

# THE OUTLET

The Official Member Newsletter of CORE Electric Cooperative

May 2025

## CORE's commitment to wildfire mitigation

Safeguarding communities is at the heart of CORE Protect, CORE's wildfire mitigation program. Parts of our nearly 5,000-square-mile service area are among the most wildfire-prone in the U.S., and CORE is committed to the safety of the members and communities we serve.

Our wildfire mitigation program includes:

### Inspection programs

CORE conducts inspections of our overhead distribution and transmission systems — both from the ground and with the help of drone technology — to identify maintenance issues that pose risks to fire safety and reliability. All issues are prioritized and repaired according to their relative risk. Our wooden poles are professionally tested on a 12-year cycle to determine structural health and identify hazards so they can be replaced well before possible failure.

### New technology

CORE uses the industry-leading Technosylva platform for weather-based risk forecasting. Its tools provide us daily wildfire risk forecasts four days out, which gives us the specific insight we need to stay ahead of potential wildfire threats. CORE has also invested in Pano AI camera stations that automatically detect smoke plumes,

regardless of the cause, and send alerts to emergency responders for early detection.

### Operational practices

During elevated fire risk conditions, CORE implements more sensitive circuit protection settings, which we call alternate relay settings (ARS). ARS allow the devices that protect the line to trip the instant there is a fault, like if a tree falls into our lines. Crews then patrol the deenergized circuit to find and fix the cause of the outage before we reenergize the line. Because ARS do not allow the equipment to self-restore power, there may be sustained outages instead of blinks while ARS are activated.

### Community outreach

We collaborate with local emergency management offices, fire departments and land management agencies to ensure CORE's wildfire mitigation strategies are aligned with those of our communities. These partnerships facilitate efficient response and communication throughout the year.

To learn how you can help mitigate the risk of wildfire, or to report related issues, visit [www.CORE.coop](http://www.CORE.coop)  
**> News and Resources > Wildfire Mitigation.**

## Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)

One of the key tools in wildfire risk mitigation is a public safety power shutoff (PSPS), in which CORE would preemptively turn off powerlines during extreme weather conditions in specific areas to prevent potential fire ignition. CORE members in affected areas will remain without power until we patrol the lines, make any repairs, and confirm they are safe to reenergize.

A PSPS is a **last-resort measure** we will implement only when weather forecasts and critical burning conditions indicate an extreme risk of fire ignition. CORE will provide advance notice and attempt to contact affected members ahead of any PSPS. To learn more about public safety power shutoffs, visit [www.CORE.coop/wildfire-mitigation/pssp](http://www.CORE.coop/wildfire-mitigation/pssp) or scan the QR code.

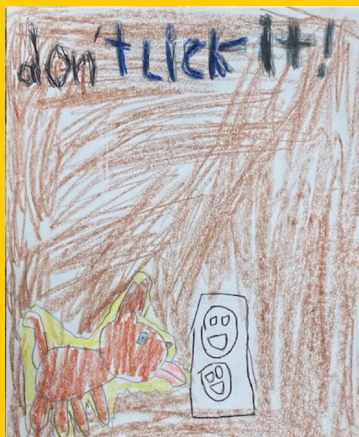


# Safety poster contest winners

CORE invited students in grades 1 through 5 to help us promote electrical safety through our annual poster contest.

Congratulations to the 2025 winners!

- Claire F. from Gold Rush Elementary
- Sahana P. from North Star Academy
- Kaylee D. from Cloverleaf Enrichment
- Ishaan N. from Sky View Academy
- Aaden P. from Aspen Crossing Elementary School.



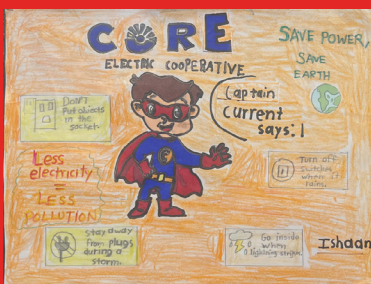
First Grade Winner: Claire F. from Gold Rush Elementary



Second Grade Winner: Sahana P. from North Star Academy



Third Grade Winner: Kaylee D. from Cloverleaf Enrichment



Fourth Grade Winner: Ishaan N. from Sky View Academy



Fifth Grade Winner: Aaden P. from Aspen Crossing Elementary School

## Rate changes take effect with May bills

As previously noticed in March and April bills, changes to CORE Electric Cooperative's rates and regulations take effect with May 2025 bills.

The monthly basic service and on-peak demand charges increase for most accounts, while per-kilowatt-hour (kWh) rates decrease for most. Residential members will see an average bill increase of approximately 3%.

The changes are necessary to allow CORE to continue to deliver safe, reliable power. Since 2013, CORE's rates have gone up just 14%, even as inflation has grown 38% and our costs to deliver power have increased 40%.

Average bills for CORE members will remain lower than those of most other Colorado electric utilities. We understand even a slight increase affects our members, though, and continue to keep our rates competitive and prioritize reliability and safety.

Visit [www.CORE.coop](http://www.CORE.coop) > My Cooperative > Rates and Regulations > Rate Changes for additional information about CORE's rates.

## Are you prepared in case the power goes out?

Colorado's extreme weather brings increased risk of service interruptions. Visit our online Outage Center at [www.CORE.coop/outage-center](http://www.CORE.coop/outage-center) for more information.