

Current REPORT

For Members of Lynchés River Electric Cooperative

October is National Co-op Month

What better time to celebrate Lynchés River Electric Cooperative's 70th Anniversary than during National Co-op Month. We have a lot to celebrate.

Some of you may remember what life was like before rural homes were electrified. Simple household tasks were physically demanding. Farm chores lasted from sun up to sundown. There wasn't much time for leisure activities.

Now, 70 years later, the thought of living without electricity is a difficult concept to grasp. We are so dependent on electricity in our daily lives, we often take it for granted, until it's not there.

Electric cooperatives brought electricity to the countryside, but more importantly by doing so improved the quality of life for rural residents.

Lynchés River Electric Cooperative continues to improve our members' lives in many ways.

Since 1993, our Operation Round Up program has donated over \$1 million dollars in assistance for medical, shelter, food and clothing needs.

Our Women Involved in Rural Electrification (WIRE) organization donates school shoes and supplies to needy children, purchases undergarments for house fire victims and visits the elderly in nursing homes and children in the hospital.

Lynchés River twice donated child ID fingerprint kits to first graders in the cooperative's service area.

Employees raised over \$4000 for United Way, \$540 for Relay for Life and donated 23 pints of blood to the American Red Cross this year.

Each year Lynchés River sends two high school students to Washington, D.C. to learn about electric cooperatives, our industry and the political process. Students are encouraged to question their Congressional

leaders about current issues affecting the nation and their electric cooperatives.

Our economic development efforts create jobs and infuse money into the local economy.

As a member-owned enterprise, we are run by the people who live and work in the communities we serve. Therefore, it's no coincidence Lynchés River Electric Cooperative shows a special loyalty to our communities. After all, cooperatives are motivated by service not by profit.



Ownership.

Would you trust a business more if you owned it?

Cooperative businesses are owned by more than 154.7 million Americans, including:

- 87 million who own their credit union
- 39 million who own their electric co-op
- 3 million who own their housing co-op

Maybe that's why we're more trusted than businesses owned by Wall Street investors.

Cooperatives.

Owned by Our Members,
Committed to Our Communities.



Lynchés River Electric
Cooperative

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham Meets with Co-op Leaders

U.S. Senator Lindsay Graham listened to co-op leaders concerns about climate change legislation at a luncheon held Sept. 2 in Columbia. Graham assured co-op leaders the House of Representatives' Waxman-Markey bill was dead on arrival when it reached the Senate.

Under the House's "cap and trade" bill, electricity rates would double and could prompt manufacturers to move their operations overseas.

Graham vowed to work with moderate democrats and republicans to craft a bill with achievable timetables for the reduction of carbon dioxide.



Walter Allread Photo

Sen. Graham, center, talks with Heather Thurmond and a guest at a luncheon sponsored by statewide Sept. 2.

the oversight of carbon emissions would fall under the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). You don't want the EPA involved Graham stressed. "Some of the people on this EPA are your worst nightmare," said Graham.

Graham advised co-op officials climate change legislation will happen. Co-ops must stay engaged in the process to ensure the final bill keeps electricity reliable and affordable for their members.

Members can join the conversation at www.ourenergy.coop.

What the Climate Change Bill Must Include

Electric cooperatives are committed to doing their part in the efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and assert that any public policies on the issue include the following principles:

- Assurance of a continuing supply of reliable and affordable electricity to consumers and businesses.
- Retention and creation of American jobs.
- Equitable sharing of costs across all geographic regions and emitting industries.
- Recognition that greenhouse gas emissions are a global issue requiring an enforceable global solution.
- Access to least-cost financing for mitigation efforts by emitting industries.

- Diversity in power supply fuels, including renewables, clean coal and nuclear energy.
- Acceleration of the most critical technological research and development.
- Recognition of and support for energy efficient and demand side management programs.
- Periodic re-evaluation of greenhouse gas reduction strategies and their impact on American consumers, businesses and our nation's ability to compete internationally.

Your members of Congress need to understand that climate change legislation must be crafted in a way that is both affordable and environmentally responsible. Call today **1-877-40BALANCE**.

Viewpoint

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David Altman

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REMOTE PAYMENT SITES

Chesterfield

Piggly Wiggly Market of Chesterfield

1303 West Boulevard

Chesterfield, SC 29709

Jefferson

The General Store

360 N. Harold Ingram Hwy.

Jefferson, SC 29718

Kershaw

Quality Appliance

407 South Hampton Street

Kershaw, SC 29067

Lancaster

The Energy Center, Inc.

