FEBRUARY 2026

CONNECT

A newsletter for the members of JEFFERSON ENERGY COOPERATIVE

Powering Progress

How Jefferson Energy Is Preparing for the Future of Your Electric Cooperative

At Jefferson Energy Cooperative, our mission has always been to deliver safe, reliable and affordable power. While we often share information about weather readiness and rising costs, this month we want to take you behind the scenes to explore how your co-op is preparing for the future of energy, and how you can help shape it.

Across the nation, electric cooperatives are modernizing the grid to meet growing demands, strengthen reliability and support new technologies. Jefferson Energy is no exception. Recent investments in system automation, including smart switching devices, allow us to detect issues faster and reduce outage times. Additionally, we have begun investigating software platforms that can evaluate and automate some outage restoration activities. These upgrades help us respond more efficiently during everyday operations and major storms (10045759-001).

We are also making improvements in our line maintenance programs, which are some of our most effective strategies for preventing outages. Recently, we shifted from a six-year to a five-year trimming cycle. Furthermore, we intend to launch a ground-to-sky trim program on our primary mainline feeders, as well as trimming problematic portions of service lines.

Additionally, we shortened our system pole inspection program cycle. This program significantly adds many years of safe, reliable service life to your pole infrastructure. All these initiatives contribute to enhanced line maintenance programs aimed at minimizing outages and lowering outage durations.

Looking ahead, we're researching and preparing for the increased use of electric vehicles, home solar, battery storage and other distributed energy resources. Planning now ensures our system remains strong as member needs evolve.



But technology is only part of the future, your voice matters too.

Through Voices for Cooperative Power (VCP), Jefferson Energy members can play an active role in shaping energy policy that affects our communities. VCP connects co-op members with state and federal lawmakers, making it easier to share real stories, concerns and priorities. When decision-makers hear directly from members like you, it strengthens the cooperative's ability to advocate for reliable, affordable power.

We encourage you to join VCP and make your voice heard. Together, we can ensure that the future of energy remains secure, innovative and built around the needs of the people we serve.



JEFFERSON ENERGY COOPERATIVE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

We are now accepting applications for the Jefferson Energy Cooperative Foundation Scholarship. The last day to submit applications is March 27. Applications will be accepted ONLINE ONLY.

Apply Now

www.jec.coop/community/foundation-scholarships/

Join Us for Our Directors Town Hall

Tuesday, March 31
6 p.m.

Brothersville Event Center
4977 Windsor Spring Road
Hephzibah, GA 30815

Speak With Your Directors

We invite you to join us for an informative Directors Town Hall.

JEC members will have a chance to learn more about the cooperative and intiatives we're taking on your behalf.

Love Your Electric Cooperative

February is the month of love, and while that usually means candlelight and flowers, your heart might fill with appreciation and gratitude for your electric cooperative if you take some time to remember, or learn about, how it operates (11456-001).



Cooperatives, including Jefferson Energy Cooperative (JEC), are consumer-owned businesses, which means that every consumer of your electric cooperative, including you, is also a member and an owner.

As we celebrate Valentine's Day, it's a perfect time to show a little love to the cooperative model that puts people first. At JEC, decisions aren't driven by distant shareholders, they're shaped by neighbors who care about the same things you do. That sense of community, shared responsibility and mutual support is at the heart of our co-op.

This February, as you celebrate the people who matter most, remember that Jefferson Energy Cooperativee is powered by something special too: a commitment to serving its members with fairness, loyalty and a whole lot of heart.



Keep Warm the Natural Way

Before you crank up the thermostat on an especially chilly day this winter, reach for a sweater and a pair of thick socks.

Here are four practical alternatives to sending your energy bills through the roof this winter:



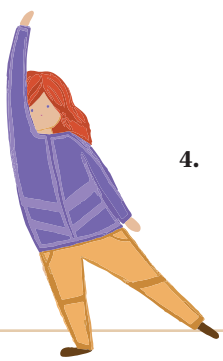
1. **Dress in layers.** Pull a T-shirt on before layering a sweater over it. Choose fleece-lined sweatpants for lounging around the house.



2. **Keep your feet warm**. Did you know your feet and hands let heat leave your body? So never walk around barefoot indoors during the winter, even if you have wall-to-wall carpeting. Wear thick socks inside your slippers.



3. **Put an electric blanket** on your bed before you crawl into it, and the sheets and blankets will be toasty warm. Turn the electric blanket off before you fall asleep or invest in one with an automatic "off" switch (10068393-001).



4. **Move around.** You'll be colder if you sit still all day than if you're active. Use chilly days to clean the house, exercise or play with the kids. The more you move, the warmer you'll feel.

CONNECT
Jefferson Energy Cooperative

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A member-owned Georgia cooperative since 1937

OFFICE HOURS

All offices: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Friday

WAYNE A. GOSSAGE, JR.
President/CEO

TAMIKA LAMPKIN
Director of Cooperative Communications

For your convenience, bills can be paid anytime at the corporate headquarters, or in the Richmond, Louisville or Thomson offices.

TOLL-FREE SERVICE NUMBER

(877) 533-3377
24-hour Dispatching Daily

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED:

Memorial Day, May 25
Independence Day, July 3
Labor Day, Sept. 7

KEEP INFORMED AND WIN $25

It pays to keep informed about JEC's business. Read and find your account number in "Connect." Call our member services department to claim your award—a $25 credit on your bill.

WITH YOUR CORRECT PHONE NUMBER, WE CAN GET THE LIGHTS ON FASTER

During large outages, Jefferson Energy Cooperative receives thousands of calls at once. Having your correct phone number helps our Outage Call Answering System retrieve your information faster.

Please check the phone number and service address listed on your electric bill. If they are incorrect, please call 877-JEFFERSON (877-533-3377) with the correct information so we can better serve you. You may also text "OUTAGE" to 877-JEFFERSON (877-533-3377) to communicate your issue.

Jefferson Energy Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Engineering Department Appreciation



We want to take a moment to acknowledge the hardworking individuals in the Jefferson Energy Cooperative Engineering Department.

Although much of their work happens out of sight, their impact is felt across our entire system. Whether they're evaluating electrical needs, running critical calculations or finding innovative solutions, this team ensures our members receive reliable support every single day (10024544-001). From System Engineers to Apparatus and System Operators, each person plays a vital role in keeping our cooperative strong.

We appreciate your commitment, expertise and dedication, thank you for all that you do!



Jefferson Energy Cooperative