

## Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

[www.horryelectric.com](http://www.horryelectric.com)

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**TO REPORT  
 POWER OUTAGES ONLY**  
 (843) 369-2212

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

- Johnny M. Shelley  
*President*
- Eugene Harriott Jr.  
*Vice President*
- Ashley Anderson  
*Secretary/Treasurer*
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- Aaron C. Johnson
- Franklin C. Blanton
- Ronald H. Floyd
- Jody D. Prince
- Frederick 'Freddy' Thompkins

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CEO**

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**CO-OP ATTORNEY**

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**CO-OP NEWS EDITOR**

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Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc., is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc. is a non-profit, member-owned organization providing information and energy-related services on a fair and equitable basis.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



## That's a wrap!

### Annual Member Meeting a success; record-breaking attendance

**EIGHTY-ONE YEARS** of Annual Member Meetings are in the books, and this year proved to be our most successful one yet. Since 2020, we have hosted our Annual Member Meeting Early Drive-Thru Registration and Voting event at our Conway office. The drive-thru setup allowed us to break our all-time registration record two years in a row. I'm happy to announce we broke that record again this year.

On May 10-11, over the course of a day and a half, we registered 9,388 accounts. Of those 9,388 accounts, 6,654 were members who registered and voted.

Our bylaws require a quorum equal to 5% of the membership to transact business. We needed to register 3,651 members to meet quorum and we surpassed that by nearly double!

Thank you so much to everyone who took time out of their day to come to our registration and voting event. We also appreciate all of you who watched our virtual business meeting on May 11.

### Trustee election results

The business session agenda included the election of three trustee candidates, who are also members of the cooperative, to serve on the board of trustees for a three-year term. Elaine Gore (District 1), Ronald Floyd (District 5) and Ashley Anderson (District 7) were re-elected.

The board of trustees elected officers at the May board meeting. Johnny M. Shelley remains as president, with Eugene Harriott Jr. as vice president and Ashley Anderson as secretary/treasurer.

### Voting results

Members who participated in our Early Drive-Thru Registration and Voting event were presented with a voting ballot. In addition to voting on trustees, members were asked if they

would like to continue with a drive-thru registration for the Annual Member Meeting. A second question asked if members would like to continue with a virtual business meeting.

Since 2020, we have received positive feedback favoring the drive-thru and virtual method. However, we wanted to see if the majority of participating members wished to continue with this style of Annual Member Meeting.

Results showed the majority of members voted in favor of continuing with the drive-thru and virtual Annual Member Meeting. The board of trustees will take these votes under consideration to make the final decision on next year's format.

### Prize winners

Our Annual Member Meeting prize winners have been notified by phone or mail. The grand prize this year was a 2018 E-Z-Go electric golf cart. The grand prize winner is William Wathen. Be sure to check out our upcoming July edition of *South Carolina Living* for a picture of the grand prize winner and a photo recap of the event.

### Planning ahead

It takes a lot of planning to host an event that runs as smoothly and efficiently as our Drive-Thru Registration and Voting event. Our Annual Member Meeting planning committee is already working to make sure 2023 is a success.

Thank you again to everyone who participated in our Annual Member Meeting this year and we look forward to seeing you next year!

**DANIEL B. SHELLEY, III**  
 Executive Vice President and CEO

## Aynor fourth grader wins statewide book challenge

**TALKING ABOUT ELECTRICITY** may not seem too difficult, but what if you were told to write a book?

That's exactly what fourth and fifth graders around the state were encouraged to do during the Children's Book Challenge, an educational initiative by the electric cooperatives of South Carolina. The competition challenges students to write and illustrate stories that focus on the impact of electricity in their lives, communities and state.

Brooke Ann Brown, a homeschool student from Aynor, wrote *An Adventure with Electricity*. Her book tells the story of a lighting bug named Sparkie who teaches a young girl about how electricity works in her home.

In February, Horry Electric Cooperative selected Brown's book as the local winner for the Children's Book Challenge. Brooke received a \$50 prize for being the local winner and her teachers, Brooke's parents, also received \$50.

"We (the Horry Electric judges) really liked how Brooke offered a clear and logical explanation of how electricity is produced and how it enters your home," says Toni Gore, Horry Electric's Children's Book Challenge coordinator. "Overall, her



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Brooke Ann Brown poses with a published copy of her book and her local prize of \$50.

book was educational and a great read."

