

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

www.horryelectric.com

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

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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



High demand users

What consumes the most energy in your home?

THE HOLIDAYS are quickly approaching, which means you're probably pulling out your decorations, including

all the Christmas lights. You may be surprised to learn that your Christmas lights, and lights in general, do not use a lot of electricity compared to the "big users" in your home.

It's a common misconception that if your bill is higher during the holidays, you're paying for everyone else's Christmas lights. Another is Horry Electric raises rates at Christmastime. Neither of these is true. You are billed for the energy registered by your individual meter and Horry Electric does not raise rates at Christmastime. If your bill is higher during the winter months, it's most likely because you're using more electricity to heat your home. Keeping a house warm on a cold day (or cool on a warm day) increases your power bill.

HVAC systems are high kilowatt, or high demand, users. This means they require a significant amount of power to run. For example, electric heat pumps with heat strips or an electric furnace generally require 10 to 20 kilowatts. Other high demand users are EV chargers, electric clothes dryers and electric water heaters. On average, EV chargers require 10 kilowatts, clothes dryers 5 kilowatts and water heaters 4.5 kilowatts per hour.

Low demand users

Your Christmas lights, hair dryer, microwave, coffee maker, pool pump, well pump, ceiling fan and computer are actually low demand users. These

require 0.08 to 1.5 kilowatts. Individually, these low demand users don't drastically increase your power bill.

Think of a hair dryer compared to a clothes dryer. The clothes dryer uses 240 volts, whereas your hair dryer uses 120, like most of the other things in your home. The clothes dryer operates on twice the voltage and runs for about an hour while the hair dryer only runs for a few minutes and requires less voltage and current. All this means is your clothes dryer will use a lot more energy (the combination of voltage, current and time) than your hair dryer.

If you see an increase in your bill during the holidays, remember, it's not the Christmas lights.

Looking ahead to 2024

For members who are participating in Horry Electric's smart thermostat program, as well as Beat The Peak, thank you. You are helping to manage your cooperative's costs directly and your own power bill indirectly.

This edition of *South Carolina Living* is a two-month issue, so you will receive your next magazine in January 2024. All of us at Horry Electric would like to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving, as well as a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

DANIEL B. SHELLEY, III
Executive Vice President and CEO



*Have A Bright and
Happy Holiday Season!*

May your home be filled with peace, comfort and joy.

Merry Christmas
from all of us at

**Horry Electric
Cooperative, Inc.**

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Horry Electric will be closed for the holidays Nov. 23–24, Dec. 25–26 and Jan. 1.



Free, flexible grad course for teachers

Registration closes this month

IT'S NOT OFTEN something comes along that is free, flexible and convenient, especially in higher education. However, local K-12 teachers have the opportunity to take a hybrid, graduate-level course sponsored by Horry Electric and South Carolina's electric cooperatives.

Energy in the 21st Century is an accredited, eight-week course that will feature both in-person and virtual sessions. Beginning on Jan. 13, participants will learn about the history, economics, science and modernization of our global economy and how it relates to the rapidly shifting energy sector. Guest speakers include industry, policy and environmental experts who will help explain current and future energy markets and the methods in which our energy supply and economy may change to adapt.

"If we expect our children to navigate the challenges ahead, then the instructors teaching them need to understand what that future might hold," says Toni Gore, Horry Electric's public relations, marketing and energy management assistant. "This new course is a great opportunity for forward-thinking educators to gain a better understanding of our energy economy."



JOSH P. CROTZER

Kayla Shoemake, a chemistry and physics teacher at Lugoff-Elgin High School, presents her final project to a panel of industry experts. South Carolina teachers of any grade or course are eligible to register at enlightensc.org/grad.

There will be two in-person sessions in Cayce and seven Zoom sessions along with assigned independent study and group work. The final assignment will be due on March 9 and students who successfully complete the course will receive three graduate credit hours from the University of South Carolina.

While the course is free for the participants, students are required to apply to the Graduate School as non-degree seeking students with the University of South Carolina to receive credit. The application fee to the Graduate School is \$50 and non-refundable.

If accepted, a \$100 registration fee is required. However, that fee will be refunded upon successful completion of the course. The course accommodates a maximum of 25 students and registration closes soon.

Visit enlightensc.org/grad for more information or to apply.

Don't miss Willie Wiredhand and the parade crew!

Catch Willie Wiredhand and his parade crew this holiday season in the following Christmas parades:

- **Loris**
Friday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m.
- **North Myrtle Beach**
Saturday, Dec. 2 at 5:30 p.m.
- **Murrells Inlet**
Sunday, Dec. 3 at 3 p.m.
- **Conway**
Saturday, Dec. 9 at 10 a.m.

Be sure to bring your dance moves! Tag us in your pictures and videos on Facebook, Instagram and X (formerly Twitter).



