

# NEWS



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**For Immediate Release:**

## **Strong storms cause widespread power outages affecting members of Firelands Electric Cooperative**

**NEW LONDON, June 14, 2022 at 8:30AM** — Firelands Electric reports that powerful winds and thunderstorms swept through the cooperative's service territory beginning late Monday and extending into the early morning hours Tuesday, causing widespread damage to trees and power lines.

The second round of strong storms early Tuesday morning resulted in additional damage in areas that had previously been spared, resulting in over 4,000 member-consumers of Firelands Electric Cooperative to be without power in portions of Ashland, Huron, and Richland counties. Nearly all of the outages involve tree damage.

Firelands' line crews worked throughout the night and into the morning removing tree debris, clearing roads, and repairing lines to safeguard first responders. Crews will continue working to assess tree damage and restore power throughout the day, especially the hardest hit areas, located across southern Ashland and Richland counties.

Firelands Electric's transmission provider, First Energy/Ohio Edison, has also had challenges overnight as each round of storms caused power interruptions to the cooperative's Coulter and Mifflin substations. Crews continue to work with First Energy to determine when and where they can back-feed members to restore power as quickly and safely as possible.

"Once damaging winds and lightning began causing outages, our linemen were ready for the call, working quickly to begin the process of assessing damage and restoring power as safely as possible," says General Manager Dan McNaul. "Safety is always our first priority."

Please use extreme caution while traveling today, and notify Firelands Electric Co-op of any down power lines within their service territory. Power outages must be reported at Firelands Electric's toll-free outage hotline at 1-800-533-8658 or by using Firelands' SmartHub application.

Firelands Electric Cooperative, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, is a member-owned, not-for-profit electric utility serving more than 9,100 homes and businesses in rural areas of Ashland, Huron, Lorain, and Richland counties that ranks among the highest energy utilities in the country for customer satisfaction. Visit the cooperative's website, [www.firelandsec.com](http://www.firelandsec.com), [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter feed](#), to learn more about reliable and affordable power.

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