

Lynches River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Pageland, SC 29728
Phone (843) 672-6111
or 1-800-922-3486
www.lynchesriver.com

Automated Outage System
675-LREC (5732)
or
1-866-675-LREC (5732)

Edward S. Drozd
President and CEO

Trustees:

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*Chairman
District 5*

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*Vice Chairman
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*Secretary-Treasurer
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District 4

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District 7

Johnny A. West
District 8

Information for
members of
Lynches River Electric Cooperative

Let your voice be heard

Our nation and our cooperative face serious challenges regarding energy. To meet them, electric co-ops nationwide are promoting a dialogue between our members and our nation's leaders.

It's called "Our Energy, Our Future." Visit the Web site www.ourenergy.coop to make your voice heard. Ask your leaders how we will meet our growing energy needs while at the same time addressing climate change.

At Lynches River Electric Cooperative, we approach this challenge with three key considerations in mind: responsibility, reliability and affordability. We have an obligation and responsibility to make sure electricity is available when needed. Our responsibility includes caring for the environment while providing a reliable service at an affordable price.

While Lynches River Electric Cooperative actively promotes the increased use of renewable resources and energy efficiency, some proposals now under consideration would place an undue financial burden on low-income families. Consider:

- 22 percent of South Carolina co-op families make less than \$25,000 annually, compared to 15 percent nationally
- \$1,000 to \$1,500 — Net annual loss in the average S.C. household's disposable income by 2020 under current federal proposals to curb, or "cap," emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide
- 20 percent of federal Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program funding slashed from 2006 to 2008, with additional cuts proposed for 2009
- \$1,500 — approximate cost for highest-efficiency washing machine with an Energy Star rating of 83. Compare that with \$360, the approximate cost of the lowest-efficiency washing machine with Energy Star rating of 20
- \$16,000 to \$20,000 — approximate



Ed Drozd
President/CEO

cost to install solar panel system able to provide 50 percent of average home's needs.

Many South Carolinians are limited in what they can do with energy efficiency and renewable energy. South Carolina's four-season climate contributes to our greater reliance on electricity than in many states.

We are looking for solutions, not excuses. That's why the state's co-ops are distributing energy-saving compact fluorescent light bulbs. And why we support legislation recently introduced in the state Senate to help lower-income families better afford to make home energy improvements.

Some plans in Congress, however, could offset these efforts. Proposals there could hamper the growth enjoyed by the communities we serve. Even with growth, our state has lost manufacturing jobs at a 50-percent higher rate than other states in the last 10 years.

We believe technology is the key. The carbon "cap" must not tighten faster than technology is able to create viable, affordable generation options. The bottom line: Congress must create incentives to fast-track construction of nuclear generation. Safe and available waste storage is a must.

As you can see, we face tall hurdles. Fortunately, as a member of Lynches River Electric Cooperative, your opinion counts. Let us — and, more crucially, our nation's leaders — know what you think by visiting www.ourenergy.coop.

Edward S. Drozd
Edward S. Drozd

Senator Vincent Sheheen, District 27

Second in a series of articles profiling legislators in Lynch River Electric Cooperative's service area

Senator Vincent A. Sheheen is an attorney in Camden where he resides with his wife, Amy, and children, Austin, Joseph and Anthony. Sheheen grew up in Camden. His parents' Lake Wateree home is served by Lynch River.

Sheheen has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Clemson University and a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of South Carolina. He is a former prosecutor for the city of Camden. Between 1998 and 2001, Sheheen was an adjunct instructor at University of South Carolina School of Law.

Before becoming a senator, Sheheen served in the South Carolina State House 2000 to 2004.

Sheheen is in his second term as a state senator representing Chesterfield, Kershaw and Lancaster counties. He serves on the following committees: Corrections and Penology; Fish, Game and Forestry; General; and Judiciary.

We recently had the opportunity to talk

with Senator Sheheen and ask his opinion on issues affecting South Carolinians and District 27.

What are your main concerns for S.C. and its residents in your district? My main concerns include bringing new, good jobs to our area and improving the infrastructure in our communities. Also, high on my list of priorities are providing a top-notch public education system and preserving South Carolina's natural heritage. I was recently elected chairman of the South Carolina Senate Sportsmen's Caucus. The purpose of the caucus is to protect the environment, while protecting the rights of hunters and fishermen.

What are your objectives for this term? Objectives for this term include reforming our legislative system to bring accountability, streamlining our DUI laws and increasing health care coverage for our citizens.

