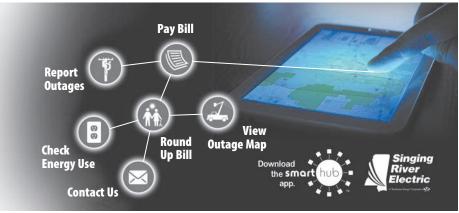
12 = Today in Mississippi = July 2018 July 2018 Today in Mississippi 13



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.







Brian Hughey General Manager and CEO Singing River Electric

Are you prepared this hurricane season?

While the 2018 hurricane season officially began on June 1, the Gulf of Mexico saw its first named storm during the last week of May. Fortunately for our area, Tropical Storm Alberto shifted eastward and made landfall along the Florida Panhandle, causing only minimal damage.

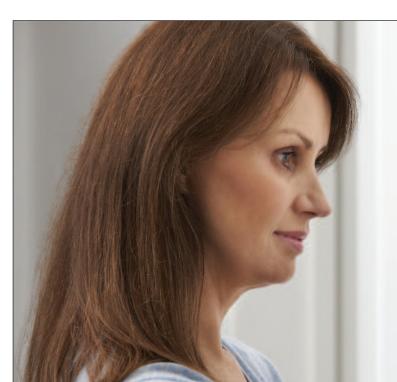
According to NOAA (National

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), this year's hurricane season is expected to be near or above normal

As we move toward the most active part of hurricane season, we encourage you to finalize your preparations for this year's storm season. Those preparations likely include storing such things as water, non-perishable food, fuel, batteries, etc. Some members also have an evacuation route picked out ahead of time, depending on the magnitude of a potential storm.

Singing River Electric maintains a storm plan and has recently concluded an annual review of our Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan. Should a hurricane or tropical storm approach our area, our plan contains specific steps to be taken as a storm enters the Gulf of Mexico. Employees are pre-assigned tasks such as preparing food, securing supplies/fuel, and servicing vehicles. Line crews, service personnel and supervisors are assigned areas of our system in an effort to efficiently begin work once the storm

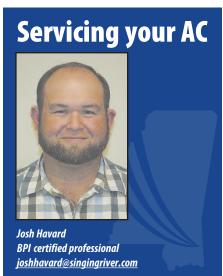
Being a part of the network of electric cooperatives provides Singing River Electric access to cooperative line personnel from other states, who will assist us in restoring your electric service following a disaster. Singing River Electric is prepared and ready to respond and restore service to our members as quickly and safely as possible.



Manage your energy use this summer.



Did you know that heating and cooling costs make up 45-55 percent of your electricity bill? Set thermostats to 78 degrees in the summer. Use ceiling fans only when you are in the room. Close shades and drapes during the day to help keep heat out. Visit www.singingriver.com for more summer efficiency tips.



During these summer months, extreme heat causes air conditioners to work overtime. Since heating and cooling is the largest contributor to your electric bill, it is important to make sure the unit is operating at full efficiency. Several things can be done to accomplish this:

• Service your unit annually, or every couple of years. Cleaning the coils and checking the Freon level will assure the unit is operating efficiently. Low Freon levels, even one pound low, can cause your unit to operate about 30 percent



more or longer to do the same job and increases your electric bill.

- Change your filter each month, or according to manufacturer's directions. A dirty filter can cause the unit to work harder and longer to move enough air through to cool your home.
- Avoid covering your outdoor (condensing) unit. It needs open air flow to work properly and at peak efficiency.



Hurricane Pren

What to do **Before** the storm checklist

supplies (food, water, radio, batteries, etc.)

M Recharge cell phones and refill medications

Trim trees, secure home and outdoor furniture

and keep its doors shut prior to storm landfall

Fill tubs and sinks with water for washing and

✓ Review evacuation plan with household

✓ Set refrigerator on coldest setting

flushing prior to storm landfall

and extended family

■ Learn how SRE prepares by visiting singingriver.com/ storm-and-outage-center

Like Singing River Electric on Facebook and follow **SRECooperative on Twitter** to stay informed

Y Download SRE's SmartHub app on your mobile device to report any power outages

Stay tuned to local media for weather information

Hurricane Alberto Preparation

Singing River Electric initiated its storm plan in response to the threat of Hurricane Alberto in May. Shown, engineer Payton Dudley meets with Lucedale crews on Friday, May 25, 2018, to discuss Hurricane Alberto, pre-storm preparations and assigned areas for the storm. Crews were

briefed the same day at the co-op's Gautier and Sand Hill offices. And cooperative staff met to coordinate materials, equipment, fuel purchases and staffing assignments. In the end, the storm headed toward Florida, but it is always important to stay prepared.

Update your contact information

with SRE

(via SmartHub app,

online or phone)

Supporting Project Hero



The Project Hero organization sponsors cycling events for veterans to raise awareness for PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder). On March 9, cyclists traveling with Project Hero stopped at the Gautier American Legion for lunch as they made their way from Tallahassee, Fla., to New Orleans, La., over a six-day period. SRE bucket trucks helped display the American flag to greet the cyclists. The co-op also donated water for the

Creating Jobs in South Mississippi



Cooperative Energy, Singing River Electric's generation cooperative, hosted workshops in Hattiesburg and Gulfport for community leaders, city officials and supervisors from across the region in June. Attendees included Singing River Electric staff and officials from Jackson and George counties. Participants learned about working with their local economic development authorities to develop their communities, how job creators judge communities, and best practices.