



Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Since 1938

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



IT'S TRADITION!

By James Anderson General Manager/CEO

Many community members helped MJREC celebrate June Dairy Month. It has become a tradition for your cooperative to celebrate this month by giving away soft-serve ice cream in support of dairy farmers. We have been serving up ice cream to our members for over 17 years; in fact, we've served so much that we are on our second ice cream machine.

With the COVID-19 pandemic, we were not sure if we would be able to continue, but we came up with a creative solution that allowed us to continue our show of support for our dairies. That solution was holding our very first "drive-through" dairy days. We would like to thank the Rusk County Dairy Promoters who partnered with us this year to help this tradition continue.

Over 250 ice cream cones were served during the two-day event with 194 vehicles, one bike, and yes, one tractor driving through our shop to receive their dairy treats. Each vehicle also received a bag of cheese curds, and random vehicles drove away with additional give-a-ways.

This was a wonderful opportunity for our cooperative to practice one of the seven principles we were founded on, Cooperation Among Cooperatives.

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MY CO-OP



Sneak Peak JREC, like many of you, has had to delay or even cancel events due to the pandemic. As I write this article, we are making final preparation for our annual meeting that was postponed in April. To hold the annual meeting in July, we relocated and reformatted it to ensure safety and social distancing guidelines were being followed. You can read more about the annual meeting next month in this magazine.

The new headquarters open house,

originally planned for this summer, is another event we have had to postpone due to the pandemic. Because of this, I thought it would be nice to give you a “Sneak Peak” of our new headquarters building for those who weren’t able to attend the June Dairy Days. They say pictures are worth a thousand words, so here are a few pictures of the building coming down and of our new building. You can also take a virtual tour of our building at jrec.com.



NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

JREC is committed to helping the community in which we serve and one way we have done this over the years is by holding a variety of donation drives. In August, we are going to call on our members (neighbors) again by holding two donation drives, allowing us to help meet two big needs in our community.

The first need is the shortage of food seen on the shelves of many food pantries. The use of food pantries has grown greatly due to COVID-19 layoffs.



The second is the ever-increasing expense associated with sending children to school, which can cause a drain on a family’s pocketbook. Regardless if schools reopen this fall, children will still need to have the necessary school supplies to do their schoolwork.

We are asking our members to support our food banks, local students, and schools this fall. We will be accepting non-perishable food items as well as school supplies (folders, notebooks, pencils, pens, crayons, markers, rulers, etc.) through **August 26**. If you would like to help, please drop off your donation at either office.

Thank you, neighbor!

EXPERIENCING AN OUTAGE? THIS IS HOW WE RESTORE POWER:

A phone ringing in the middle of the night may catch you off guard, but it's a familiar sound to our linemen. Navigating major outages from emergency situations, like natural disasters, can often be challenging. There may be obstacles linemen don't typically encounter like flooded roadways or downed trees that put a halt to our restoration process. Overall, our goal is to get as many members back in power in the shortest amount of time.

STEP 1

First, our crews assess the damage on our system and check our substations. This is where the high-voltage transmission lines feed into our system and from there, we distribute power to our members. One substation may feed power to nearly 1,200 meters. If we repair the problem in the substation, we could potentially get 1,200 meters back in service.

