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Horry Electric Cooperative Inc. is a not-for-profit, member-owned organization providing information and energy-related services on a fair and equitable basis.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Investing in tomorrow's leaders

"TO ENRICH THE LIFE of the community" is etched on an original artifact from when Horry Electric was organized in 1940. While providing safe, affordable and reliable electricity remains our primary mission, we are dedicated to improving the lives of the people and communities we serve. One of the most meaningful ways we fulfill that commitment is by investing in local students.

Each November, the Horry Electric WIRE (Women Involved in Rural Electrification) group holds a cake auction to raise money for the HEC WIRE Scholarship. In 2025, \$3,885 was raised through selling cakes, pies and treats to go towards the scholarship fund.

This year, I'm excited to share that four outstanding young women have been selected to receive scholarships from WIRE. Through their academic achievements, leadership abilities and dedication to serving others, they have demonstrated the qualities that will help shape a brighter future for our communities.

The HEC WIRE Scholarship is for freshmen entering Coastal Carolina University or Horry-Georgetown Technical College.

Myley Rabon and Miley Hinson of Aynor High School were awarded the HEC WIRE Scholarship of \$1,500. Both are set to attend Coastal Carolina in the fall. Rabon plans to major in early

childhood education, while Hinson will be working to get her degree in elementary education.

Two additional students were awarded with an honorable mention award of \$750—Bailey Fisher of Socastee High School and Claire Stroud of Green Sea Floyds High School. Fisher plans to attend Horry-Georgetown Technical College and transfer to Coastal Carolina. Stroud will enter Coastal Carolina to major in exercise science.

One of the seven cooperative principles is concern for community. Supporting students and their educational journeys is an investment that benefits everyone. These students will one day lead our businesses, schools, organizations and communities.

Congratulations to each of these four recipients on their achievements. We wish each of them continued success in the years ahead and look forward to seeing the positive impact they will make as they pursue their dreams.

As a member-owned cooperative, we are honored to play a small part in helping local students achieve their dreams. We're excited to see what the future holds for each of them as leaders of tomorrow.

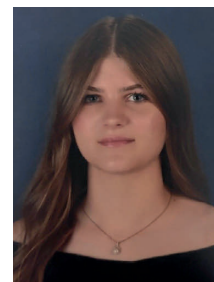
J. REED COOPER, P.E.
Executive Vice President and CEO



Miley Hinson



Myley Rabon



Bailey Fisher



Claire Stroud



Hunter Gardner (left) and Bryson Cooper begin setting up for the wildlife removal and refuse event.

Rodeo champions take on Gaff-n-Go

SOME OF THE BEST LINEWORKERS

across the country traveled to Virginia in May to compete in the Gaff-n-Go Lineworker's Rodeo. Among them were Horry Electric's Hunter Gardner, Bryson Cooper and Dawson Mishoe—the overall journeyman team champions of the South Carolina Lineman's Rodeo in March.

The Gaff-n-Go is an annual competition where lineworkers demonstrate the complex skills that are required in their daily work.

A total of 53 teams competed in the journeyman division. Out of 500 total points, Horry Electric's journeyman team finished with 496 points, placing 22nd overall. Events included:

- ▶ **Working skills** A crew responds to a pole with a damaged double crossarm following a storm. The team must maneuver equipment and make repairs to both sides of the crossarm.
- ▶ **Hurtman rescue** A crew responds to a simulated injured lineman (mannequin) at the top of a pole.
- ▶ **Over-voltage arrester change-out** Two voltage arresters must be replaced, secured and the lines re-energized.
- ▶ **Recloser change-out** With the main line staying energized, crews must install proper cover up and replace a single-phase recloser.
- ▶ **Wildlife removal and refuse** Lineworkers must remove a "simulated" animal that caused a power outage, resulting in a blown fuse.

The linemen did a fantastic job representing Horry Electric at a rodeo of this caliber. These linemen are responsible for building and maintaining more than 6,300 miles of power lines across Horry County. They go through extensive training, work in extreme conditions and give their all every day to keep the lights on for more than 105,000 meters. Horry Electric is proud of their hard work and dedication.



Horry Electric Advanced Line Technicians (from left) Hunter Gardner, Dawson Mishoe and Bryson Cooper competed in the Gaff-n-Go after winning the SC Lineman's Rodeo.

CAYLA MISHOE

Service at heart

Ricky Curry retires after 23 years of service

"SEVEN TO system control."

"Go ahead...10-4."

Those words are constantly broadcast over Horry Electric's radio system as lineworkers sign in and out of

locations. For 23 years,

Ricky Curry has been one of the power control technicians responsible for monitoring crews in the field and assisting members after regular business hours.

Now, he's looking forward to stepping into retirement.

