

### We Can Help You with Surge Suppression & Protection

As we usually see more thunderstorm activity during the summer, power surges become more of a threat to our homes and electronics. We have a few products that can offer you some protection and peace of mind when the thunderstorms roll in. First, let's talk about what a power surge is, and a little bit about what a surge is not.

A power surge is a momentary, rapid increase in voltage on the electric grid that travels down the line. We work to maintain a voltage level of around 240 to 245 volts to the average service, but an indirect lightning strike can cause a power surge, which increases voltage exponentially for a very brief moment.

These surges occur most often when lightning makes contact down the line from your home, hitting a pole or other utility structure. In fact, around 95 percent of all surge-related damage is attributable to indirect lightning strikes.

South River EMC installs lightning arrestors on the utility lines to prevent lightening from traveling and causing damage, but this system isn't perfect, which is why it's a good idea to

purchase surge suppressors to help protect your appliances and electronics.

A power surge is not a "blink". A blink is a momentary interruption in service caused by normal equipment operation. Devices like reclosers operate to prevent wildlife and vegetation that temporarily come into contact with the lines from knocking out power to large areas. These devices stop the flow of electricity on the lines momentarily, hopefully giving the fault time to clear.

We can help protect you from surges by offering three great products. The first and most popular, is the SS-320-A Whole House Protector. We install this surge suppressor behind the meter and it's designed to lessen the intensity of any surge coming over the line to 1/10th is original size, before it enters your home. The cost is \$135 plus tax; installation included. To be clear, this device is only effective if the surge comes over the power line, so you are still vulnerable at the phone, cable, and internet service entrances.

It's recommended that you pair the Whole House Pro-



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tor with individual outlet suppressors in order to lessen the intensity of the surge that makes it through the primary suppressor. For this reason, we offer the US 1206 6-outlet suppressor for interior outlets. This is a heavy-duty outlet suppressor with telephone, data, and video pass-through protection at a cost of \$90. Lastly, we've partnered with Utility Shield to offer a surge protection specific plan that will cover appliances and electronics damaged by surges for a flat fee of \$9.95 + tax per month.

To speak with someone about surge protection, just reach out to the Advise Guys at [advise-guys@sremc.com](mailto:advise-guys@sremc.com) or check out our website, [sremc.com/surge-protection](http://sremc.com/surge-protection), for more information.

# South River EMC Communicator



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