STEP 2

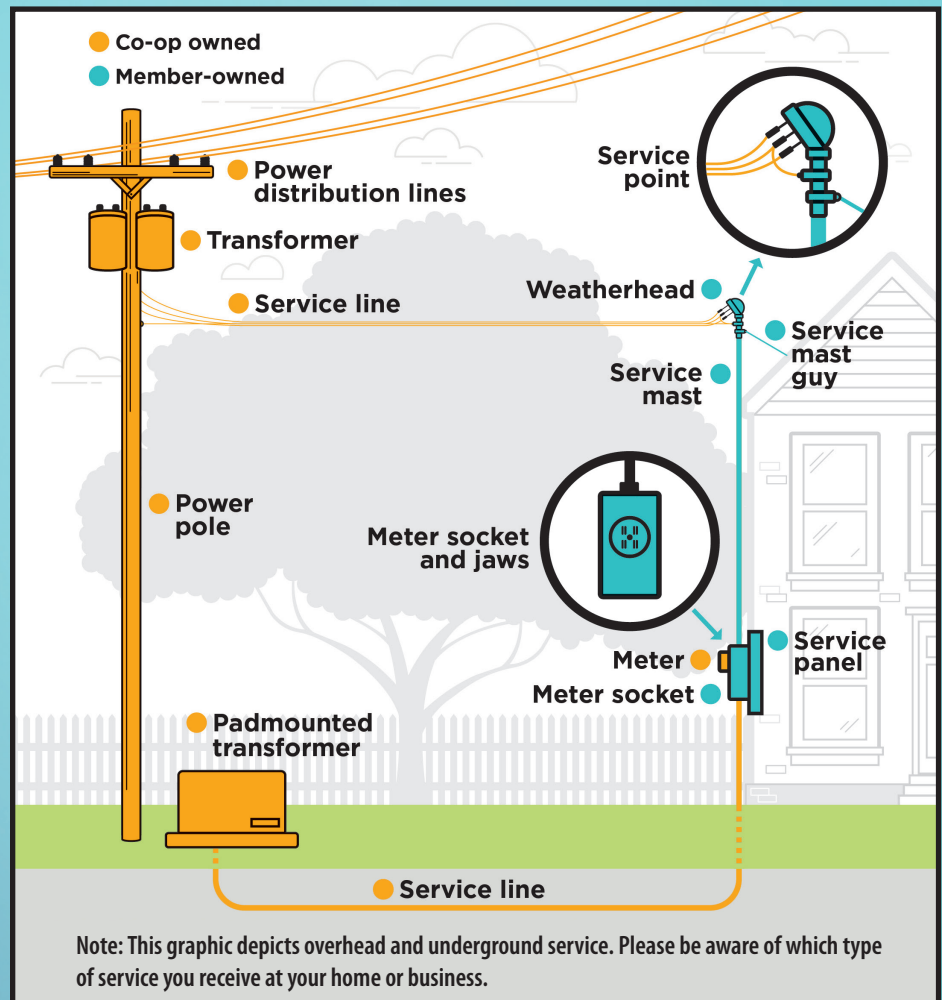
Next, crews follow our distribution lines as they carry power away from the substation to many members. Power lines are like spider webs that leave the substation. Instead of everyone having their own power line from the substation to their home or business, members share power lines. Power travels along the distribution lines to get to members living in the same area.

STEP 3

After distribution lines have been checked over, crews work towards individual services. The image below shows what the co-op owns and fixes (yellow) and what equipment is member-owned (blue). Should something that is member owned be damaged from a storm, it is the member's responsibility to get it repaired. We often find that when we try to restore individual services, damage on the member-owned equipment must be repaired first before we can turn their power on. We recommend hiring a licensed electrician for these repairs.

"I AM STILL WITHOUT POWER AND YOUR TRUCKS KEEP DRIVING BY MY HOUSE. WHY WON'T YOU STOP TO TURN MY POWER ON?"

Most of the time, crews learn that the problem is down the line from your home. They may need to repair equipment that is a few miles away from your home in order to restore your power. We realize everyone wants to be the next one to have power restored, but when we spend two hours restoring power for one member, we could have spent those two hours restoring power to 200 members. By following our restoration process, we can restore many members at once.





JREC MAY BE STOPPING BY

If you see a Jump River Electric Cooperative truck in your driveway at some point throughout the year, don't be alarmed! It could be our linemen checking our meters or our member services gentlemen stopping by to test your dual fuel receiver. The receiver is the gray or brown box that is, more than likely, on the outside of your house.

NOTICE

to all dual fuel members who are submetered

Please leave power on to your DUAL FUEL METER at all times.

You may turn off the circuit breakers that control the heaters, but the meter power should remain on.



Safety Poster Contest Winners

The 19th annual electric safety poster contest was held in May, with two winners each receiving a \$50 cash prize. We had entries in both the 8–10 and 11–14 years of age categories. Poster winners were: Maya, age 10, of Gilman (left), who relayed pet safety through her drawing; and Harmony, age 14, from Ladysmith (right), who drew about the dangers of climbing trees by power lines.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

As co-op members spend more time at home with the COVID-19 pandemic, they may see a surge in home energy use. Some steps members can take to help control their bills include:

Program your thermostat to maximize energy savings. Setting your thermostat one degree lower when heating or one degree higher when cooling can reduce energy use by up to 5 percent.



Air dry dishes. This step can cut your dishwasher's energy use by up to 50 percent.



Unplug appliances and electronics when not in use. Small appliances and electronics use energy even when not in use. When powered



Do full loads of laundry and wash with cold water. Using warm water instead of hot can cut a load's energy use in half, and using cold water will save even more.



Substitute LEDs for conventional light bulbs. Lighting can amount to up to 12 percent of monthly energy use. LED bulbs can cut lighting costs by 75 percent.



Members who have questions about paying their bill can contact our office today. We are more than happy to work with you on making payment arrangements.

We're all in this together!

James Anderson, General Manager/CEO

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JREC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Denise Zimmer, Editor



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