

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

CONNECTIONS


WREC MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Message from your General Manager

Dear Members,

At Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative, Inc., being "local" is at the heart of everything we do. As a cooperative, we are proud to say that every resident in our service area is not just a customer but a Member. Being locally operated, we are deeply embedded in the communities we serve. Our employees live and work here, sharing the same neighborhoods, schools, and public spaces as you. Our offices are conveniently located within your reach, making it easy for you to access our services and support.

This local presence allows us to respond quickly to any issues and maintain a personal connection with our Members. We are immensely proud to be a "local" company, a distinction that means we are deeply rooted in the communities we serve. Serving our own communities, is a unique privilege that drives our commitment to excellence and community enrichment.

As a Member, you benefit from our success through Capital Credits, which are a return of the cooperative's financial surplus. In 2024, your board authorized a return of \$23.2 million in Capital Credits to our Members, showcasing our cooperative's commitment to your financial well-being. This year's distribution brings our total refunds to over \$506 million in Capital Credits and Deferred Revenue Reduction Refunds, significantly surpassing any other Cooperative in Florida.

Our commitment to being local extends beyond providing electric service. We actively support local initiatives, partner with community organizations, and invest in programs that enhance the quality of life in our area. Whether it's through scholarships for local students, volunteer efforts, or community development projects, we are dedicated to making a positive impact right here at home.

At WREC, we believe that being local is about fostering a sense of community and belonging. We are honored to serve you and remain committed to strengthening our local ties while delivering exceptional service and value.

Serving as your Executive Vice-President and General Manager is a true privilege. I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Members for their unwavering support and patience through the back-to-back hurricanes Helene and Milton. Our historic recovery was made possible by the dedication of our employees, and we couldn't have achieved it without all their hard work. As we look forward to the holiday season, I want to extend my sincere thanks to all our Members for their continued support. Wishing you a blessed holiday season, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,



David B. Lambert, II
Executive Vice President & General Manger



WREC's Scouting Breakfast Raises Over \$25,000!

Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative, Inc. (WREC) is thrilled to announce the remarkable success of its "Scouting Breakfast" fundraiser at the Sand Hill Scout Reservation in Brooksville. This event, dedicated to supporting local scouting programs, received tremendous community backing and raised over \$25,000.

The "Scouting Breakfast" was a heartfelt event that united WREC employees, Members, community leaders, and scouting enthusiasts. It highlighted WREC's steadfast commitment to nurturing the growth and development of the youth in our community. The funds raised will be directly allocated to local scouting programs, providing vital resources, educational opportunities, and experiences that are essential for the personal and leadership development of young scouts.

Gary Steele, Manager of Member Relations at WREC, expressed deep gratitude for the generous support from attendees and the community, stating, "Our cooperative's commitment to community well-being goes beyond providing resilient electric service. It extends to creating opportunities for local youth to grow, learn, and become leaders. We are immensely proud of the success of this event and the positive impact it will have on our local scouting programs."

The "Scouting Breakfast" featured inspiring speeches and heartfelt testimonials from scouts who have benefited from the program, as well as leaders in our community. The event also celebrated the longstanding partnership between WREC and the Boy Scouts of America. WREC is dedicated to strengthening the communities it serves, and events like the "Scouting Breakfast" exemplify the cooperative's commitment to investing in the future of our youth.



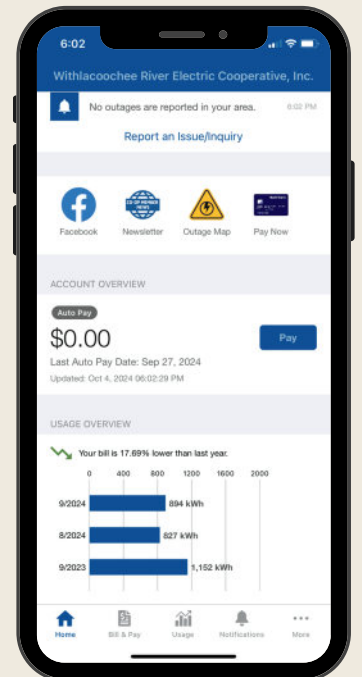
WREC's New Mobile App!

WREC's new mobile app is now available. Have you made the switch yet? This app replaces the old 'SmartHub' app. Don't worry if you haven't switched yet; you have until May 2025. Our new app offers the same great features you loved in SmartHub, with an updated look and feel that reflects WREC's commitment to convenience and efficiency.