How has your education and professional background helped you as a legislator? My education and job have helped me better understand both sides of an argument. My background has also taught me patience in fighting for change within the system.

What are some of the positive aspects of your district? My district is a wonderful

place to live and work. The people have treated me with kindness and trust. District 27 is comprised of mostly rural areas and small towns where hospitality and respect are the norm. I am truly blessed to have such wonderful communities to serve.

What do you enjoy most about being a legislator? I most enjoy meeting new people and working to change South Carolina. I make every effort to attend community gatherings, chamber functions and events where I can talk face to face with the people I represent.

Lynch River appreciates Senator Sheheen taking the time to share his thoughts, and we extend our sincere thanks to him for supporting Lynch River Electric Cooperative's efforts to improve the quality of life of our members and communities.

To contact Senator Sheheen, call (803) 212-6124 in Columbia, or contact him through the South Carolina Statehouse Web site at www.scstatehouse.net. ↑



Senator Vincent Sheheen

Report shows members utilizing pharmacy discount benefit

Utilization report on the Co-op Connections pharmacy benefit reveals some impressive numbers.

From September 2007 to February 2008, a total of 2,032 prescriptions were filled at Co-op Connections' participating pharmacies. During the six-month period, members saved a total of \$24,445.29 off the regular retail price of their prescription medicines.

The Co-op Connections Pharmacy Discount program debuted last September and has been a big hit with Lynch River Electric Cooperative members. The report shows Lynch River members used their Co-op Connections cards 1,207 times. In the first two months of 2008, members have already used the pharmacy benefit 825 times.

To receive a discount, members present

their Co-op Connections card to the pharmacy when they get their prescriptions filled. Use the card as many times as you like at more than 48,000 national and regional pharmacy chain stores.

If you did not receive a Co-op Connections card last September when the new cards with the pharmacy benefit were mailed, call Lynch River Electric Cooperative at 672-6111 or 1-800-922-3486 to request a card. ↑



Energy efficiency

Tip of the month

A well-designed landscape not only adds beauty to your home, but it can reduce heating and cooling costs. On average, landscaping for energy efficiency provides enough energy savings to return an initial investment in less than eight years.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Rules you can live with

By Gene Oliver,
Safety Director

May is Electric Safety Month, so now is a good time to remind members not all rules are “made to be broken.” Some are made to save lives. Lynches River Electric Cooperative urges you to follow these safety rules:



Gene Oliver

- Consider all utility lines dangerous. Keep objects such as kites, ladders, and antennas away from power lines.
- If power lines are underground, call the 811 locating service before you dig. Lynches River Electric Cooperative and other utilities in the vicinity will locate and mark their lines.
- Report any potential power-line hazards to your co-op, including trees growing into the lines.
- Never touch a person or object who is in contact with a power line.
- Never touch, kick, pull, or attempt to move a fallen or hanging power line. Notify

us immediately and keep others away from the line until utility employees arrive.

- When working outside, stay clear of overhead power lines or exposed wires. Before installing an antenna, make sure it cannot fall into a power line, causing power outages, injuries, and even death.
- Check all extension and appliance cords frequently. Replace any worn or frayed cords immediately. Do not patch a broken cord.
- When buying electrical equipment or appliances, always look for the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) seal and make sure it applies to the entire appliance, not just the plug or cord.
- Do not run electrical cords through doorways or under carpets. Do not drape them over radiators, pipes or other metal objects.
- Fly kites in open fields away from electric wires. Do not use wire, metal, or wet string on a kite. If your kite catches in a wire or on a high pole, do not try to remove it — call Lynches River Electric Cooperative. Do not fly a kite in wet or stormy weather.
- Never fire a gun at a security light, power line, insulator or transformer.
- Be sure tools and appliances are

properly grounded. A three-prong plug used in a two-wire receptacle must have an adapter. Install a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) in bathrooms, kitchens, workshops, and outside outlets.

- Do not touch an electrical switch while your hands are damp. Never handle an electrical cord or appliance while in water.
 - Handling electrical appliances improperly can cause a fire. Do not let appliance cords overheat. If they feel extremely warm, discontinue use.
 - To prevent overheating, use extension cords large enough to carry the amount of current needed to operate the appliance. Use heavy-duty extension cords with portable tools and heavy-duty appliances.
- If you have small children, childproof your home by installing plastic protective caps over electrical outlets. †

Gene Oliver is Lynches River Electric Cooperative's safety director and right-of-way supervisor. The cooperative offers safety programs, demonstrations and event speakers for electricity-related topics. Interested? Contact the cooperative at 672-6111 or toll free 1 (800) 922-3486 for details.

