

DISCOVERING SOUTH KENTUCKY

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Under the surface

Digging deeper into what makes South Kentucky RECC different

What can a hayfield teach us about history? Plenty, it turns out.

A recent article in *Kentucky Living* explored the hobby of metal detecting and how even the most unassuming objects, from old buttons and bullets to pieces of melted lead, can reveal stories that have been buried for years. Sometimes, you just have to dig a little deeper.

The same can be said for electric cooperatives.

At first glance, South Kentucky RECC might look like just another “power company.” But look below the surface, and there’s much more to the story.

October is National Cooperative Month, making it a good time to remember what sets your co-op apart. South Kentucky RECC is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative. That means we don’t call the people we serve “customers.” You’re a member, and you’re also an owner.

Our co-op is democratically controlled, with directors elected from the communities we serve to help set policy and guide the cooperative. And because we operate on a not-for-profit basis, our focus isn’t on generating profits for outside shareholders. Our primary mission is straightforward: provide safe, reliable electricity at the most reasonable cost possible.



But dig a little deeper, and you’ll find that providing electricity is only part of the cooperative story.

Electric cooperatives were created when neighbors came together to bring electricity and opportunity to rural communities that others had left behind. That same commitment to community continues today. South Kentucky RECC supports economic development, invests in young people through scholarships and youth programs, contributes to local organizations and works to make the communities we serve stronger.

There’s plenty beneath the surface of the electric system, too. Reliable power depends on a vast, interconnected grid of power plants, substations, poles, wires, transformers, technology

and, most importantly, people working around the clock to keep electricity flowing.

It’s easy to take all of that for granted when the lights come on with the flip of a switch. But behind that switch is a cooperative built by members, governed by members and committed to serving members.

So during National Cooperative Month, we invite you to look a little deeper at what it means to be part of South Kentucky RECC.

We’re more than the “power company.” We’re your cooperative, we’re your neighbors, and we’re proud to power the communities we all call home.

Yes, South Kentucky RECC is different. And that difference runs deeper than you might think.

Who powers you?

Nominate someone making a difference

The Who Powers You contest is back for 2026, recognizing members of Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives who are making life better in their communities.

South Kentucky RECC has been proud to see several of our own members recognized in past contests. Billy Hayes earned first place in 2024 for his efforts to help feed families in need during the holiday season. Boyd Rowe was a second place winner in 2023 for his mission to further

cancer research, and last year, Mike and Julie Peterson earned third place for their work with Project 58:10, a ministry that helps pack backpacks with food for local children in need.

Their stories are great examples of what Who Powers You is all about: recognizing everyday people who see a need and step up to help.

Nominations for the 2026 contest are open Oct. 1–31. The first place winner will receive \$2,000, second place will

receive \$1,500 and third place will receive \$500.

Anyone can submit a nomination, but nominees must be members of one of Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives. Nominations will be reviewed by out-of-state judges, with winners announced in November.

Know a South Kentucky RECC member who deserves to be recognized? Nominate them and learn more at WhopowersYouKY.com.



South Kentucky RECC member Boyd Rowe, second place winner in 2023.



South Kentucky RECC member Billy Hayes, first place winner in 2024.



South Kentucky RECC members Michael and Julie Peterson, third place winners in 2025.



Kentucky is our home

Our cooperative is truly a local business. We work hard to support our local businesses, while bringing new jobs and investments.



The basics of energy savings

If you've been looking for months at daylight seeping through the weather stripping to an outside door, it's time to take a few minutes to make that simple, inexpensive repair.

There are likely items all over your home that could use some attention.

Doing the basic maintenance of replacing old or ineffective weather stripping, cleaning refrigerator coils, dusting HVAC vents, changing air filters, caulking your windows and more simple fixes can lower your energy usage, make your appliances and mechanicals work more efficiently and save you some energy dollars along the way.

Air filters

It's easy to forget your HVAC unit's air filters. Changing them regularly keeps your system running its best. If you use an electronic calendar, set a monthly reminder to change the filter. If you use a paper calendar, change the filter every other paycheck, for instance. It takes just a minute and it will keep your system clean.

Attics

Keeping more air-conditioned or heated air in your home in the summer and winter months is as simple as filling cracks and repairing seals on vents that go into your attic. If you have a chunk of drywall missing from your ceiling access, making that simple repair will save on your energy usage.



Save energy by sealing up your home

You don't open the fridge door or your back door and leave it open when it's hot or cold out. In the same way, you don't want to ignore places in your home where conditioned air is escaping. Check the attic hatch, wiring holes, plumbing vents, recessed lighting and windows and doors for places to seal.

And you can always go to TogetherWeSaveKY.com for more energy saving tips.

SKRECC Member Jessica Musgrove receives WIRE scholarship

South Kentucky RECC congratulates Jessica Musgrove on being selected as a recipient of the 2026 Women in Rural Electrification Scholarship.

The Kentucky Chapter of WIRE awards scholarships to eligible students attending Kentucky colleges and universities whose families are served by a Kentucky rural electric cooperative. The scholarship program helps deserving students continue their education while recognizing academic achievement, community involvement and future goals.

We are proud to see an SKRECC member recognized through this statewide scholarship program, and we wish Jessica continued success as she pursues her educational and career goals.

Please join us in congratulating Jessica on this outstanding achievement.



SKRECC District 6 Director Boris Haynes, left, Sharon Haynes, Jessica Musgrove and SKRECC President & CEO Kevin Newton.

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Visit 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 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:



Longer Passwords = Stronger Protection



October is
Cybersecurity Awareness Month

NRECA

October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, which is a great time to strengthen your online accounts. One of the easiest steps? Make your passwords longer. A long, unique passphrase can be harder for cybercriminals to crack than a short password packed with special characters. Choose something memorable but difficult for others to guess—and never reuse passwords across multiple accounts.

Happy Halloween!



*Wishing everyone a fun
and safe Halloween.
Stay alert, watch for
pedestrians and take
extra care after dark.*

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