



PO Box 308
707 South Arant St.
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)

Office Hours

8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Monday–Friday

David A. Altman
President and CEO

Trustees:

Eric Horton
Chairman, District 1

Myrtle L. Faile
Vice Chairwoman, District 2

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Secretary/Treasurer, District 7

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Randolph Mackey, *District 8*

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Member-At-Large

Remote Payment Sites

Chesterfield

Piggly Wiggly Market of Chesterfield
1303 West Boulevard
(843) 623-6590

Kershaw

Quality Appliance
407 South Hampton Street
(803) 475-2302

Lancaster

The Energy Center, Inc.
667 Lancaster Bypass 9 E
(803) 283-6148

Co-op Connection Editor

Leigh C. Smith
leigh.smith@lynchesriver.com

Building better communities

A FEW MONTHS ago, I was asked to serve as a co-chair on the Chesterfield County Economic Development Alliance Development Council.



Along with many other county business, industry, community and municipal leaders, I was invited to join with the Chesterfield County Economic Development Alliance as a member of the Alliance Development Council to unite Chesterfield County with a singular vision for economic growth.

The Chesterfield County Economic Development Alliance is a public-private partnership created to aggressively attract industry to Chesterfield County. The Development Alliance consists of a nonprofit board dedicated to overseeing funding for workforce development and training, infrastructure improvements and new business recruitment for Chesterfield County.

At a breakfast I and other Development Council co-chairs hosted in March, I was shown some figures outlining Chesterfield County's economic climate between 2000 and 2010. In the past decade, the county lost 2,083 jobs. Its per capita income of \$17,582 and retail sales of \$6,947 are lower than any of Chesterfield County's peer groups. Also noted was 23.6 percent of Chesterfield County residents are classified below poverty level.

Economic development helps everyone, so bringing industries into our area must be a priority. They generate tax revenues that pay for services, such as police, fire protection and public schools. They create jobs. When employees get paid, they spend money which benefits the entire

community. At Lynches River Electric Cooperative we believe in doing our part to make this happen.

Rural development grants

Lynches River recently made grants totaling \$185,000 to Lancaster County Economic Development Corporation, Chesterfield County and Alligator Rural Water & Sewer. Since 1996, Lynches River has given \$1,896,800 in economic development grants. These grants show Lynches River's commitment to its communities and why the electric cooperative program was created in the first place.

The electric cooperative program was established to improve the quality of life for rural America. Lynches River took on that challenge and has helped bring jobs to our area. Walmart Distribution and LEV Bakery are examples of two companies that chose to locate within our service area due to our economic development efforts.

The money we use to make these rural development grants is money that would otherwise be paid to the State of South Carolina for licensing and other fees. The Rural Development Act (RDA) of 1996 allows Lynches River to direct that money to local economic development.

Economic development's domino effect touches every aspect of a community, from its government right down to its citizens. That is why we at Lynches River Electric Cooperative consider it our duty to be good corporate citizens by fostering the economic growth of the communities in which we live and work.

David A. Altman
President and CEO



Safety coordinator Gene Oliver explains the dangers of coming into contact with power lines to students at a local high school.

LEIGH SMITH

May is electrical safety month

BY GENE OLIVER, SAFETY COORDINATOR

WE DEPEND ON electricity almost as much as we depend upon air, food and water. It's so much a part of our lives that we take it for granted. One thing you should never take for granted is electrical safety—electricity can kill!

This month, make a special point of talking about electrical safety with your family and friends. Take a walk through your house and your property to make sure that you haven't overlooked any potential electrical hazards.

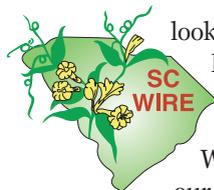
Lynches River Electric Cooperative puts a lot of effort into safety every day at your co-op, not only for the sake of our employees but also for our members. That's why we publish electrical safety articles in *South Carolina Living* and *Current Report*, and do safety demonstrations that remind members to use the power we provide safely and wisely.

Find more electrical safety information on our website at lynchesriver.com, on our Facebook page at facebook.com/lynchesriverelectric, or the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) website at electrical-safety.org.

WIRE to meet June 19 At new headquarters

THE JUNE 19 meeting of Women Involved in Rural Electrification (WIRE) will be held at Lynches River Electric Cooperative's new headquarters just a short distance from our current office. The address is 707 South Arant St.

A map to our new complex is located on our website at lynchesriver.com. Under the News and Information section on the right,



look for the article titled Co-op Moves to New Headquarters. Click on the link for the full story to see the map.

We have also posted a map to our Facebook page at facebook.com/lynchesriverelectric. If you do not have Internet access, please call our office for directions.

The WIRE meeting will begin with dinner at 6 p.m. followed by the business meeting and featured presentation.

For more information about WIRE, call Lynches River at 672-6111 or 1 (800) 922-3486 toll free.

Maintain your heat pump

BY BOW BURCH, ENERGY EXPERT

Heating and cooling your home accounts for about 50 percent of your energy use. Like all heating and cooling systems, proper maintenance remains the key to efficient heat pump operation. The difference in electric use between a well-maintained heat pump and a severely neglected one ranges from 10 percent to 25 percent! I found the following information on the EnergySavers.gov website and thought it was worth passing along.



Bow Burch

Clean or change filters once a month or as needed, and maintain the system according to manufacturer's instructions. Dirty filters, coils, and fans reduce airflow, which will decrease system performance and possibly damage the compressor. Clean outdoor coils whenever they appear dirty; occasionally, turn off power to the fan and clean it; remove vegetation and clutter from around the outdoor unit. Clean the supply and return registers within your home, and straighten their fins if bent.

You should also have a professional technician service your heat pump every year. The technician should do the following:

- ▶ Inspect ducts, filters, blower, and indoor coils for dirt and other obstructions
- ▶ Diagnose and seal duct leakage
- ▶ Verify adequate airflow by measurement
- ▶ Verify correct refrigerant charge by measurement
- ▶ Check for refrigerant leaks
- ▶ Inspect electric terminals, and, if necessary, clean and tighten connections, and apply non-conductive coating
- ▶ Lubricate motors and inspect belts for tightness and wear
- ▶ Verify correct electric control, making sure that heating is locked out when the thermostat calls for cooling and vice versa
- ▶ Verify correct thermostat operation.

To learn more about heat pumps, visit energysavers.gov.