Why You'll Love Our Mobile App



- User-friendly Interface** ✓
- Report Outages and View Outage Map** ✓
- Sign up for Notifications** ✓
- View your Account and Pay your Bill** ✓
- Check your Energy Usage** ✓
- Sign Up For WREC Programs** ✓
- Contact a WREC Representative** ✓



Some Common Questions About Capital Credits

At Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative, Inc., (WREC), we believe in the power of community and the importance of giving back to our Members. One of the unique benefits of being a part of our cooperative is the concept of Capital Credits. But what exactly are Capital Credits, and how do they benefit you?

What are Capital Credits?

Capital Credits are an allocation of funds that represent a Member's share of the ownership in the Cooperative, also known as Member equity. At the end of each year, after all operating expenses have been paid, the remaining margins are allocated to each Member based on the amount of energy purchased. The amount refunded from a Member's accumulated total is determined by WREC's Board of Trustees and legal requirements. When WREC earns more than it spends, these margins are allocated back to you, our valued Members, as a token of appreciation for your support and participation in our cooperative.

How Does It Work?

- **Allocation:** At the end of each year, WREC allocates margins to Members. The amount allocated to each Member is based on the amount of electricity you purchased during the year.
- **Notification:** To be eligible for a Capital Credit Refund, Members must have a continually active account for at least one year. Members will receive their allocated Capital Credits in the form of checks or bill credits on their December bill. Prepaid accounts will receive allocations on the date of their billing cycle.
- **Retirement:** Over time, these credits are retired and returned to you in the form of bill credits or a check if you no longer reside in our service area. The retirement process is determined by the financial health of the cooperative and the policies set by the Board of Trustees.

Why It Matters?

- **Ownership:** As a Member of WREC, you are a part owner of the cooperative. This means you have a stake in our success and a voice in how we operate.
- **Savings:** Capital Credits provide a financial benefit to you, allowing you to enjoy the fruits of our cooperative's financial success.
- **Community:** By being a part of WREC, you are supporting a cooperative that invests in local growth and sustainability. Your participation helps us to continue providing reliable and affordable energy to our community.

We are proud to serve you and to share the benefits of our cooperative's success.

Where Can You Get Additional Information On Capital Credits?

Visit us online at wrec.net or contact a Member Service Representative in one of our offices.



To learn more about Capital Credits, scan the QR code.

Cyber Safe Corner

Update your devices and software to prevent cyber attacks and protect your data. Using outdated technology increases your vulnerability. Stay safe—update today!





Streetlight Out?



To report an inoperative or malfunctioning streetlight, please call your local cooperative office, or log on to wrec.net and click on the 'Repair Street Light' button (or scan the QR code), then complete and submit the Street Light Repair Request Form. You can also download the WREC mobile app and request a street light repair.



Scan to Report

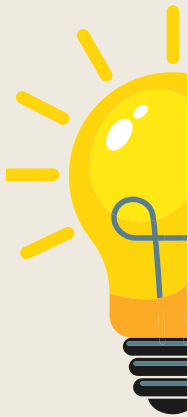
LOCAL WREC NUMBERS

PASCO: Billy E. Brown Corporate Center: 352-567-5133
One Pasco Center District Office: 352-588-5115
New Tampa/Wesley Chapel: 813-979-9732
Bayonet Point District Office: 727-868-9465
Land O' Lakes/Odessa: 813-972-9233
CITRUS: Crystal River District Office: 352-795-4382
Dunnellon: 352-489-6818
HERNANDO: West Hernando District Office: 352-596-4000
POLK: One Pasco Center District Office: 863-687-4396
SUMTER: Bushnell: 352-793-7813

Energy Saving Tips



Make sure your home is well insulated by reviewing your current insulation. Proper insulation in the floors and attic, along with tightly sealed windows and doors, is essential for maintaining warmth.



DID YOU KNOW?

WREC OFFERS A METER BASED SURGE SUPPRESSOR! VISIT WREC.NET FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SURGE STOPPER.

CONNECTIONS is published by:
Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative, Inc.
David B. Lambert II, Executive Vice-President & General Manager
P.O. Box 278, Dade City, FL 33526-0278

Stay in the Know

Be sure to follow us on our social media platforms.



Scan to visit wrec.net

Your Board of Trustees meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Corporate Office in Dade City to conduct the business of the Cooperative and its subsidiaries. LEGAL NOTICE: Operation Round-Up is a registered trade name for WRECares. 100% of all contributions are available for disbursement. Registration #SC-02353. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free from within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state. 1-800-435-7352.

WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 