

# DISCOVERING SOUTH KENTUCKY

www.skrecc.com • DECEMBER 2024

## Celebrate the spirit of Christmas together

As we enter the joyful season of Christmas, it's a wonderful time to reflect on what truly matters—community, connection and giving back. At South Kentucky RECC, we believe in the power of togetherness, especially during this special time of year.

### Giving back to our community

This Christmas, we're excited to highlight our commitment to giving back. From local food drives to holiday charity events, we're dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of our members and neighbors. We encourage you to join us in supporting those in need, whether through donations, volunteering or simply spreading kindness in your everyday interactions.

### Holiday safety tips

As you deck the halls and light up your homes, we want to ensure your holiday season is safe and joyful. Here are a few tips to keep in mind:

- Check your lights: Inspect all holiday lights for frayed wires or damage before use.
- Avoid overloading circuits: Spread out your electrical load to prevent overheating.
- Use timers: Consider using timers for your outdoor lights to save energy and enhance safety.



FRANCESCO GIRALDO/DOBE STOCK

### A special thank you

We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank you, our valued members, for your continued support and trust. Your engagement helps us serve you better and strengthens our cooperative community.

### Share your holiday spirit

We invite you to share your Christmas moments with us! Tag us on social media using #skreccshinesbright or send photos of your holiday lights, decorations, and gatherings to

communications@skrecc.com. Let's inspire one another with the joy of the season!

### Looking ahead

As we celebrate the magic of Christmas, let's look forward to a new year filled with hope and opportunities. We're excited about what lies ahead and remain committed to providing you with reliable service and community support.

All of us at South Kentucky RECC wish you a merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous New Year!

# South Kentucky RECC crews part of historic mutual aid deployment

The largest mutual aid deployment in Kentucky electric cooperative history was boosted by crews from South Kentucky RECC, who responded to the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene in late September and October.

At the height of the mutual aid response, more than 250 personnel from 19 Kentucky co-ops were working in Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina. In addition, more than 100 Kentucky co-op contractors also responded to the calls for help.

South Kentucky RECC deployed two mutual aid crews to Haywood Electric Membership Corporation in Waynesville, North Carolina. The crews worked tirelessly alongside other cooperatives, responding to widespread power outages and extensive damage.

Veteran co-op crews said they had never witnessed this combination of tropical storm-force winds, rainfall and flooding.

The South Kentucky RECC crews were among nearly 10,000 co-op personnel from 24 states who descended upon the areas hardest hit by Helene.

Helene knocked out electric service to an estimated 1.25 million co-op members in the southeastern U.S., including 100,000 co-op consumer-members in Kentucky. Many of the crews who helped in other states responded first to mutual aid requests within Kentucky.

“In times of crisis, we’re reminded that co-ops are more than just power providers. Our lineworkers brought hope and relief to those impacted by the storm, embodying our commitment to community,” says South Kentucky RECC President and CEO Kevin Newton. “We are guided by cooperative principles, including ‘Cooperation Among Cooperatives,’ and state borders are no barrier when any member of our co-op family is in crisis.”



Tyler Chriswell, left, Ernest Pedro, Issac Hardwick, Jon Yearta, Byron Koontz and Gabe Dick. Photo: Morghan Blevins



Nick Jones, left, Keenan Hall, Mike Ramsey, Dylan Vaughn and Caleb Duncan. Photo: Morghan Blevins

## Hurricane relief efforts

We were honored to partner with Pulaski Elementary School in supporting Hurricane Helene relief efforts. Seeing the students, teachers and families come together to collect supplies reminded us of the strong spirit of generosity and community in our area. And thank you to our amazing members and employees for your donations. Every item given represented the compassion of our neighbors, who were ready to lend a hand to those in need.



SKRECC Chief Membership Officer Doug Hutton, right, and Communications Generalist Justin Mayfield deliver a collection of supplies to 10-year-old Pulaski Elementary School student Owen Simmerman. We are proud to be #CommunityPowered. Photo: Courtney Jones

# Support and save

Show your Co-op Connections card when shopping

The holiday shopping season is here—as in *right here* in southern Kentucky where many local businesses are excited to help you provide gifts and experiences to those you love. South Kentucky RECC's Co-op Connections member discount app can help you save while keeping your dollars local.

Visit the Co-op Connections website ([Connections.coop](http://Connections.coop)) to download the free Co-op Connections smartphone app and find all the ways to save locally. Check out the mobile app's "Deals Near Me" option to take advantage of discounts offered to SKRECC



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members. Use one of the participating dining options to fill up at local restaurants after filling your trunk with toys, clothes, home goods and more.

This year, support local businesses while saving on your holiday shopping with the Co-op Connections app available free to SKRECC members.

As we celebrate this special season, we're grateful for our members and the communities we serve. May your holidays be filled with warmth, joy, and the light of togetherness.

South Kentucky RECC will be closed December 24 and 25 for the Christmas holiday, as well as January 1 for New Year's Day.

If you have an outage, please call 800-264-5112 for dispatch.

ROMOLO TAMANI/ADOBE STOCK



# STEP UP AND LEAD

2025 YOUTH TOUR  
WASHINGTON, D.C. | JUNE 16-21



- MEET ELECTED LEADERS
- EXPLORE CO-OP ENERGY ISSUES
- MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE
- INCLUDES ALL-EXPENSES-PAID DAY TRIP TO FRANKFORT AND WEEKLONG TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C. (application required)



PHOTO: TIM WEBB

High school juniors apply by December 18!

Learn more at [www.skrecc.com/scholarships](http://www.skrecc.com/scholarships)



EMILY/ADOBE STOCK



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**Visit [www.skrecc.applicantpro.com/jobs/](http://www.skrecc.applicantpro.com/jobs/)** to explore exciting career opportunities with the South Kentucky RECC Team.

South Kentucky RECC is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

**Visit [www.skrecc.com](http://www.skrecc.com)** to pay your bill online, to visit our outage center, or for more information about the Co-op Connections Program.

**To report an outage 24/7/365**, please call your local office, (800) 264-5112, or set up your account to be able to text outages. Please do not report outages via social media.

**Plug into South Kentucky RECC. Follow us on social media:**



TOUCHSTONE ENERGY COOPERATIVES

**PUT THE POWER OF READING IN YOUR CHILD'S HANDS**

Kids who read succeed. South Kentucky RECC and Touchstone Energy Cooperatives support the local Dolly Parton's Imagination Library effort to provide high-quality books every single month to children ages 0-5 in our community. It's a gift for your family that will bring joy for years to come.

To learn more about the program and enroll, please visit [www.skrecc.com](http://www.skrecc.com).



**GENERATOR SAFETY FOR YOUR HOME**

**Generator Do's and Don'ts**

- .....
- DO** operate a generator outdoors in an area with plenty of ventilation.
- DO** install carbon monoxide alarms inside the home to provide an early warning of this colorless, odorless gas that can kill you.
- DO** turn on the generator before plugging in appliances.
- DO NOT** plug a generator into the wall without installing a transfer switch to prevent backfeed.
- DO NOT** use a generator as a permanent solution.

J.J. GOUIN/ADOBE STOCK