

White River Valley Electric Cooperative News Release

Contact:

Cassie Cunningham, Communications Coordinator 417.849.1148 (cell); 417.335.9231 (office) ccunningham@whiteriver.org

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Small plane crash takes out power for WRVEC members

Branson, Mo. – White River Valley Electric Cooperative received a phone call shortly before 2:30 p.m. with reports that a small plane had flown into a utility pole just south of Ozark, Mo. The single- engine plane crash, involving a pilot and flight student, was confirmed by the Missouri State Highway Patrol. The two were transported to the hospital with injuries.

The downed pole knocked out power to 484 WRVEC members. Crews were cleared by the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency and entered the area to replace the utility pole, any related equipment, and restore service to the White River members.

"Our immediate response hinged on safety," said Chris Hamon, CEO. "Once we were cleared, our crews were ready to respond. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the two involved in the accident."

White River is anticipating power to be restored to all of its members by 7 p.m.

Outages can be reported by calling 800-695-0056 or 417-335-9333. They also encourage members to sign up for outage alerts and receive updates throughout the SmartHub App https://www.whiteriver.org/smarthub.

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White River Valley Electric Cooperative is a <u>Touchstone Energy Cooperative</u> dedicated to ensuring our members receive safe and reliable service in their homes and businesses across five southwest Missouri counties including Ozark, Taney, Stone, Christian and Douglas.