As the local winner, Brown's book advanced to the statewide competition in April. *An Adventure with Electricity* was a hit and Brown was selected as the statewide winner. She won the \$500 grand prize and her parents received \$100. When asked what she had planned for her prize money, Brown said, "I plan to put this money into a bank account and save it for college."

*An Adventure with Electricity* will be published and distributed to elementary schools throughout the state.

## Interactive savings tools available to members

**FINDING WAYS TO SAVE ENERGY** in your home is important when it comes to your monthly electric bill. Horry Electric offers a variety of free, interactive tools to help members find where they can save the most. All of these tools can be found on [horryelectric.com/energy-programs](http://horryelectric.com/energy-programs).

### ChooseEV

Members interested in electric vehicles (EV) can find out if an EV is a good fit by using the ChooseEV tool. This tool allows you to choose an EV model, view your estimated monthly savings potential and find incentives and promotions.

The ChooseEV tool goes one step further to break down EV home charging cost information. You can also view a map pinpointing all public charging stations in your area.

### Home Energy Advisor

This calculator conducts a virtual energy assessment of your home and provides an estimated breakdown of your energy use and costs. Members will fill out information regarding home size, heating, cooling, refrigeration, lighting, appliances, pools and more.

Once you have completed your analysis, you can view or update information at any time. For example, if you move to a different home, you can reset your profile and begin a new profile of your new home. If you install a new water heater or add a hot tub to your home, you can update this information as needed and the tool will automatically adjust savings feedback.

### Savings calculators

Access a variety of calculators to find energy saving opportunities. The Water

Heater Calculator compares estimated annual costs of your current water heating type to other water heating options.

Other calculators examine your heat pump, appliances and even holiday lighting.



## Local students to embark on educational summer trips

**SIX LOCAL TEENS** will embark on two all-expense-paid trips this summer, courtesy of Horry Electric Cooperative. Three students will tour the nation's capital this month and three will visit the South Carolina capital in July.

Taking part in the Washington Youth Tour June 18–23, alongside other students sponsored by South Carolina electric co-ops, will be Gracie Lee of Aynor High School, Jamirika Randall of the Scholars Academy, and John Sumter of the Scholars Academy.

The Washington Youth Tour is an annual co-op tradition originally started by President Lyndon B. Johnson. Co-ops from across the country participate in this week-long event, allowing students to make connections with their peers.

During their stay in D.C., students will visit Capitol Hill and meet their congressional representatives and senators. They will also tour historic

sites including the Lincoln, Washington and Franklin Delano Roosevelt memorials; the World War II, Korean and Vietnam Veterans memorials and the Pentagon.

The success of the Washington Youth Tour created the idea for a state-level program. In 2017, South Carolina's electric cooperatives launched the Cooperative Youth Summit. This program was designed to engage students in activities that teach them about electric co-ops and the not-for-profit business model, in addition to how state government works.

Attending the 2022 Cooperative Youth Summit, set for July 11–14, will be Bradley Alford of the Scholars Academy, Mackenzie Brown of Aynor High School, and Lilah Ell of Coastal Leadership Academy.

Both trips were canceled in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19. In place of the



**Horry Electric's Washington Youth Tour representatives Dylan Young and Brianna Joyner trace the names on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall in 2019.**

trips, students participated in the Virtual Youth Experience, a week-long web conference.

“We are so excited students are able to attend these trips in person again,” says Toni Gore, Washington Youth Tour and Cooperative Youth Summit coordinator for Horry Electric. “Being able to meet government leaders in person and travel to see iconic memorials is an experience of a lifetime these students will never forget.”