"Helping people and seeing the smiles on members' faces after they've been without power for hours or days, that's what I love about my job," says Curry.

The position is also instrumental in making sure crews are safe. Curry's job of monitoring crews extends beyond the crew on a jobsite. He must also keep in mind the crew working downline. As crews respond to power outages following a storm or hurricane, it's Curry's responsibility to make sure everyone is in the clear when it's time to re-energize a line or circuit. It's a job that can be stressful at times, but it's rewarding in the end.

Serving the community runs through Curry's veins. He grew up in the Bayboro, Loris area and graduated from Green Sea Floyds High School. Curry attended Coastal Carolina University for a year before enlisting in the Army. He served in the military for 10 years before coming back home to Horry County.

He started working at Horry Electric on May 5, 2003. He says the growth in Horry County has been the biggest change over the course of his career.

"The fact that we serve more than 105,000 meters across the county is unreal, Curry says. "The area has grown immensely since I started, but it's been an exciting ride."

Curry doesn't have any special plans for retirement, other than spending time with his grandson. He's looking forward to getting behind the wheel, putting some miles on the car and riding around to take in the beauty of the place he calls home.

"I'm going to miss the people I have worked with for so many years and the family bond we have. The family unity has been the highlight of my career."



Ricky Curry has loved serving the members of Horry Electric for 23 years, but is excited for a new chapter as he steps into retirement.

JENNIFER CUMMINGS

Effective July 1

THE ACCOUNT CHARGE for all rates will increase by \$0.10 per day. For example, residential and general service rates will change from \$0.95 per day to \$1.05 per day.

The Account Charge is a fixed daily amount to cover the costs of providing electric service to a member's meter. This includes building and maintaining the system, poles, wires, substations, insurance, property taxes and other operational costs.

Avoid the energy traffic jam

WHEN THE HEAT PEAKS ON SUMMER afternoons, so does the demand on the electric grid. Air conditioners run longer to keep homes and businesses cool. We come home from work and cook dinner, do the laundry, wash dishes and tackle other daily chores.

Horry Electric's priority is delivering safe, affordable and reliable power whenever you need it. That job is hardest on summer afternoons—usually between 3–6 p.m.—when all the homes and businesses the co-op serves are using electricity at the same time. These are called the “peak hours.”

On hot summer afternoons, these peaks can cause significant strain on our grid, which impacts us all. This is when energy use in South Carolina is at its highest and most expensive. In the most extreme cases, which South Carolina has avoided so far, peaks can combine with other challenges and cause energy shortages—leading to what's known as rolling blackouts.

There are two clear ways to ensure there is enough power for these peaks. One is difficult and expensive: adding to energy supplies by building new power plants or importing out-of-state power. The other actually gives you the opportunity to save money: reducing energy use during peak hours.

Think of the electric grid like a highway or interstate. During rush hour, traffic is heavy, congestion builds and everything slows down. However, if drivers adjust their schedules or take alternate routes, they avoid the frustration of sitting in traffic and help ease the strain. The same principle applies to energy.

Small changes to your daily habits to reduce energy use during peak hours can reduce the strain on the grid. Here are a few ways you can help during the summer months:



Take the off-ramp this summer

When everybody uses lots of electricity at the same time, the power grid experiences its own version of rush-hour congestion.

On a hot summer day, that time usually falls between 3–6 p.m. Small shifts during that time can help reduce grid strain.

- ▶ **Pre-cool your home earlier in the afternoon.**
- ▶ **Raise the thermostat a bit and run ceiling fans to feel cooler.**
- ▶ **Use a smart thermostat to take the thinking out of adjusting your AC.**
- ▶ **Grill outside or use a slow-cooker for dinner.**
- ▶ **Run the dishwasher and do laundry later.**
- ▶ **Do laundry and run your dishwasher outside of peak hours.**
- ▶ **Raise your thermostat a few degrees and run fans, which are energy efficient, during peak hours.** This will lighten the load of your air conditioning unit, your home's most energy-intensive appliance.
PRO TIP: You can stay comfortable even at a higher thermostat setting by programming your smart thermostat to pre-cool your home ahead of peak hours.
- ▶ **Consider using a slow cooker, air fryer or outdoor grill for cooking dinner.**
- ▶ **Most of all, stagger your use of major appliances** (HVAC, electric water heaters, clothes dryers, pool pumps, EV chargers) during peak hours.
- ▶ **Consider investing in a timer for your electric water heater.**

These actions are small on their own, but they add up when everyone participates. As a member of Horry Electric, you're part of a community working together to power the future.

As a reminder, members are billed the Peak Charge for the highest single one hour of energy used during peak hours in the billing period. A 30-day month equals 720 hours. Only one is billed the Peak Charge. The remaining 719 hours are billed at half the cost of what members used to pay on the old rate structure.