JENNIFER CUMMINGS

How to become a trustee of Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

EACH YEAR, Horry Electric Cooperative members elect three board trustees to serve on the co-op's nine-member board. As a member-owned electric cooperative, any member in good standing can run for a board seat that is up for election, as long as they live in that district.

If you are interested in running as a candidate for the election, please note the qualifications below. **See the nominating schedule on page 12C.**

I. QUALIFICATIONS:

1. General Trustee Qualifications. A Trustee or Trustee Candidate must:

- a. Be a natural person;
- b. Have the capacity to enter legally binding contracts;
- c. While a Trustee and during the 365 days immediately preceding the Trustee election, maintain their primary residential abode within the boundaries of the applicable residential Trustee District;
- d. While a Trustee, and during the twenty-five (25) years immediately prior to becoming a Trustee, not:
 - i. Be, nor have been, convicted of a felony; or
 - ii. Plead, nor have pled, guilty to a felony.

2. Membership Qualifications. While a Trustee, and during the 365 days immediately prior to becoming a Trustee, a Trustee or Trustee candidate must:

- a. Be a Member using, receiving, and purchasing electric service from the Cooperative at the Trustee's or Trustee candidate's principal residence, as determined by South Carolina voter registration law; and
- b. Be current in all respects regarding payment to the Cooperative of Additional Payments and obligations, and not be subject to disconnection for non-payment of electric service at the Trustee

or Trustee candidate's primary residence.

3. Conflict of Interest Disqualification.

A Trustee or Trustee candidate must not be or have been:

- a. A Close Relative of any current Trustee, Cooperative employee, or Cooperative subsidiary employee;
- b. Employed by, materially affiliated with, or share a material financial interest with, any other Trustee;
- c. Engaged in, nor employed by, materially affiliated with, or have a material financial interest in, any individual or entity:
 - i. Directly and substantially competing with the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary; or
 - ii. Possessing a substantial conflict of interest with the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary.
- d. Previously subject to an involuntary separation of employment from the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary; or separation of employment from the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary; or
- e. While a Trustee or during the five (5) years immediately prior to becoming a Trustee, employed by the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary, or engaged contractually (as an employee, principal, owner, partner, or shareholder, except through passive investment) with a firm that contracts with the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary as a prime or sub-contractor.

II. NOMINATIONS:

Below are the two methods that may be used for the purpose of being elected as a member of the Cooperative's Board of Trustees.

1. A member may be nominated by the appointed Nominating Committee of the Cooperative as a candidate for the Board of Trustees from the Trustee District in which the member lives and for that District's seat. The Nominating Committee will meet at least thirty days prior to the Annual Member Meeting. For the exact date of the Nominating Committee meeting, call the office at (843) 369-2211.
2. A member can also be nominated by petition as a candidate for the Board of Trustees from the Trustee District in which the member lives and for that District's seat. Official forms must be obtained from the Cooperative and must be signed by at least twenty-five active members in order to be considered valid. The deadline for petition candidates is at least forty-five days and not more than sixty days prior to the date of the Annual Member Meeting. The deadline is specified on the Official Petition Form.

III. ELECTION:

The following is how the election will take place at the Annual Member Meeting:

Members who have been nominated by the Nominating Committee or who have been nominated by Petition, and meet the qualifications, will have their names appear on the official ballot of the Cooperative. Trustees shall be elected by secret written or electronic ballot by the Members, with polling and early voting as required by state law; PROVIDED that in the event of an uncontested race, secret balloting may be dispensed with and the particular election may occur by acclamation.

For additional information on this procedure, please refer to the Cooperative's Bylaws, which are posted on horryelectric.com. For a printed copy of the bylaws, please visit one of our offices.

Board candidate nominating schedule

HORRY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S bylaws state that a cooperative member may be nominated as a candidate for the Board of Trustees by two methods—by the appointed Nominating Committee or by petition.

Each year, the cooperative's nomination process follows a set schedule. The schedule for 2024 is outlined below.

Item	Bylaw requirement	Action
Nominating Committee appointed	The nominating committee must be appointed at least 60 days before—Feb. 29, 2024—and not more than 150 days—Dec. 1, 2023—prior to the Annual Member Meeting. The committee must consist of at least five members.	The committee will be appointed at the December Board meeting and will meet in January 2024.
Notice of the meeting of the Nominating Committee in local newspaper	No bylaw provision. A RUS requirement.	A notice will be published in a local newspaper in December 2023 and January 2024.
Posting of report from Nominating Committee	Nominees are announced at least 30 days prior to the Annual Member Meeting.	The announcement will be posted before March 30, 2024.
Deadline for petition candidates and posting of report	Petition candidates must be submitted at least 45 days—March 15, 2024—and not more than 60 days—Feb. 29, 2024—before the Annual Member Meeting.	The deadline to submit petition forms is Friday, March 8, 2024, at noon. The petition candidates will be posted in the HEC main office by March 15, 2024.
Credentials and Elections Committee Appointment	The Committee must be appointed at least 60 days—by Feb. 29, 2024—and not more than 90 days—Jan. 30, 2024—before any meeting of the members. The Committee must consist of an uneven number of members and include at least five members.	The Credentials and Elections Committee will be appointed at the February board meeting.
Notice of Annual Meeting	The notice of the Annual Member Meeting must be delivered to members not less than 30 days—March 30, 2024—and not more than 60 days—Feb. 29, 2024—before the date of the meeting.	Direct mail notices will be sent to all member-owners between Feb. 29, 2024 and March 30, 2024. Note: All board candidate nominations must be distinguished between those nominated by the Nominating Committee and those nominated by petition.