Broken CFL?

What to do if a fluorescent light bulb breaks

You may have heard compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs pose a health risk because they contain mercury. The truth is fluorescent light bulbs contain a **very small** amount of mercury sealed within the glass tubing — an average of 5 milligrams, which is roughly equivalent to an amount that would cover the tip of a ball-point pen. By comparison, older thermometers contain about 500 milligrams of mercury. It would take 100 CFLs to equal that amount.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continually reviews its clean-up and disposal recommendations for CFLs to ensure the agency presents the most up-to-date information for consumers and businesses. As a precaution, EPA recommends the following



clean-up and disposal guidelines for broken CFL bulbs.

1. Open a window and leave the room for 15 minutes or more.
2. Carefully scoop up the fragments and powder with stiff paper or cardboard and place them in a sealed plastic bag.
- Use disposable rubber gloves, if available (i.e., do not use bare hands). Wipe the area clean with damp paper towels or disposable wet wipes and place them in the plastic bag.
- Do not use a vacuum or broom to clean up the broken bulb on hard surfaces.
3. Place all cleanup materials in a second sealed plastic bag.
- Place the first bag in a second sealed plastic bag and put it in an outdoor trash

container or in another outdoor protected area for the next normal trash disposal. Note: Some states prohibit such trash disposal and require broken and unbroken lamps to be taken to a local recycling center.

- Wash your hands after disposing of the bag.
4. If a fluorescent bulb breaks on a rug or carpet:
 - First remove all materials you can without using a vacuum cleaner, following the steps above. Sticky tape (such as duct tape) can be used to pick up small pieces and powder.
 - If vacuuming is needed after all visible materials are removed, vacuum the area where the bulb was broken, remove the vacuum bag (or empty and wipe the canister) and put the bag or vacuum debris in two sealed plastic bags in the outdoor trash or protected outdoor location for normal disposal. †

Source: United States Environmental Protection Agency

Pool pumps

By **Bow Burch**,
Marketing Representative

Last summer, I received a number of calls from members concerned about high electricity usage.

I visited several members' homes and checked the size of their pool pump motor, calculated the rate of consumption and discovered the cause of high usage—pool pumps running around the clock.



Bow Burch

I am not a pool expert, but I can give



you an approximate cost of operation for the pump.

To estimate the usage, I need the wattage or horsepower. Your pump may have the wattage written where you can see it easily. If not, the retailer you bought the pump from should be able to tell you the wattage or horsepower.

Get this information to me, and I can tell you the cost per month to operate the pool pump. Of course, the amount of time the pump operates plays a major role. A one-horsepower pump can cost as much as \$50 a month, if never switched off. A one-half horsepower pump will cost about \$25 and a two-horsepower pump may go over \$100 a month.

The best way to reduce your pool pump's

operating cost is to operate the pump the minimum amount of time required to keep your pool clear. You will need to experiment to determine the length of time the pump should run.

Start by running the pump for eight hours a day. If the pool stays clear, run the pump less often. If the pool starts to get cloudy, run the pump a bit more each day until the pool becomes clear. You may find different run times are required at different times of the year. Use a timer rated for the size pump you have.

Contact me by phone or e-mail if you have any questions. ↑

Bow Burch is Lynchess River Electric Cooperative's marketing representative. He is certified by the state of South Carolina as a Residential Energy Auditor. He assists co-op members with programs such as H₂O Select, home energy audits and other services. Contact Bow with your energy-efficiency questions at (843) 675-3211 or 1-800-922-3486 ext. 211. Or, e-mail your question to bow.burch@lynchessriver.com.

Postage rates, gas prices rising, again

Simplify your life and save money — sign up for our Bank Draft program

On May 12, the U.S. Postal Service will increase the price of a first-class stamp to 42 cents. Gas prices are rising daily making it more costly to drive to the Lynchess River Electric Cooperative office to pay your bill.

For members who pay their bills by mail or drive to the co-op office, we offer a

postage- and gas-free option: our Bank Draft program. Paying your bill by Bank Draft will save you time and money.

The Bank Draft program from Lynchess River Electric Cooperative makes paying your electric bill easier than ever. When you sign up for Bank Draft, Lynchess River will automatically draft your checking or savings account for the amount of your monthly electric bill.

You'll still receive monthly statements showing kilowatt-hour usage and the amount due, but with Bank Draft, you elim-

inate postage and expensive travel. And your payments will be made on time, every time.