### Meet the Students



**Gracie Lee**

*Washington Youth Tour*

**Parents:**

Timmy and Ginger Lee



**Jamirika Randall**

*Washington Youth Tour*

**Parents:**

Carol Gause



**John Sumter**

*Washington Youth Tour*

**Parents:**

Gregory and Traci Sumter



**Bradley Alford**

*Cooperative Youth Summit*

**Parents:**

Randy and Siena Alford



**Mackenzie Brown**

*Cooperative Youth Summit*

**Parents:**

Stevie and Andrea Brown



**Lilah Ell**

*Cooperative Youth Summit*

**Parents:**

Brenda Haywood

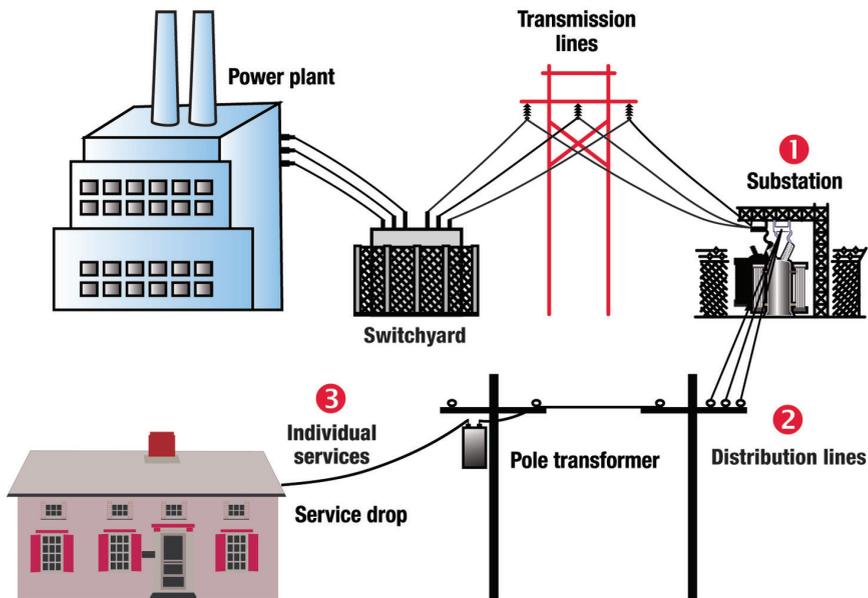
# Restoring service after the storm

Goal is to get lights back on ASAP

**RESTORING POWER AFTER** a major outage is an enormous undertaking that involves much more than simply throwing a switch or removing a tree from a line.

The main goal is to safely restore power to the greatest number of members in the shortest time possible. Keep in mind if there is damage to power plants, switchyards or transmission lines, those facilities must be repaired by our power supplier before we can restore your service. Transmission lines seldom fail, but they can be damaged by lightning, ice storms, tornadoes and hurricanes. Tens of thousands of people could be served by a single high-voltage transmission line.

When those facilities are working, problems in your co-op's electric distribution system can be corrected. Three primary areas of our system must be addressed when outages occur.



**1—Substations are repaired first.** A co-op may have several local distribution substations, each serving thousands of members. When a major outage occurs, the local distribution substations are checked first. If the problem can be corrected at the substation level, power may be restored to a large number of people.

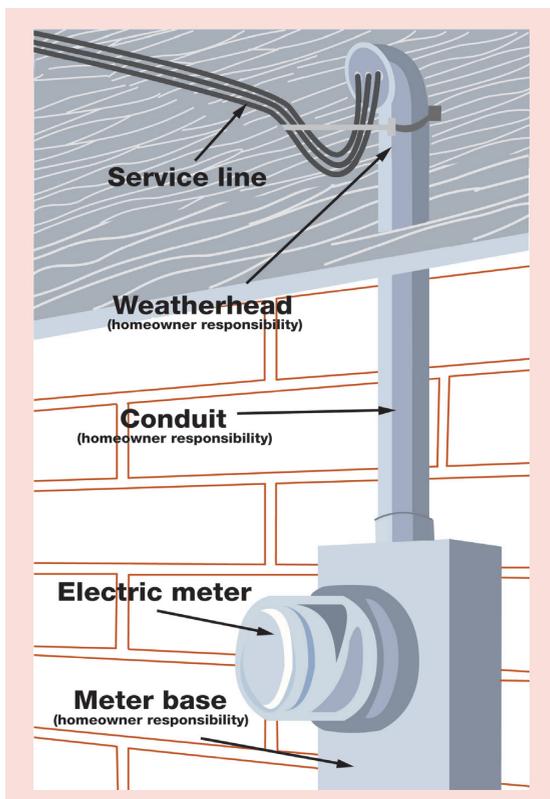
**2—Distribution lines are repaired.** Main distribution supply lines are checked, if the problem cannot be isolated at the substation. These supply lines carry electricity away from the substation to a group of members, such as a subdivision. When power is restored at this stage, all members served by this supply line could see the

lights come on, as long as there is no problem farther down the line.