Mark your calendar

Horry Electric 2024 Annual Member Meeting

Drive-thru registration and voting

- ▶ Tuesday, April 30
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- ▶ Wednesday, May 1
7 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Virtual Business Meeting

- ▶ Wednesday, May 1
7 p.m.

Voting for Horry Electric Cooperative's board members at the Annual Meeting of Members is one of the privileges you have as a member-owner of the cooperative.

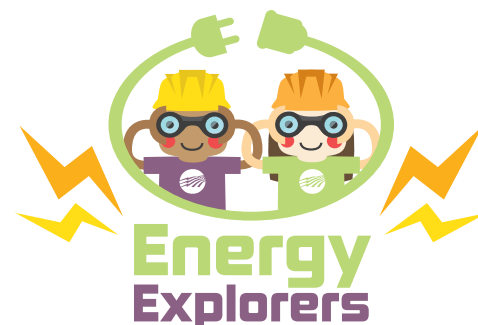


JOSH P. CROTZER

SPOT THE BIGGEST ENERGY USER

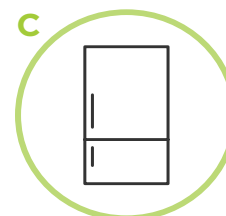
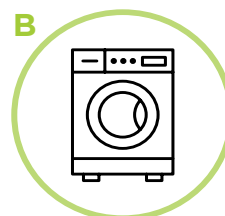
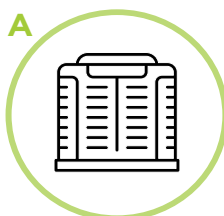
We use electricity every day, but we rarely think about the appliances and electronics that consume the most energy. Can you spot the biggest energy users?

Review each grouping below, then circle the one that you think consumes the most energy. Check your work in the answer key.



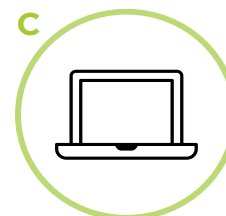
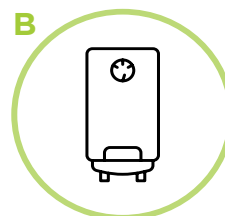
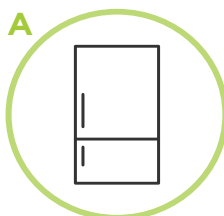
1.

- A) Heating and Cooling Unit
- B) Clothes Washer
- C) Refrigerator



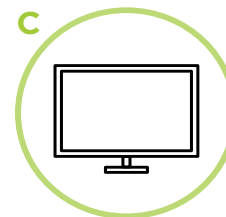
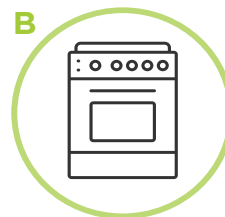
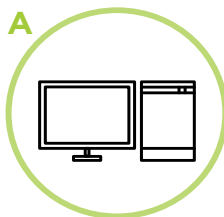
2.

- A) Refrigerator
- B) Water Heater
- C) Laptop Computer



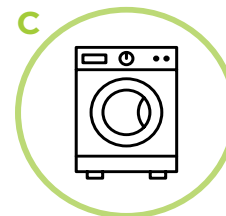
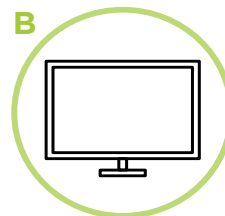
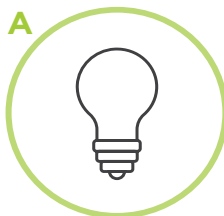
3.

- A) Desktop Computer
- B) Electric Oven
- C) TV



4.

- A) LED Lights
- B) TV
- C) Clothes Dryer



Answer Key: 1. A 2. B 3. B 4. C



Save Energy!

- Wash clothing in cold water and air-dry when possible.
- Only run full loads in the dishwasher.
- Turn off lights when you leave a room.
- Take short showers instead of baths.
- Unplug electronic devices when not in use.