667 Lancaster Bypass 9 E

Lancaster, SC 29720



Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America

LREC Info Just a Click Away

There is a lot to like about our recently updated Web site. Aside from the site's attractive new look, you'll find the information is well organized for easy navigation. A search function let's you look for a specific topic, then provides a list of related items. You choose which item in the list best matches your request.

New features include quick links to bill payment options, power restoration, electrical safety and energy tips. A news and information section will keep you up-to-date. This is where you'll find current and archived news releases and articles.

If you have questions or need additional information use the Contact Us form. You are urged, however, to call our customer service center if you have billing questions requiring immediate attention. Request for information forms are provided for several programs. Bank Draft, Levelized Billing and H₂O Select to name a few.

Join the "green revolution" by signing up for e-billing. You can even sign up online. Once your request has been processed you will no longer receive a paper bill, instead you will receive an email

message your bill is ready to view. Click on the link in the message to view your bill.

The new site is designed so our members can quickly locate information and conduct business. Please let us know if we've accomplished our goal. We welcome your comments and suggestions.



Introducing Our 2009 Youth Tour Delegates

Paul Harris of Heath Springs and Ryan Jones of Kershaw, will never forget the week-long trip they took to Washington, D.C. this summer. Paul and Ryan were two of about 1,500 students experiencing the energy surrounding the nation's capital.

The Youth Tour is more than a visit to Washington. The program exposes students to our industry, our business model and the challenges we face.

At meetings with legislators, Paul, Ryan and students from other states

asked what congressional leaders were doing to keep electricity reliable, efficient and affordable in the future.

Cooperatives across the country are paving the way for their youth to succeed through education and experience.

So, while the Youth Tour is packed with visits to historical sites and fun activities, the real purpose of the trip is to broaden students' horizons and encourage them to become involved in their communities and the democratic process.



Ryan Jones, left, and Paul Harris were two of about 1,500 students visiting Washington, D.C. in June.

Join the “Green Team”



Soon, the Senate will craft their own version of a climate change bill. Although different from the House bill, it too will likely require a percentage of the electricity generated in this country be produced using renewable energy.

Long before climate change legislation became national news, electric cooperatives in South Carolina were offering their members the opportunity to purchase electricity produced by a renewable resource.

Santee Cooper's GreenPower program, begun in 2001, uses landfill gasses to produce electricity.

By voluntarily participating in the GreenPower program you are helping improve our environment by reducing the amount of greenhouse gas released into the atmosphere.

Each 100 kilowatt-hour block of GreenPower will add a mere \$3 to your monthly electric bill. You may purchase as many blocks of GreenPower as you choose.

All revenue from the sale of GreenPower is reinvested in future development of renewable energy resources.

Call our office at 672-6111 or 1-800-922-3486 or sign up for the GreenPower program online at www.lynchesriver.com.

Visit Us On the Web

Get up-to-date Lynchess River news in the News and Information section of our new Web site. Check it out.

www.lynchesriver.com



Beware of “Too Good to be True” Energy Claims

Tough economic times and rising power bills understandably motivate consumers to explore money-saving options. It's no wonder unscrupulous marketers seize the moment by offering deceptive and ineffective products claiming to lower power bills up to 25 percent.

Accordingly, Lynchess River Electric Cooperative cautions consumers to beware of energy saving products that sound too good to be true.

They go by many different names but most of these “magic box” energy devices generally promise to “fix up” a consumer's power by improving power factor. Power factor is simply a measure of efficiency with which the power is being delivered by the utility. Residential consumers are not billed for power factor.

“Because South Carolina cooperatives bill residential members for kilowatts used, and do not penalize for poor power factor, the homeowner would likely see no direct savings

from these devices,” said Mike Smith of Central Electric Power Cooperative, the wholesale power provider for Lynchess River Electric Cooperative. “Not only would they see little savings, they could be spending up to \$1,200 for these bogus products.”

Saving energy is not as simple as plugging a device into an outlet or a meter. Electric co-ops invest millions of dollars every year into researching the latest energy efficient and renewable energy options on the market.

Many co-ops offer energy audits, weatherization programs and other assistance to members seeking answers about energy efficiency. “It's so important for consumers to be skeptical,” said Smith. “They really should check in with their electric utility before making any purchase.”

If you would like additional information, please call our office at 843-672-6111 or toll free at 1-800-922-3486.

Slow down in work zones

Lynchess River Electric Cooperative crews frequently work near roadways and passing vehicles. During major outage restoration, work crews may work around the clock in bad weather with low visibility.

Our crews follow safety procedures by clearly marking their work zones and by monitoring traffic. Motorist should watch for these signs, signalers and workers, and follow the rules of the road—and common sense—to avoid accidents.

As you travel through Lynchess River's service area and all across the state watch for utility workers, farmers and slow-moving vehicles.