**3—Individual services are restored.** The final supply lines, called service lines, carry power from the transformer on utility poles or underground transformers outside houses or other buildings. Line crews repair the remaining outages based on restoring service to the greatest number of members.

Sometimes, damage will occur on the service line between your house and the transformer on the nearby pole. This may explain why you have no power when your neighbor does. Your co-op needs to know you have an outage, so a service crew can repair it.

To report a power outage, call Powertouch at (843) 369-2212.



## If your electric service is damaged

If there is damage to the equipment where the service drop enters your home, you may need to get an electrician to repair it before the co-op can safely restore your power. The weatherhead, where service lines enter the conduit leading to your home's electric meter, is the responsibility of the homeowner as are the conduit and the meter base. The co-op can replace or repair damaged meters or service lines, but if you see damage to your home's weatherhead, conduit or meter base, contact an electrician immediately to get repairs started.

## Ways to report an outage

**SUMMER IS ONE** of the most active weather seasons. You can count on typical thunderstorms, but there is also the potential for hurricanes. Officials are predicting another “above-average” hurricane season with 19 named storms, four of which are expected to be major.

Horry Electric is prepared to weather any storm and members are encouraged to have a plan in place. If you experience severe weather, there are multiple ways to report an outage.

### MyOutage

Horry Electric’s outage text alert program provides a convenient way to stay connected during an outage. Members are automatically opted in to this service, as long as a cell phone number is listed on the account.

You can find a list of Frequently Asked Questions in the Outage Center section of our website. More information about this program can be found below in the June promotion article.

### Call PowerTouch

PowerTouch is our outage line number. Call (843) 369-2212 to report your outage.



Members can access the MyEnergy **Online** portal on any device. The HEC Mobile app is available as a free download from your app store for all of your smart devices.

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When you call PowerTouch from the telephone number on your account, it ties to the member information and mapping system. This pinpoints the exact location of your outage. It’s important to keep our records up to date, so if your number changes, please let us know.

### Other reporting options

Visit the MyEnergy *Online* member portal to log in to your account and report an outage online.

Members can also report outages by downloading the free Horry Electric mobile app from the App Store or Google Play. For those not enrolled in MyOutage, members can text “OUTAGE” to 352-667. Please do not report outages via social media.

Visit [horryelectric.com/outage-center](http://horryelectric.com/outage-center) to find more information on outage reporting and storm preparation tips.

## June promotion – MyOutage

**HURRICANE SEASON** is here and now is a great time to prepare for a weather-related outage. Members can stay connected during an outage by adding a cell phone number to their account.

By adding a cell phone number, members will be automatically opted in to Horry Electric’s MyOutage program. This fast, convenient outage text alert program provides a convenient way for members to report outages. Members can also request status updates regarding their outage.

Save the MyOutage number, 1 (844) 369-2767, in your contacts. Text “OUT” to report an outage or “STATUS” for an update.

In June, any member who adds a cell

phone number to their account to participate in MyOutage will be automatically entered into a prize drawing for one of five \$50 electric bill credits! Existing MyOutage participants will also be entered in the prize drawing.

Members have until 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, June 30 to enroll. Add a cell phone number and update your contact information online at [horryec.info/contact-info](http://horryec.info/contact-info). You can also log in to the MyEnergy *Online* portal or call (843) 369-2211. The winner will be announced in early July. Visit [horryelectric.com](http://horryelectric.com) to read the contest rules.



## Include us in your plans

**THE ELECTRIC** service provided to your location is capable of handling the load requirement for which it was originally designed. If you are in the process or are planning on making any changes or additions that may alter the load requirements of your service, please be aware that an upgrade in service may be necessary. Please call us during the planning stages of your project so we can advise you on any necessary upgrade requirements or costs before you begin construction.

# WHO POWERS YOU?

Inspired by someone making a difference in our community?  
Tell their story and they could win a prize.

We know our community is filled with unsung heroes who are making a difference. Let's celebrate them! This is your chance to honor the people who are making a real difference. Winners will be selected by a panel of judges based on the impact they have on our community. All entries must be submitted by July 31, 2022.

Together, let's  
celebrate the  
power of  
human  
connections.



**Grand Prize \$2,500**

**Your Local Co-op Prize \$500**

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Visit [ecsc.org/WhoPowersYou](https://ecsc.org/WhoPowersYou) for full contest rules



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