

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CEO

Remembering Hurricane Katrina



Aug. 29, 2005, is a date that will never be forgotten. Like many, I remember exactly where I was and the details of what transpired that most memorable Monday morning. In the days leading up to Hurricane Katrina's landfall, preparations began and plans were in place for residents of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. After all, we'd been through this routine many times before. Little did we know we were preparing for the worst natural disaster to hit the United States. Shortly after landfall, some of us found ourselves wading through chest-deep water during the storm to find higher ground, while others searched for family members to assure their safety. This devastating event will forever be etched in my memory much like the tragedy of Sep. 11, 2001.

Following Katrina, more than 70 Singing River Electric employees sustained damage to their homes. Twenty-one employees suffered major damage, and most of those were forced to temporarily relocate their families. Amazingly enough, every one of those employees immediately reported to work to restore power to our communities.

Katrina's destruction left 100% of our members without power. With assistance from more than 65 electric cooperatives and from as far away as Connecticut, our employees began the restoration process. At peak restoration time, we had 1,000 linemen reporting to our three offices. They worked safely and efficiently to restore power to 50% of our members within the first five days. All meters that could take power were restored within 10 days of Katrina's landfall.

In the days following the storm, Singing River Electric's meter count was reduced by more than 1,500. Brighter days were ahead with record growth during the 2006 calendar year – by the end of 2006, our meter count had grown to more than 66,000, up from the pre-Katrina count of 64,900. Our communities have continued to thrive since that unforgettable event. Today, Singing River Electric provides electricity to more than 81,500 meters across the communities we serve.

As I reflect on that date from 20 years ago, restoration efforts by our employees — including those displaced from their own homes and those who lost loved ones because of the storm — were truly amazing and a testament to the cooperative spirit.



by Brian Hughey

General Manager and CEO

Energy Tips



Gabe Robbins
Energy Services Representative
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Air filters and thermostat settings

As we continue into the heat of the summer, simple things can go a long way in terms of energy savings.

Replacing your cooling system's filter regularly will maintain a strong airflow, boost energy efficiency, and help your unit not work as hard to cool your home. Checking the filter each month and replacing it as needed will also eliminate wear and tear on your cooling system, helping extend the life of the unit.

As always, **being aware of the temperature setting on your thermostat** is where you can capture the most savings. The recommended summer thermostat setting is 78 degrees because this level is where your unit will operate most efficiently during hot summer temperatures.

Keep your thermostat setting as high as you comfortably can and use fans to feel cooler. If it is 90 degrees outside and your thermostat is set to 70, your unit is running hard for long periods to keep up with the 20-degree difference. Make the degree difference as small as possible – the greater the difference, the more your unit works, uses energy, and adds to your bill.

singingriver.com/ways-to-save



2025 Annual Membership Meeting

Singing River Electric held its 2025 Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, Jun. 26, at the Lucedale headquarters office.

General Manager and CEO Brian Hughey and Board President Kristal Sisson reviewed accomplishments from 2024 for Singing River Electric and Singing River Connect, and an audit firm representative presented the financial report.

Attendees also heard from Camila Cristobal of George County High School, Aliya Douglas of St. Martin High School, and Brett Jackson of East Central High School who shared their experiences in Washington, D.C. as Singing River Electric's Cooperative Youth Leadership students.

Thank you to our members who participated in the board of directors election online through the website and SmartHub app, by mailed-in proxies, and in person at the annual meeting. Three Singing River Electric members were elected to serve a three-year term on the cooperative's board representing three geographic districts: Stanley R. Busby – District 1; Ronald Wilson – District 2; and Olin Howard Davis – District 3. For a full list of board members, visit singingriver.com/my-coop/#board.

2025

Annual Membership Meeting Prize Winners

Thank you to all members who voted online or returned proxies to participate in the board of directors election. Congratulations to our prize drawing winners!

\$500 WINNER:

T.G. Hulsey of Richton

\$250 WINNERS:

Rita Beech of Vancleave
Rhonda Grager of State Line
Roland Mestayer of Pascagoula
Brenda Jobe of Gautier
James Crum of Lucedale
Deidra Mirick of Ocean Springs

Singing River Electric 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

- Inspected nearly 28,500 poles, replacing them as needed to strengthen our electric distribution system
- Continued implementing SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) with software and fiber lines providing data to minimize outage response times and perform proactive maintenance
- Retired more than \$3.5 million in capital credits for the year 1998 – Cooperative Energy retired \$1.53 million for the year 1994
- Re-cleared 1,300 miles of right of way to minimize service interruptions
- Restored power quickly and safely after Hurricane Francine and countless thunderstorms
- Awarded 277 heat pump rebates
- Activated a PIN number requirement for greater automated phone system security
- Awarded \$16,575.43 in Neighbors Helping Neighbors Community Grants
- Spent time in our communities for Cooperative Days of Service, career fairs, Mississippi state flag donations, Arbor Day, Renew Our Rivers, and Safety City presentations
- Assisted fellow electric cooperatives after Hurricanes Helene and Milton and severe thunderstorms
- Began an apprenticeship program for newly hired linemen to standardize skills and training

Singing River Connect 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

- Grew to more than 12,000 subscribers
- Upgraded Everyday Scroller package subscribers from 100 Mbps to 300 Mbps
- Included ProtectIQ and ExperienceIQ enhanced app features in the Entertainment Enthusiast 1 Gig plan
- Introduced the Speed Fanatic 2 Gig offering
- Partnered with Jackson County to provide free SmartTown Community Wi-Fi at Hurley's Lum Cumbest Park and Vancleave horse arena



View the 2024 annual report at singingriver.com/my-coop.



