHN Grant funds Adrienne's House improvements

Adrienne's House is part of the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence and provides shelter for those escaping from domestic violence. As safety is of the utmost importance for those seeking services at Adrienne's House, repairing a malfunctioning gate was a top priority. A \$2,500 Neighbors Helping Neighbors Community Grant from Singing River Electric allowed the gate to be repaired. The shelter also needed a new refrigerator, which the grant was able to fund as well.

The Center opened the doors of Adrienne's House, a satellite domestic violence shelter serving Jackson and George counties, on Oct. 3, 2011. Adrienne's House was named in honor of Adrienne Klasky, a Pascagoula woman who was killed by her abuser in 1989.

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

# LANDSCAPING TO SAVE ENERGY

**Q** How can landscaping help lower my energy bill?

**A** Thoughtful planning and good design can address aesthetics, safety, and energy efficiency to result in year-round energy savings.



Strategically placed trees shade your home during the summertime, which can lower your energy bills.

As you prepare to refresh your yard for the coming spring and summer, consider ways you can boost your energy efficiency for more comfort and savings year-round.

Carefully positioned trees can save up to 25% of a typical household's energy use, according to the United States Department of Energy (DOE). When selecting the right trees and other foliage, research what is best for your local climate and select native species for lower maintenance. Strategically placed deciduous trees allow for summer shade and passive solar heat gain in the winter when leaves have fallen. This can lead to energy savings in the summer and winter. Slower-growing trees might take longer to provide maximum shading benefit, but their roots are typically deeper, and branches are stronger. These factors can make them less likely to be damaged by wind, snow, or ice, and be more drought resistant.

Be sure to plant large trees far enough away from your home to prevent damage from falling branches or root damage to your home's foundation. The DOE

recommends planting two to five times the mature tree's height away from your home. Keep in mind, if you have a rooftop photovoltaic solar system, even a small amount of shade can significantly reduce energy production. Consider smaller plantings closer to the home to shade walls, windows, or hardscaped surfaces, such as driveways and sidewalks.

Keep landscaping clear of dryer vents, heat pumps, and air conditioning units to ensure airflow and access for maintenance.

When landscaping, always consider safety first. Call 811 or go to [call811.com](http://call811.com) before you dig to ensure you know where any underground power, gas, water, or sewer lines are located. The national 811 Underground Service Alert program routes you directly to your local resources.

Be mindful of overhead power lines, too. Look up and check the surroundings before setting up ladders. Be thoughtful when planting new landscaping that could encroach on power lines. Utility equipment should have at least 10 feet of clearance.