With the Bank Draft program, you'll never have to remember to pay your bill. And since you'll receive a monthly statement, you can easily keep track of what was drafted out of your account.

To sign up for the Bank Draft program, fill out the form and bring it by the office or mail it in with your payment. For more information about Bank Draft and other programs and services, call 672-6111 or 1 (800) 922-3486 toll free. ↑

ENROLLMENT FORM

Yes! I am interested in Lynchess River Electric Cooperative's Bank Draft program. Please sign me up.

Bank Draft



Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone Number _____

Lynchess River Account Number _____

Social Security Number _____

Signature _____

You may return this form and a voided check with your payment, or bring it with you when you visit our office.

Shop locally and save

Use your Co-op Connections Card at local participating businesses and receive a discount on a variety of products and services. Refer to the Co-op Connections Local Participating Businesses list to find merchants in your area. Present your Co-op Connections card to the cashier when you check out to receive your discount.



Health & Beauty

- Allure Beauty**, Lancaster 803-286-1102
10% off any beauty service
- Avery Beauty Salon**, Chesterfield 843-623-7804
or 843-623-7987
5% off hair products, 5% discount on bridal attire over \$500
- City Slicker Styling Salon**, Pageland 843-672-5123
5% off hair products
- Curves for Women**, Lancaster 803-283-1944
50% off service fee
- Gwen's Salon of Beauty Inc.**, Pageland 843-672-6218
FREE hand therapy treatment with color or perm services
- Merle Norman Cosmetics Studio**, Pageland 843-672-6218
Happy Birthday! During the month of your birthday, present your card and get a FREE nail polish with any purchase
- Priority Health Care Equipment**, Pageland 843-672-6881
10% off retail items only (excluding those billed to an insurance company)
- Razor's Edge Barber Shop**, Patrick 843-623-6585
5% off hair products
- Shear Magic**, Chesterfield 843-623-7313
5% off hair products
- X-treme Tanning**, Lancaster 803-286-1102
10% off new tanning package

Retail

- Armadillos**, Lancaster 803-289-1921
10% off total purchase of \$10 or more
- Atkinson Hardware**, Pageland 843-672-5154
5% off all power hand tools
- Atkinson Mobile Home Supply**, Pageland 843-672-5154
5% off 6-panel steel combo mobile home door sets
- B & B Florist**, Jefferson 843-658-3883
10% on regular-priced items (excluding funerals and weddings)
- Bob Doster's Backstreet Studio**, Lancaster 803-285-9190
40% off Bob Doster artwork
- Buds from the Heart Florals & Home Décor**, Pageland 843-672-7794
10% discount on regular priced items (delivery fee and wire charge fee excluded; not valid on wire-out orders)

- C.T. Apparel/Crazy T-Shirts**, Pageland 843-672-2006
10% discount on regular-priced items with card
- Cedar Lane Supply**, Pageland 843-672-6547
10% off cash purchase over \$25 (excluding sale or special-price items; does not apply to any charged items)
- Chesterfield Feed and Seed Store, Inc.**, Chesterfield 843-623-2486
5% off purchase (excludes feed/seed and sale items)
- Crawford Furniture**, Chesterfield 843-623-7340
10% off and free delivery and removal with purchase of a Spring Air Mattress - Back Supporter line and above
- Elgin Feed & Garden Center**, Lancaster 803-286-8400
10% discount on all flowering plants, trees and shrubs
- Energy Center Appliances**, Lancaster 803-286-6148
\$25 off appliance purchase of \$299-\$499, \$35 off \$500-\$999, \$50 off \$1,000 and up (additional discount applies to regular or sale-price merchandise)
- Farmers World/Temco**, Pageland 843-675-2330
10% discount on all regular-priced items (must present card at time of purchase)
- Freeman's Video & Tanning**, Jefferson 843-658-7419
\$1 off 2 new movie rentals; 10% off tanning package or lotion
- Freeman's Video & Tanning**, Pageland 843-672-2362
\$1 off 2 new movie rentals; 10% off tanning package or lotion
- Garris Jewelers**, Lancaster 803-283-2415
25% off 14k chains; 25% off all watches
- Home Specialties**, Lancaster 803-285-8421
5% discount on all outdoor Toro-Stihl-Snapper products storewide (must present card at time of purchase)
- John F. Stroud and Son**, Chesterfield 843-623-6868
5% off top soil and/or fill dirt
- Jordan's Jewelers**, Pageland 843-672-6365
10% off all regular-priced items any time
- Kiddie Korner**, Chesterfield 843-672-8888
10% off purchase total Tuesday-Friday, 15% off purchase total Saturdays

