

DISCOVERING SOUTH KENTUCKY

www.skrecc.com • NOVEMBER 2026

Preparing for winter starts with a clear right-of-way

Winter weather can be unpredictable in Kentucky. Ice, snow and high winds can put extra stress on trees and limbs, sometimes causing them to fall into power lines and lead to outages. While we can't control the weather, South Kentucky RECC works throughout the year to prepare our electric system for whatever the season may bring.

One important part of that preparation is our right-of-way vegetation management program.

Maintaining the areas around our power lines helps reduce the risk of trees and overgrown vegetation interfering with electrical equipment. It also gives our crews safer, more efficient access to lines when repairs are needed. During a major storm, that access can be especially important as crews work to locate damage and restore power.

A year-round effort

Right-of-way maintenance isn't something that begins when winter arrives. Our crews and contractors work throughout the year trimming trees, clearing brush and managing vegetation along approximately 7,000 miles of line across our service area.

This work follows South Kentucky RECC's vegetation management plan,



JUSTIN MAYFIELD

which provides a consistent approach to maintaining the areas around our lines and equipment. Right-of-way maintenance is a normal part of providing electric service and is carried out in accordance with our vegetation management plan and bylaws.

The goal isn't to remove trees unnecessarily. It's to maintain appropriate clearance between vegetation and electrical facilities and address trees or limbs that could threaten the system.

Preparing before the storm

A tree that poses little concern on a calm day can become a much bigger problem when weighed down by ice or snow. Strong winter winds can also bring weakened limbs or entire trees onto power lines.

By addressing vegetation before severe weather arrives, we can reduce

some of those risks. A well-maintained right-of-way can also make a difference after a storm. When lines are accessible, crews can more quickly assess damage, bring in equipment and begin making repairs.

Right-of-way maintenance can't prevent every outage. Trees outside maintained areas can fall, and severe storms can damage even a well-prepared system. But proactive vegetation management is one of the important ways we prepare our system before severe weather arrives.

Understanding the "why"

We know right-of-way work can sometimes raise questions, particularly when trimming takes place near a member's home or property. That's why member education is an important part of our vegetation management program.

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Helping members understand why trees are trimmed, how proper clearance protects electric facilities and why access to our lines matters during an outage benefits everyone. The more our members understand about the work happening along our lines, the better we can work together to maintain a safe and reliable electric system.

Members can help by keeping electric facilities in mind when landscaping. Before planting a tree, consider how tall and wide it will be at maturity and choose a location that provides plenty of distance from overhead lines and other electrical equipment. Planting the right tree in the right place today can help prevent problems years down the road.

At South Kentucky RECC, preparing for winter doesn't start with the first snowflake. It's work that happens every day of the year. Maintaining our rights-of-way is one more way we're working behind the scenes to keep our system safe, accessible and ready when winter weather arrives.



VETERANS DAY:

We salute and thank each of you

Look for our new veteran appreciation project soon.



**MISSION:
HONOR**

Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives

www.togetherwesaveky.com/community



Happy Thanksgiving from South Kentucky RECC!

South Kentucky RECC offices will be closed Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. While our offices will be closed, our crews are always ready to respond if outages occur. Members can report an outage anytime through SmartHub or by calling South Kentucky RECC at (800) 264-5112.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, we are grateful for the members and communities we are proud to serve. From all of us at South Kentucky RECC, we wish you and your family a safe, happy and blessed Thanksgiving!

SKRECC 2026-2027 board election

This year, there are three South Kentucky RECC board of director positions on the ballot.

The following four-year director terms are expiring this year:

- **Russell County—District 2**
Greg Redmon
- **Pulaski/Laurel/Rockcastle Counties—District 3**
Charles “CV” Hansford
- **McCreary County—District 6**
Boris Haynes

The South Kentucky RECC Credentials and Elections Committee will have candidate application packets available to interested candidates beginning Dec. 4, 2026.

If you are an interested candidate and have read and comply with the complete list of requirements (at skrecc.com) to be considered for a board of director position, and/or wish to discuss the process further and obtain a

candidate application packet, contact Frank Phillips, board counsel, at (606) 348-5591, or by email at frank@phillipsattorneys.net, between 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

All sealed, completed application packets must be returned to the attention of Joy Turpin at the Somerset Headquarters Office of South Kentucky RECC by 4 p.m. ET on Friday, Jan. 8, 2027.

The web address for the 2026-2027 South Kentucky RECC Board of Directors Election is:
skrecc.com/DirectorElection

See the SKRECC Bylaws at skrecc.com/bylaws



STEP UP AND LEAD

★
2027 YOUTH TOUR
WASHINGTON, D.C. | JUNE 17-22

- 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)



PHOTOS: TIM WEBB

High school juniors apply by December 18!

Learn more at skrecc.com

SK South Kentucky
RECC
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Board of Directors

Brent Tackett, Chairman
CV Hansford, Vice Chairman
Tommy Nelson, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer
William Allen, Jr.
Cathy Crew Epperson
Boris Haynes
Greg Redmon

President & CEO

Kevin Newton

Director of Communications

Morgan Blevins

SKRECC Offices:

Clinton County
715 Snow Rd., Albany, KY 42602
(606) 387-6476

McCreary County
51 Center Ave., Whitley City, KY 42653
(606) 376-5997

Pulaski County—Temporary Address
4150 South Highway 27, Somerset, KY 42501
(606) 678-4121

Russell County
2405 N. Main St., Jamestown, KY 42629
(270) 343-7500

Wayne County
780 N. Main St., Monticello, KY 42633
(606) 348-6771

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Address all correspondence to: Discovering South Kentucky, P.O. Box 910, Somerset, KY 42502.

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:



**AIM
HIGH**

Hunt safely

Electric cooperatives ask hunters to be aware of electrical equipment and to be mindful when shooting near it. Mistakes can be costly and deadly.

- **Avoid shooting near utilities.** Never shoot in the direction of power lines, power poles or substations.
- **Know your environment.** Familiarize yourself with the location of power lines and equipment on land where you shoot.
- **Recognize the risks.** Damage to electrical equipment presents the possibility of electrocution and fire.
- **Watch for hidden dangers.** Be especially careful in wooded areas where power lines may not be as visible.
- **Observe signage.** Take notice of warning signs and keep clear of electrical equipment.
- **Avoid using utility structures.** Do not use utility poles or towers to support equipment used in your shooting activity or for supporting deer stands.