



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
Timothy L. Hopkins
Vice President, District At Large
Robert Kenneth Miles,
Secretary, District 6
Bruce Honeycutt
Treasurer, District 9
Cynthia Able, *District 2*
Robert Entzminger, *District At Large*
Ronald D. Friday, *District 7*
William M. Good, *District 8*
Keith Lewis, *District 1*
Derial L. Ogburn, *District 5*
Peggy D. Swearingen, *District 4*



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Investing in bright futures

A VISIT to the governor's office, lessons in public speaking and a Q&A session with a state legislator seems like a jam-packed summer.

But thanks to Fairfield Electric Cooperative and South Carolina's electric cooperatives, five local high school students experienced those things and more in the span of just four days in July. This summer, Kaleb Haynie, Kameron Haynie, Jermaine Higgins Jr., Ja'Mya Millsap and Brooke Parker represented our co-op at Cooperative Youth Summit, an exploration of the state's capital, civic engagement and the cooperative business model.

The students, 51 in all from across the state, learned about South Carolina's contribution to space exploration at the State Museum, were exposed to the importance of safety around electricity at the CEEUS facility in West Columbia and met with some of South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster's top advisers in his office at the State House.

Cooperative Youth Summit isn't just about visiting interesting places and meeting interesting people. An important objective of the program is to

develop students to be leaders in their community and to learn about the role co-ops play in those communities.

Guided by former television personality and co-op executive Lou Green, the students worked in teams to develop presentations related to current political and cultural debates such as regulating artificial intelligence and subsidizing electric vehicles. Each group took a stance on the issues in front of their peers and a panel of independent judges. The students on the highest-scoring team were awarded \$1,000 each.

Cooperative Youth Summit students also learned about civic engagement and government from John Frick, vice president of government relations at The Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina. Frick taught them about how our government works and challenged them to "keep the republic," referencing Benjamin Franklin's iconic response to a Colonial woman inquiring whether her new nation was a monarchy or a republic. Franklin answered, "a republic madam, if you can keep it."

S.C. State Rep. Micah Caskey answered questions from the students and encouraged them to consider public service in their future.

We don't sponsor local students on Cooperative Youth Summit just to give them a memorable summer experience. It's an investment meant to have longer, further benefits.

In the same way we build new connections in our electrical distribution system to ensure reliable power for years to come, Cooperative Youth Summit builds pathways of opportunity and learning for young people in our community.

When their light turns on, everyone's future is bright.



JOSH P. CROTZER

Kaleb Haynie, Ja'Mya Millsap, Jermaine Higgins, Jr., Brooke Parker and Kameron Haynie (left to right) represented Fairfield Electric at Cooperative Youth Summit.

BRUCE G. BACON
Chief Executive Officer

TREEMendUs program is back

YOU DEPEND ON Fairfield Electric to deliver you reliable power, and we take that responsibility seriously. One component of providing reliable service and reducing outages is right-of-way maintenance. We have a comprehensive right-of-way maintenance program that includes side trimming limbs next to power lines and controlling the growth underneath power lines.

In an effort to replace some of the trees we must cut in right-of-way construction and maintenance, we are bringing back our TREEMendUs program this year. Once again, Fairfield Electric will give away free Crape Myrtle seedlings to our members. Pickup will be on Oct. 2. The seedlings

will be available on a first come, first serve basis. There will be a limit of two seedlings per member. Please see the information below on how to reserve your seedlings.

The seedlings will be small, so you may want to transfer them to a larger container for a year or two before planting. Crape Myrtles grow approximately 20 feet in height with a spread of 12 to 15 feet.

When planting trees, always plant them at least 20 feet away from power lines. Before planting a tree, take into consideration how tall the tree will be and the spread of the tree. If you plant it too close to a power line, it will eventually have to be trimmed.



Free Crape Myrtle seedlings

Thursday, Oct. 2

Pick up at Fairfield Electric's Blythewood office between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Visit fairfield.coop/treemendus and fill out the request form to reserve your seedlings. Or call (803) 754-0153 to speak with a customer

service representative. We will ask for your contact information so we can send you a reminder a few days before the event.

A limit of two seedlings per member. Available on a first come, first serve basis.



Report An Outage by Text

Fairfield Electric Cooperative recently launched a new two-way text messaging service for members to report and monitor outages. To participate, please verify that Fairfield Electric has your correct mobile phone number associated with your account. Log into your online member portal to confirm we have your mobile phone number in the mobile number field. You may also call our office to verify this information.

To enroll in the service, text the word POWER to 803-754-0153. You will receive a confirmation text message.

When your power goes out, members can text the word OUT and the outage will immediately get logged into the Fairfield Electric outage management system. Once the outage is verified, you can receive updates on the outage by texting STATUS. When possible, estimated restoration times will be communicated and you will also be notified once the power has been restored.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

www.fairfield.coop

Text Notification Service

- Add Your mobile number to your account.
- Save Fairfield Electric's number 803-754-0153 in your contacts.
- Text POWER to enroll in service.
- Text OUT to report an outage.
- Text STATUS for an update on a reported outage.
- Text HELP for more information.
- Text QUIT to opt-out of this service.

Please note that the new outage reporting text messaging system is not mandatory and members can opt-out by texting QUIT any time.