- Meat Center, The**, Lancaster 803-286-5077
One pound “Home Made Sausage” FREE with each \$25 order
- Moo-Licious Bakery**, Jefferson 843-658-3800
10% off any \$25 order
- Nate’s Wood Works, Inc.**, Lancaster 803-283-2632
10% off all hardware and 5% off all cabinetry
- One Stop Frame Shop**, Chesterfield 843-623-6901
15% off custom framing
- Pageland Farm Equipment**, Pageland 843-672-6224
10% off all toys with card
- Pageland Floral and Gift**, Pageland 843-672-7129
10% off merchandise with card (excluding sympathy arrangements and specialty items)
- Pageland Furniture Company**, Pageland 843-672-6421
5% off all regular-priced furniture (excludes sale and clearance items)
- Pageland Paint and Flooring Covering**,
Pageland 843-672-3393
15% off regular-priced custom framing; one free roller cover (R208) with purchase of one gallon flat paint at regular price (limit one per customer)
- Sandy Crest Kennel**, Chesterfield 843-623-2992
10% off grooming
- Savannah’s**, Chesterfield 843-623-6597
15% off total purchase
- Southern Attic**, Lancaster 803-285-5463
10% discount on all regular-price items Monday through Thursday (must present card at time of purchase)
- Spears Glass Service, Inc.**, Lancaster 803-283-2270
10% off glass purchase, including window glass, glass table tops, mirrors, etc.
- Stroud’s ABC**, Chesterfield 843-623-3264
5% off each half gallon purchased
- Uniforms Unlimited/School Uniforms Unlimited**,
Pageland 843-672-6418
5% discount on medical or school uniforms
- Vitality Health Foods**, Cheraw 843-537-3222
10% off selected products; \$10 off Detox Ion Foot Spa; free sample of ‘Energy Vitamin’
- Watson Brothers Appliances**, Chesterfield 843-623-2404
Free delivery within a 25-mile radius
- Xtreme Games & Computers**, Heath Springs 803-273-0055
\$15 off computer virus/spyware removal

Services

- All-American Air Systems, LLC**, Patrick 843-634-2020
10% off repair service (parts and labor); 5% off new or replacement equipment installations (equipment and labor);

- \$30 off a one-year Planned Maintenance Agreement;
\$30 off a one-time clean and check
- Blackwell Trimnal, LLC**, Lancaster 803-285-8050
Will and power-of-attorney healthcare and financial packages \$99
- Exit Sandlapper Realty**, Kershaw 803-243-0195
Free home warranty when you list with Exit Sandlapper Realty
- H & R Block**, Lancaster 803-313-3050
..... or 803-285-3900
\$20 off tax preparation; 10% off bookkeeping services
- H & R Block**, Pageland 843-672-3995
\$20 off tax preparation; 10% off bookkeeping services
- Lamson Plumbing**, Chesterfield 843-623-9470
10% off entire bill
- Officeworks Carolina**, Lancaster 803-285-5315
10% off office supplies (excluding ink and toner)
- P & C Office Cleaning**, Heath Springs 803-287-4256
..... or 803-285-8203
\$20 off with 6-month contract or 10% off each initial cleaning
- Port’s Heating and Air LLC**, Lancaster 803-286-1955
1 year same as cash financing on new unit or \$200 off
- PrintCenter**, Chesterfield 843-623-6055
10% off office supplies (excluding ink and toner)
- Sam’s Heating and Air**, Lancaster 803-286-4720
10% off any repair (excluding service call fee)
- William Brian Carter, CPA, PA**, Lancaster 803-285-0729
\$25 discount off paid prepared tax return

Recreation

- White Plains Country Club**, Pageland 843-672-7200
10% off all golf fees

Automotive

- Atkinson CarQuest Auto Parts**, Pageland 843-672-5154
5% off all auto alternators new and rebuilt
- Burns Ford-Mercury**, Lancaster 803-286-4414
\$500 off the purchase of a new vehicle and/or 10% off parts or service
- Kingpin Customs LLC**, Lancaster 803-289-6200
10% discount on labor only
- Lawrence Chevrolet Pontiac**, Pageland 843-672-7222
General Motors supplier pricing on all new Chevrolets and Pontiacs
- NAPA Auto Parts**, Chesterfield 843-623-7771
Free battery and alternator testing
- Pageland Auto Parts**, Pageland 843-672-6224
10% off cash purchase over \$20 with card