Being safe online is more important now than ever. With technology ever evolving, and children spending more time online, it's important to help them become responsible online explorers.

To educate about safe internet use and responsible online behavior, Singing River Connect now offers an education program geared toward elementary-aged children. The fun, interactive program featuring Webby the Internet Safety Cat teaches children how to make SMART decisions while exploring online.

Kicking off the program in July, fiber team members participated in a Summer Learning Series at the St. Martin and Moss Point libraries with the Jackson-George Regional Library System. Children enjoyed an interactive question-and-answer session along with an educational coloring book, fun stickers, and temporary tattoos.

Our fiber internet professionals are available to speak at schools and community events. Request a speaker online at singingriverconnect.com/webby-the-cat or call any of our offices.

Webby the Internet Safety Cat - Keeping Children Safe Online



Kids, stay SMART!

S Stay Safe — Keep your personal information private! Never share your full name, address, school, or phone number online.

M Make Good Choices — Think before you click. Not everything online is true or safe - ask an adult if you're unsure.

A Ask for Help — If something feels weird or scary, tell a trusted adult. It's always okay to ask questions!

R Respect Others — Be kind online, just like in real life. Treat everyone with respect. (No mean comments, no bullying)

T Think Before You Share — Photos, words, and videos stay online forever. Share smartly, and don't post anything you wouldn't say out loud!

AUGUST 2025

SR Singing River Connect

FIBER CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

Get blazing-fast fiber internet from local people you trust.

Step 3: Fiber Construction

Running fiber lines on poles and burying lines underground

- Bayou Cassotte
- Kreole
- Monaco Lake
- Singing River Mall
- Gautier
- Fountainbleu
- Hamill Farm
- Ocean Springs
- Gulf Park Estates

Step 4: Splicing

Connecting fiber lines to the network

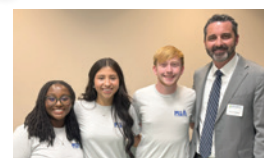
- Sunplex
- Hamill Farm

Step 5: Service Drop & Drop Splicing & Step 6: Installation

Bringing mainline fiber to the exterior of your home and connecting your home to blazing-fast fiber internet

- Fort Bayou
- Martin Bluff
- Hickory Hills
- St. Martin
- Tucker Road
- Forts Lake
- Helena
- Helena Industrial
- Escatawpa South
- All Singing River Electric areas in George, Greene, Perry, Stone, Wayne, Harrison, Mobile, and Washington counties and north Jackson County

[SINGINGRIVERCONNECT.COM/SIGNUP](https://singingriverconnect.com/signup)





Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi's 39th YOUTH TOUR

LEARN. GROW. EXPERIENCE.

A group of 84 rising high school seniors from across Mississippi traveled to Washington, D.C. in June to attend the 2025 NRECA Youth Tour.

The trip was the culmination of the student's participation in the Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi's youth leadership program.

The program instills leadership skills in the students, informs them about the electric cooperative form of business, and teaches them about the democratic form of government at both the state and federal levels.

During a March workshop in Jackson, the students had the opportunity to meet and hear from state legislators.

While in Washington, D.C., the students and adult chaperones visited historic sites, monuments, museums, and had an opportunity to learn about the impact electric cooperatives have on their communities.

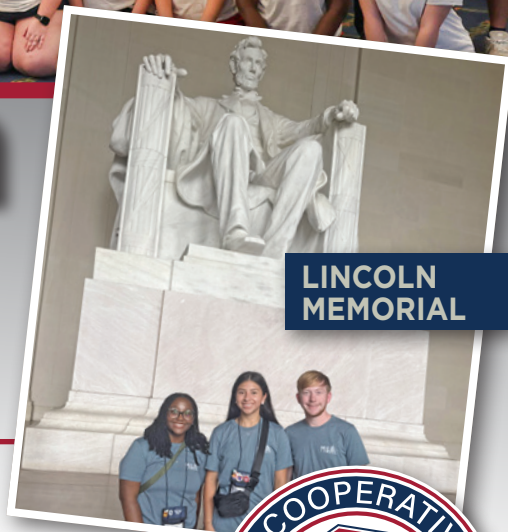
The students also had an opportunity to tour Capitol Hill with former U.S. Congressman Gregg Harper of Mississippi.

Harper shared with the students about his experience as a congressional leader and complimented the electric cooperative program, saying that he "is proud of this program because his daughter participated in it, and it was one of the best programs that she participated in while in high school."

The students attended a Washington Nationals pro baseball game, experienced the play "Les Miserables" at The Kennedy Center, and had dinner during an evening cruise on the Potomac River.

The students were chosen by their local electric cooperative.

The Cooperatives Youth Leaders program is fully funded — including the trip to D.C. — by the local electric co-ops as a commitment to molding future leaders for Mississippi, so they can impact the state and local communities.



LINCOLN
MEMORIAL



NATIONALS
PARK



WHITE
HOUSE



CAPITOL
BUILDING

ALIYA DOUGLAS - ST. MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL
CAMILA CRISTOBAL - GEORGE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

BRETT JACKSON - EAST CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL