

Powerline Press NEWSLETTER

LAKE REGION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

A Supplement of Oklahoma Living Published by Lake Region Electric Cooperative for its members. November 2026

A Better Billing Experience Is Coming!

SmartHub Unavailable and Wagoner and Tahlequah Offices Closed November 10–15, 2026

Lake Region Electric Cooperative (LREC) is upgrading its customer management system to provide greater security, improved efficiency and better tools for serving members. **The upgrade will require a planned maintenance window Tuesday, November 10, through Sunday, November 15, 2026.** During this time, LREC and LRTC account system, and SmartHub will be offline. **Members and fiber customers should be aware of the following service interruptions during the scheduled maintenance window:**

- **Office Closures: Wagoner and Tahlequah offices will be closed Tuesday, November 10, through Monday, November 16**. Both locations will reopen with regular business hours on Tuesday, November 17. Our **Hulbert headquarters will remain open during this time.**

- **Payments:** LREC and LRTC will be unable to process payments online or by phone. Cash or check payments may still be made in person at our Hulbert headquarters. Check payments may also be mailed. All payments received during the maintenance window will be securely held and processed Monday, November 16.

- **Account Changes:** Service transfers, AutoPay changes and contact information updates will be unavailable.

- **Disconnections:** LREC and LRTC will suspend disconnections for nonpayment during the week of November 10. Standard procedures will resume Monday, November 16.

Power outage reporting and LRTC technical support will not be affected during this time. **Members should continue to report outages and service issues by calling 918-772-2526**. LRTC technical support will also remain available 24/7 at the same number.

Beginning November 16, LREC members and LRTC subscribers will have access to a new and improved SmartHub experience. Instead of using separate applications for electric and fiber accounts, users will be able to access both through one SmartHub app.

“Soon, our members will have a single application where they can access and manage both of their accounts,” said Larry Mattes, Director of Marketing. “The added simplicity of having both accounts in one place will make it easier for our members to access their account information and make changes when needed.”

LREC and LRTC appreciate members’ patience during this important upgrade and look forward to providing a more convenient account management experience beginning November 16. The new SmartHub app can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play by searching SmartHub, Utilities. Additional information and instructions will be available on our website.

smart hub

One Place for Electric & Fiber!

www.lrecok.coop/smarthub

Connect with Legislators

Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Cooperative Principle #6

Electric Cooperatives of Green Country



Front row, left to right: LREC employees JuaNita Keener, Diana Ryals, Leisa Walker, Larry Mattes, and Nina Jones.

Middle row, left to right: LREC Board Members Lynn Lamons, Alan Vann, Jack Teague, Randall Shankle, Gary Cooper, James Walls; and LREC employee Kristen Mallett.

Back row, left to right: Willie Wiredhand, LRTC employee Jarrod Welch, LREC employee Jerry Latty, Representative Bob Ed Culver, LREC Board President Scott Manes,

The Electric Cooperatives of Green Country recently gathered at Lake Region for their annual legislative dinner, bringing cooperative leaders together with state legislators and congressional staff for an evening of conversation and connection. Employees, CEOs and board members from Cookson Hills, East Central, Indian, Kiamichi, Ozarks, Verdigris Valley and Lake Region electric cooperatives attended.

The evening provided an opportunity to thank our legislators for their support during legislative session and strengthen relationships that help keep the voices of cooperative members part of important conversations.

Guests included Representatives Kevin Norwood, Jim Olsen, Mark Lepak, Bob Ed Culver and Scott Fetgatter, along with Senator Tom Woods and Bryan Logan. Nathan Dethloff, Field Representative for Congressman Frank Lucas, and Tamara Bryan, Field Representative for Congressman Josh Brecheen, also attended. The gathering also demonstrated Cooperative Principle No. 6, Cooperation Among Cooperatives, as Green Country cooperatives worked together to strengthen relationships and advocate for the members and communities we collectively serve. Lake Region was proud to host this year's dinner and appreciates our fellow cooperatives, elected leaders and congressional staff for an evening of conversation and fellowship.

LREC Takes Aim at Shoot for the Nations



Left to right: Senator Julie McIntosh, Glen Clark, CEO and Senator Tom Woods.

The Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives (OAEC) and Oklahoma Energy Trails Foundation hosted the 2026 Shoot for the Nations on September 25, raising $74,233 to support electrification projects. Lake Region Electric Cooperative was proud to participate in the annual sporting fundraiser. Shoot for the Nations brings electric cooperatives, industry partners and community leaders together for a day of friendly competition with a greater purpose. Lake Region is proud to support a cause that puts the cooperative spirit into action and helps bring electricity to nations in need.

Learn More:

https://oaec.coop/co-op-difference/energy-trails



Right-of-Way KEEPING YOUR *POWER* RELIABLE

Vegetation Management Program

Vegetation management is an ongoing priority at Lake Region Electric Cooperative. Maintaining a safe distance between trees, limbs and power lines helps reduce outages before they happen. During high winds, storms, ice and other severe weather, overgrown limbs can fall into lines, damage equipment and even break poles. Clear rights-of-way give our electric system a better chance to withstand those conditions and help crews restore power more efficiently when outages do occur.

Vegetation management also helps control costs. A severe storm can damage trees in a matter of minutes, sending limbs and entire trees into power lines and causing hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage to poles, lines and other equipment. Those repairs require materials, equipment and employee time. As a member-owned cooperative, those costs ultimately impact our members. Proactive vegetation management is one of the ways we work to reduce preventable damage while protecting reliability and affordability. Members can help by thinking ahead when planting trees. Never plant directly beneath power lines, and consider how large a tree will be at maturity before choosing a location. Small trees should be planted at least 25 feet from power lines, medium trees at least 35 feet away and large trees at least 45 feet away.

At the end of the day, we cannot prevent storms, but we can prepare for them. A few minutes of severe weather can leave behind extensive tree damage and costly repairs. Maintaining Lake Region's rights-of-way helps reduce that risk, protect our electric system and control costs for the members who ultimately own it. Vegetation management is an investment in reliability, safety and affordability. The work we do today helps protect the system our members depend on tomorrow.

LEARN MORE:
https://www.lrecok.coop/right-of-way

Help Protect
Lake Region Property

At the end of September, LRTC Fiber customers south of Braggs experienced an extended outage after a mainline fiber line near Greenleaf State Park was damaged in an apparent act of vandalism. Crews spent the day rebuilding sections of the line to restore service.

Vandalism and theft can impact both Lake Region's electric and fiber systems, causing outages and requiring significant time and resources to repair. As a member-owned cooperative, those costs ultimately impact the members and fiber customers we serve. Tampering with electrical equipment is also extremely dangerous and can result in serious injury or death. No amount of copper or equipment is worth risking a life.

If you notice suspicious activity around power lines, fiber lines, utility poles, cabinets or other Lake Region equipment, please report it. Never approach or confront anyone. Contact local law enforcement if you believe vandalism or theft is taking place. Protecting Lake Region infrastructure helps keep our members and fiber customers connected, keeps our communities safe and helps prevent unnecessary costs caused by theft and vandalism.



Damage caused by vandalism to Lake Region fiber lines south of Braggs near Greenleaf State Park in September.

November Holiday Closures

Veterans Day

November 11

Thanksgiving

November 26 & November 27

Your Board of Trustees

Scott Manes.....President
Lynn Lamons.....Vice-President
Randall Shankle.....Secretary-Treasurer
Jack Teague.....Asst. Secretary-Treasurer
James Walls ..... Trustee
Gary Cooper .....Trustee
Alan Vann.....Trustee
Tina Glory-Jordan .....Attorney

Staff

Glen Clark .....CEO/ General Manager
Leisa Walker.....Director of Finance & Admin
Jerry Latty.....Director of Operations
Jarrod Welch.....Director of Fiber & IT
Larry Mattes .....Director of Marketing
Nina Jones .....Accounting Manager

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Telephone
800-364-LREC or 918-772-2526
Website:
www.lrecok.coop
www.lakeregionfiber.com

Locations
Hulbert, Wagoner &
Tahlequah, OK.
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Hulbert, OK 74441

Hidden Account Number

Look for your account number hidden within an article **in this insert of the Powerline Press**. If you find your number, Lake Region Electric will credit your next bill. To claim your credit, notify LREC's Hulbert office by phone during the month of publication.

The amount increases by $10 with each issue your prize goes unclaimed to a maximum of $50.

Cooperative bylaws are available upon request at Lake Region Electric Cooperative's office in Hulbert or at **lrecok.coop**.