

Opportunities for High School Juniors and Seniors



2016 Scholarship Winners



2016 Washington Youth Tour Participants

Deadline to apply for both is March 8, 2017. Applications can be found under the Community tab at bgenenergy.com.

Message from the President

We Are Your Source for Power and Information

As this new year begins, many of us have declared one or two resolutions on how we can improve in some area. In addition to the regular ones of becoming healthier or saving money, many members pledge to become more energy efficient.

Any successful resolution takes effort but the good news is we are here to help you. We are more than just a utility that you pay each month. Our employees are your neighbors—people that go to your church, whose children attend school with your children. Every employee is committed to our purpose of making life better, the cooperative way. One of the ways we are delivering on this purpose is by providing you with the information, resources, and services you need to manage your energy.

We want you to view us as your trusted energy partner and your first stop whenever you have questions about managing your energy. We appreciate the opportunity to share our energy management expertise with you.

We want to be your trusted source for information. Depend on us to provide energy-efficiency tips, conduct energy audits, and share program information on Levelized Billing and Prepay. These are just a few of the resources we can provide.



Michael I. Williams
President & CEO

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Don't miss out on the trip of a lifetime

What do Apple CEO Tim Cook and Blue Grass Energy member Meghan Nevels from Harrodsburg, Ky., have in common?

Both have participated in their electric cooperative's Washington Youth Tour.

Meghan was one of eight high school juniors selected to represent Blue Grass Energy on the Washington Youth Tour (WYT) last June. The WYT takes place each summer when nearly 1,700 young cooperative members from across America visit the nation's capital. It is an all-expenses-paid, seven day trip.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association initiated the WYT after then-Senator Lyndon Baines Johnson suggested to co-op leaders that they "send youngsters to the nation's capital where they can see what the flag stands for and represents."

That tradition has continued for the last 52 years.

When on the trip, participants learn about the cooperative business model and meet with elected officials with the opportunity to discuss issues that are important back home. In addition to the Capitol Hill visit, students sightsee, participate in group activities with students from other states, and experience events like the Sunset Parade at the Iwo Jima Memorial.

We are looking for 10 high school juniors who would like to represent Blue Grass Energy on 2017's WYT. Applying is easy at bgenergy.com. Look for Washington Youth Tour under the Our Community tab. The deadline to apply is March 8. If selected to go, the trip is June 9-16.

Are you wondering if the trip is something you or someone you know would enjoy? We sat down with Meghan a few months after her experience and asked her a few questions to help future participants decide.

Why should someone apply?

"It is a great experience to learn about our government and how our elected representatives impact our lives. It was interesting to hear how they were supporting our state. It is a great way to become more confident in yourself and become more social, not to mention a great way to meet new people.

What did you learn about politics?

"I had never thought about the co-op beforehand and this experience has taught me co-ops are very important for our daily lives and that they help us out a lot. I had never really listened to Sen. McConnell and Sen. Paul before and it was very eye-opening listening to them firsthand. I pay more attention to them now."

What was your favorite place you visited?

The National Cathedral.

What advice would you give someone thinking about applying?

"Do it! It is a fantastic opportunity. You will meet so many new people and learn so much. I would definitely do it again."

CER HIGH



Meghan Nevels
2016 Youth Tour Participant

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Rachel Settles, Editor



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Introducing our Charity for 2017— Make-A-Wish

Each year, Blue Grass Energy selects a charity to support for the year. We partner with a local nonprofit organization that benefits the communities in which we live and serve. Our fundraising efforts for the entire year go to that cause. This year, we are pleased to announce our partnership with Make-A-Wish.

Make-A-Wish

Tens of thousands of volunteers, donors, and supporters advance the Make-A-Wish vision to grant the wish of every child diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition. In the United States and its territories, on average, a wish is granted every 35 minutes. Make-A-Wish believes a wish experience can be a game-changer for a child with a life-threatening illness. This one belief guides them and inspires them to grant wishes that change the lives of the kids and families we serve.

Their mission is to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength, and joy.



President's message (continued)

Your Blue Grass Energy membership is valuable. After all, you own the cooperative. As that owner, you have an energy partner you can trust to look out for you and put your interests first.

So as we head into the new year, don't forget about your cooperative being a trusted partner not only for safe, reliable, affordable energy, but for information as well.