



Honoring Our Lineworkers



RECNEWS

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They Do Whatever It Takes to Get the Job Done

As we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day this month, now is the perfect time to reflect on the sacrifices many of us take for granted. They don't seek the limelight, but some of REC's lineworkers agreed to share a few words on some of the challenges they face.



"It's the best job I've ever had. You're usually in bad conditions but when you look to your left and look to your right, you realize you've got guys out there who've got your back and you're in it together. When you're done, it's like: 'We did this,' and there's not a better feeling. There's nothing better than when you get the lights back on and a member comes up to you and just says, 'Thank you,' and to me that just means the world. And I get home and explain to my kids what I do. They ask questions and you see the look on their face, and it makes you feel like you're doing something."

— Sean Cain, Apprentice Lineman



"I have a lot of pride in my work. Even when it's cold and wet, I know I'm working to keep people warm. There's a lot of satisfaction in hearing someone yell 'Thank you' from the window after the lights come back on or seeing people flipping the light switches on their porches after an outage is restored. No matter how tired I am or how long I've been working, that feeling always makes it worth it."

— Robert Cushing, First Class Lineman



"Many may not realize it, but we undergo years of training before we can officially be called a lineworker. We typically start by helping crews with tools and keeping job sites safe, then we transition to apprentice status, which typically spans four years. After an apprenticeship, with more than 7,000 hours of training under our belts, we transition to journeyman lineworker status—that's when we're considered officially trained in our field."

— Jason Morris, First Class Serviceman



"The daily expectations of a lineworker are physically demanding, but you won't hear any of us complain about that. I know what I signed up for—loading heavy materials, climbing poles and in and out of buckets. A lot of times, we go places the trucks can't, so I might be hiking through the woods loaded down with 40 pounds of personal protective equipment. But that's the job. Most of us are just glad to be outside."

— Fayette Henshaw, Lead Lineman

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Being there, every minute, of every day. At Rappahannock Electric Cooperative, it's not just our way of doing business, it's our way of life. And that means delivering value that goes far beyond the energy we provide, value you can't really put a price on.

Summer Savings Plan: Get Paid to Reduce Energy

REC's Summer Savings Plan is a free, voluntary program that allows most residential member-owners and some business members to receive a rebate for using less electricity on specific days in the summer. Extreme heat during the summer often results in more electricity being used as people spend more time indoors. This impacts the price REC pays for the electricity delivered to its member-owners. You can help and get paid to do it!

Member-owners who choose to participate will receive a bill credit based on how much energy they save during these times. For every kilowatt hour (kWh) saved, you will earn 75 cents in bill credits, which adds up quickly.



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