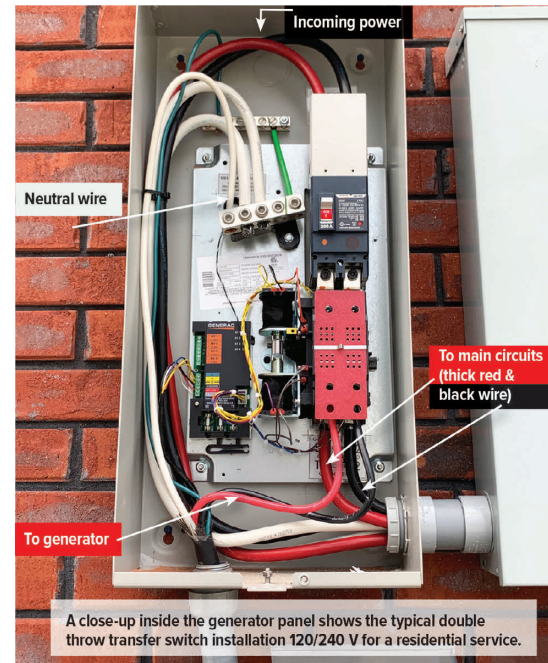
A few simple adjustments to your daily routine can help protect the grid, keep you comfortable, and give you the opportunity to save on your monthly bill.



A whole-home or standby generator is wired into a home by a qualified electrician.



A portable generator is powered by fuel and should not be attached to a circuit breaker, fuse or outlet.



A close-up inside the generator panel shows the typical double throw transfer switch installation 120/240 V for a residential service.

Think safety when operating a generator

A **GENERATOR** can be a valuable piece of equipment to keep appliances working during a power outage. Generators can either be portable/temporary or permanently installed.

A permanent generator, known as a whole-home or standby generator, is wired into a home by a qualified electrician using what's called a double throw transfer switch to prevent the generator from feeding electricity back into power lines. This is called "backfeeding," and it is a serious hazard for lineworkers and others.

A portable generator is powered by fuel and should not be attached to a circuit breaker, fuse or outlet.

"Generators are especially concerning during hurricane season, which runs from June 1 through Nov. 30," says Horry Electric Safety Coordinator Brian Chestnut. "Even though our crews are trained to handle hazardous situations and wear the proper personal protective equipment, an energized line from a home generator poses a serious danger."

To help protect everyone, members should always notify Horry Electric if they have a generator installed—especially if it's connected to the home's electrical system.

Improperly installed generators don't just endanger utility workers, but also put homeowners and their families at risk. Hazards include electrocution, fire, carbon monoxide poisoning and significant property damage.

"If you have a generator, never connect it directly to your home's wiring unless it's been installed by a licensed electrician and includes a proper double throw transfer switch," says Burroughs Nobles, manager of operations. "The safest way is to plug appliances directly into the generator, making sure it's properly grounded and never overloaded."

Thinking about installing a generator or have questions about safe use? Call us at (843) 369-2211 or visit horryelectric.com for more information.

Generator installation checklist

TO ENSURE YOUR SAFETY and the safety of Horry Electric lineworkers, follow these guidelines when installing a generator at your home:

