



www.fairfield.coop

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 2500
Blythewood, SC 29016

BLYTHEWOOD OFFICE

701 Blythewood Road
Blythewood, SC 29016

WINNSBORO OFFICE

3129 U.S. Hwy. 321 North Winnsboro,
SC 29180

OFFICE HOURS

8 a.m.–5 p.m.
Monday through Friday

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Toll Free: (800) 628-0336
Blythewood: (803) 754-0153
Winnsboro: (803) 635-4621
Camden and Lugoff: (803) 425-1059

POWER OUTAGE REPORTING ONLY
(800) 499-7862

Outages are handled by an automated outage reporting system. Please follow instructions. The system will automatically report the outage and a crew will be dispatched.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mitchell D. Rabon, President,
District 3
Robert Entzminger, Vice
President, District At Large
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Secretary, District 6
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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Thankful for you

I'D LIKE TO TAKE this opportunity to express my gratitude for your membership in our electric cooperative. Because of your connection to Fairfield

Electric Cooperative, we are able to make our community a better place.

During this season of giving thanks, it's important to let you and other members of Fairfield Electric know just what an impact you have on our co-op and the greater community, likely in ways you may not even realize.

As part of the cooperative business model, one of our core principles is Concern for Community. While our priority is always to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy, we view our role in the community as a catalyst for good.

We are purposeful in supporting local organizations in the communities we serve. We also work with our county economic development offices to help bring jobs to our area.

We work closely with our local schools by providing energy presentations and electric safety demonstrations and support their educational foundations. Fairfield Electric also participates in Washington Youth Tour, which gives our community's brightest young people a week-long immersion in Washington, D.C. to experience democracy in action. We also sponsor students for Cooperative Youth Summit in Columbia, where students meet state lawmakers and see how co-ops are preparing for our state's energy future. The trips are inspirational for many students, and we are both humbled and honored to be a part of their leadership development journey.

Along with these trips, we also provide scholarships to deserving high school seniors in our service area. Ultimately, the larger community benefits from these programs because

of you! You empower the co-op through your membership and your participation in and support of these programs.

When you attend co-op events, alert us to problems, provide suggestions online or to our employees, you help us improve operations and thereby better serve the larger co-op membership.

Because we are locally governed by members of our community, we are able to get a first-hand perspective on community priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments, such as community solar programs and equipment and technology upgrades.

We are thankful that our co-op board members devote time to attend important training sessions, participate in planning meetings and keep abreast of industry trends. This investment results in better informed advisors who serve the co-op's interests in a way that our members expect and deserve.

On a more personal note, we appreciate the countless acts of kindness our lineworkers and other employees receive when they are working in severe weather and dangerous conditions. Our employees are thankful for your patience and consideration when we are trying to restore power during challenging situations and prolonged periods such as hurricanes.

Fairfield Electric was originally established 84 years ago to bring electricity to our area when no one else would. The cooperative is a reflection of our local community and its evolving needs. Together, let's continue to make our corner of the world a better place. We can't do it without you, and for that, we're thankful for your membership.

BRUCE G. BACON
Chief Executive Officer



Inspecting your seasonal decorations and appliances, as well as indoor and outdoor cords and lighting can help you have a safe holiday, says Thomas Black, Jr., Vice President of Engineering.

Make this a safe holiday season

BY THOMAS BLACK, JR.,

Vice President, Engineering

THE HOLIDAYS ARE upon us. For many, that means celebrations with friends and family, travel, decorations, cooking and shopping. Fairfield Electric Cooperative wants you to stay safe during the holidays, so here are a few tips to consider as you gear up for the season.

We can't guarantee that the hustle and bustle of the season won't leave you with a few frayed nerves, but we can help you avoid frayed wires.

Inspect your seasonal items

Many of us have treasured holiday mementos that we bring out of storage and proudly display every year. The holidays are also a time when we dust off special cooking gadgets that allow us to prepare our favorite seasonal treats. These items are often handed down through generations and might lack modern safety features.

Take a few moments to carefully inspect all your holiday items to ensure everything is in safe, working order. A few things to look out for include:

- ▶ Brittle insulation on wires
- ▶ Rodent damage to wires
- ▶ Chafed or frayed wires, especially at stress points
- ▶ Worn switches with the potential to short circuit
- ▶ Corroded metal parts
- ▶ Broken legs, unstable bases and other tip-over hazards

Read the fine print

If you take a few minutes to read and understand the specifications and limitations of your lights and other electrified holiday decorations, you can save yourself a great deal of work and frustration in the long run.

For example, the tag at the end of an extension cord will tell you if it's rated for outdoor use, whether it will remain flexible in cold temperatures and how much energy it can safely handle. Similarly, holiday lights will tell you how many strings can be safely linked together.

Help Beat The Peak

Sign up now, you could win \$500

FAIRFIELD ELECTRIC Cooperative members have a chance to win our Beat The Peak contest during the month of December. Members who are participating in the Peak Alert program on Dec. 15 will be eligible to win a \$500 Visa gift card in the statewide prize drawing.

In addition, one Fairfield Electric member will win a \$100 gift card for the local



prize drawing. If you are already signed up, it is not necessary to register again to be eligible for the prizes.

By participating in the Peak Alert program, electric cooperative members across South Carolina receive phone, email or text notifications of the projected time of a system-wide energy peak, typically occurring in the late afternoon during the summer months and early morning in winter. By voluntarily delaying the use of large appliances, adjusting their thermostat or just turning off some lights during that peak time, they help to lower wholesale power costs.

Find details and sign up at BeatThePeak.com.

Happy holidays from our family to yours!

ALL OF US HERE at Fairfield Electric Cooperative wish you and your families a happy holiday season.

Fairfield Electric will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23 and 24, in observance of Thanksgiving. We'll also be closed on Monday, Dec. 25 and Tuesday, Dec. 26 for Christmas. And we'll be closed on Monday, Jan. 1 for the New Year holiday. As always, emergency crews will be on standby.