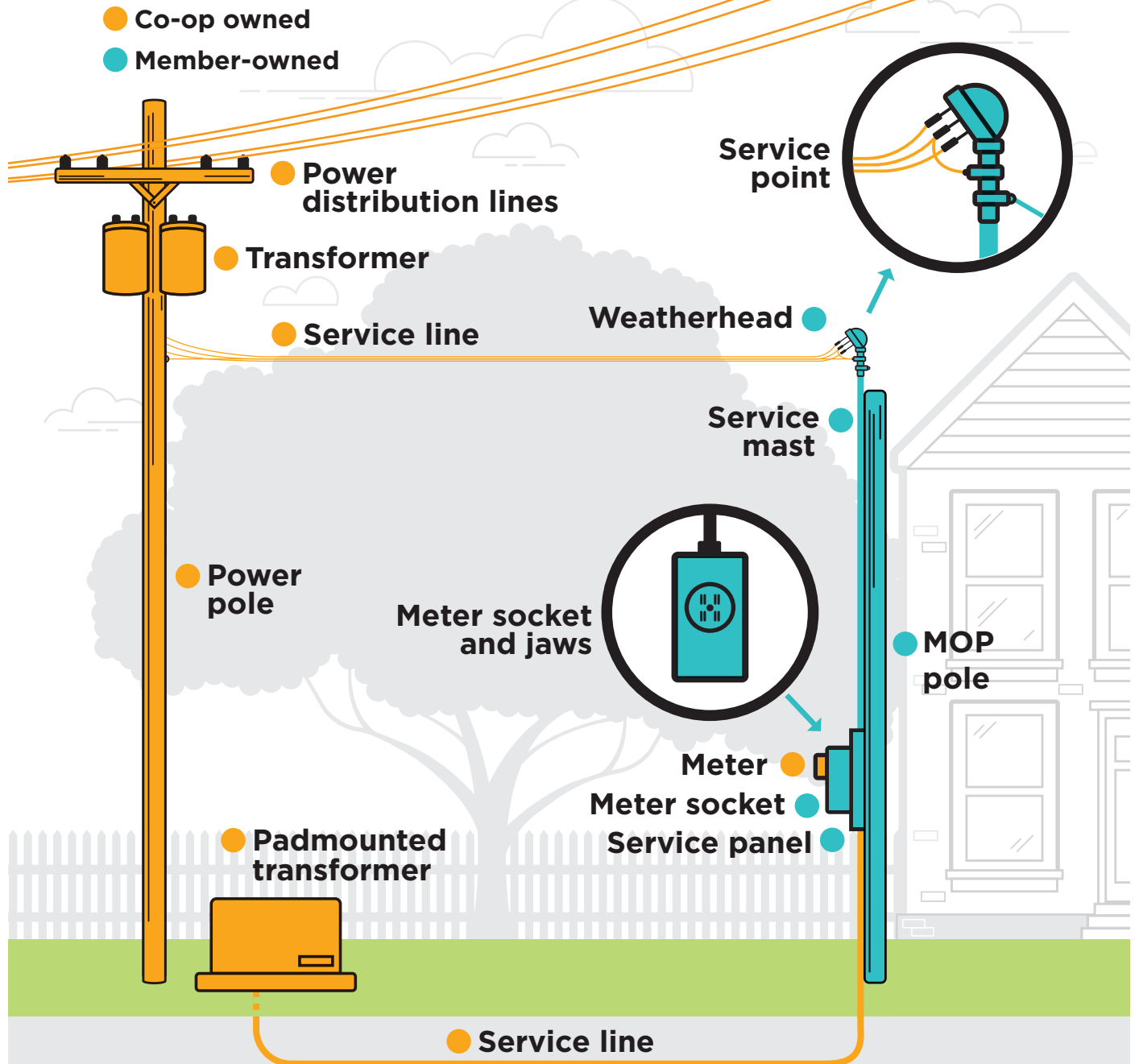
- ▶ Call Horry Electric first. We can answer your questions and provide guidance before you make a purchase.
- ▶ Involve a licensed electrician and/or a certified installer. We have a list of approved electrical contractors on our website under "Energy Programs."
- ▶ Make sure your home is properly wired for generator use.
- ▶ Ensure the installation has been permitted, inspected and approved by county building code officials.
- ▶ Inform Horry Electric when the installation is complete and someone will come to reconnect power.

For more information on generator safety, visit horryelectric.com/services/generators.

Who Owns What?

Electric Co-op Owned Equipment vs Member-Owned Equipment

This graphic depicts equipment owned by the co-op (in gold) and the member (in blue). If a storm damages any equipment owned by the co-op, we are responsible for repairs. If a storm damages any member-owned equipment, the member is responsible for repairs. Members should hire a licensed electrician when making any repairs to member-owned equipment.



Note: This graphic depicts overhead and underground service. Please be aware of which type of service you receive at your home or business.



Electrical Safety *around* Water

Prevent
shocks around
pools, hot tubs and
spas before
they happen.



- Use a qualified electrician for any new pool, hot tub or spa wiring.
- Use covered outdoor outlets.
- Make sure outlets are GFCI-protected and tested monthly.
- Keep cords away from water. Don't use extension cords for pool equipment.
- Replace cracked outlet covers, frayed cords, loose plugs or damaged equipment.
- Choose battery-operated and waterproof TVs, radios and speakers.
- Don't handle phones, tablets, laptops or charging cords when you're wet, and keep them away from pools, spas and sinks.
- Check power line clearance with an electrician or your utility when installing pools, spas and structures like diving boards; and have utilities marked before digging.
- Schedule periodic electrical inspections and upgrades for your equipment.
- Have an electrician show you how to shut off all power in an emergency and make sure the shut-off switch is labeled.

Know the risks: Wet skin + wet surfaces = increased risk when electricity is present.

Warning signs of shock in the water:

- Tingling sensation.
- Muscle cramps.
- Restricted movement.

If you suspect electrical shock:

- Turn off all power immediately.
- Do NOT enter the water to rescue anyone.
- Use a non-conductive rescue tool (such as fiberglass).
- Call 911.

If you feel a shock in the water, move away from the source and get out.