

MARCH 2023

*Making life better, the cooperative way®*

## We're ready for spring weather. Are you?

Spring officially begins March 20 and with it comes weather that can be unpredictable. Consequently, it is always best to be prepared.

Prepare for storms, floods and

tornadoes as if you know in advance they are coming, because in the spring, there is always the possibility. Thunderstorms cause most of the severe spring weather.

Planning for these storms requires specific safety precautions. You can follow many of the same steps for all extreme weather events. Often by the time we are aware of an approaching storm,

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When storms strike, crew chief Derek Bell and line technician Chris Johnson are ready to respond. Photo: Tim Webb.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**24-Hour Service:** (888) 546-4243  
**Automated payment:** (877) 934-9491  
**Report an outage:** (888) 655-4243  
**bgenergy.com**

## HEADQUARTERS

P.O. Box 990  
1201 Lexington Road  
**Nicholasville, KY 40340-0990**

## LOCAL OFFICES

327 Sea Biscuit Way  
**Cynthiana, KY 41031-0730**

1200 Versailles Road  
**Lawrenceburg, KY 40342-0150**

2099 Berea Road  
**Richmond, KY 40476-0276**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY BLUE GRASS ENERGY  
AS A SERVICE TO OUR MEMBERS.**

**Denise Myers**, Editor



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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

# Building better homes

They just don't build homes like they used to. In fact, they're even better these days.

Advancements in technology and innovations in home construction and design make it both attainable and affordable to build a new home that uses less energy and saves money. If new construction is in your plans, our Touchstone Energy Home program can help you design a house that provides superior comfort and durability while saving electricity.

A Touchstone Energy Home typically uses between 20-30% less energy compared to one built to typical Kentucky construction standards. It is estimated the energy savings efficiencies gained from building better is around 3,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity annually. That's around \$350 in savings per year.

So, what is it that makes a Touchstone Energy Home so energy efficient? The program's whole-house approach focuses the attention of new home builders and owners on all the little (and big) details of house construction that impact energy efficiency.

Our energy advisors will work with your builder throughout the construction process to ensure all program requirements are met. This includes insulation that exceeds current building code requirements and sound construction techniques that ensure an airtight building envelope. High-performance windows and an efficient electric heating and cooling system also contribute to the home's superior energy efficiency.

Blue Grass Energy members who build a home to meet the Touchstone Energy Home guidelines receive a free energy rating using the Home Energy Rating System (HERS Index). The value of this rating is approximately \$600.

Shaving energy costs in your new home requires planning from the ground up, so let us be one of the first calls you make when gearing up for a construction project. Visit our website at [bgenergy.com](http://bgenergy.com) to learn more about how you can build better with an energy-saving Touchstone Energy Home. Helping members manage their energy is just one of the many ways we are making life better, the cooperative way.

*By President/CEO  
Michael I. Williams*



## CONTINUED FROM 30A

we have little, if any, time to prepare. That's why it's recommended to keep an emergency kit on hand.

Prepare your family members for the possibility of severe weather. Tell them where to seek appropriate shelter as soon as they are aware of an approaching storm. Practice your emergency plan for every type of severe weather. Show family members where the emergency supplies are stored, and make sure they know how to turn off your home's main electricity, water and gas.

We know that when spring arrives, thunderstorms, tornadoes and floods are real possibilities. So take the time now to prepare your family and your home and be ready for when they happen.

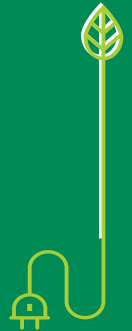
### Items to consider for your emergency kit:

- Flashlights (self-powered)
- Candles
- Glow sticks
- Matches
- Lighters
- First aid kit: bandages, gauze, tape, scissors, hydrogen peroxide, anti-septic ointment, pain relievers and prescription medications
- Batteries
- Radio (self-powered)
- Extra phone car chargers
- Water (a gallon per person per day)
- Coolers
- Extra water bottles that can be used as ice packs
- Ice
- Nonperishable food items
- Manual can opener
- Trash bags, paper plates, flatware
- Water purifier bottles
- Warm clothes
- Personal hygiene items: soap, toilet paper, plastic garbage bags, etc.
- Copies of important documents (proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies)
- Extra cash
- Emergency contact info
- Fire extinguisher
- Supplies for pets
- Camping stove
- Propane tank or charcoal

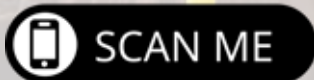
## Energy Efficiency

### Tip of the Month

Don't keep your refrigerator too cold. The Department of Energy recommends a temperature setting of 35 to 38 degrees for the fresh food compartment and zero degrees for the freezer. Make sure the refrigerator doors are sealed airtight to maximize efficiency.



## Scholarships available for high school seniors



Apply for one of the ten \$1,500 scholarships that will be awarded by random drawing on June 2.

Go to [bgenergy.com](https://bgenergy.com) for more information and to apply.

You are not required to be in attendance at any event in order to win a scholarship.



## Introducing our 2023 charity partner

# CASA—COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is a national association in the United States that supports and promotes court-appointed advocates for abused or neglected children.

CASA is a group of volunteers from the community who complete training that has been provided by the state or local CASA office. They then advocate through the family court system to ensure victims of child abuse and neglect are safe and thrive in a permanent home.

There are local CASA offices in different regions that serve our members within our service territory. We look forward to working with this valuable advocacy program to help make life better, the cooperative way, for the children in our communities.



Each year, Blue Grass Energy chooses a charity to work with 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 partnering with CASA.

## From Blue Grass Energy's Bylaws:

Members will elect one director from each of the following districts: District 2 and District 6. Directors serve a four-year term. The following, from Article IV, Section 5, of Blue Grass Energy's bylaws, outlines the nomination process.

Article IV, Section 5—Nominations. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to appoint, not less than fifty (50) days and not more than one hundred twenty (120) days before the date of a meeting the members at which a report of the election of directors is to be made a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) members who shall be selected so as to give equitable representation on the committee to the geographical areas served or to be served by the Cooperative. No officer or member of the Board of Directors shall be appointed a member of such committee. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least forty-five (45) days before the meeting, a list of nominations for Board of Directors.

One-half percent (1/2%) or more of

the total number of consumers shown on the Financial and Statistical Report of RUS Form 7 as of December 31 of the calendar year preceding the election may make other nominations in writing over their original dated signatures, signed within 120 days prior to the annual meeting, together with printed names, telephone numbers, and addresses by filing such nominations not more than ninety (90) days and not less than fifty (50) days prior to the meeting and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted, if, after examination of the Provost, it is determined by said Provost that said petitions meet the requirements of the Bylaws, Articles of Consolidation, and the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In no event shall a member sign more than one petition for the nomination of a director from a district. All nominating petitions shall be submitted on the form of "Nomination Petition" provided by the cooperative. All shall certify their qualifications by

signing a "Certification of Candidate for Director" and completing the "Application for Candidate for Director" form provided by cooperative and file same with the cooperative not less than 50 days before the date of the meeting of the members.

The date of the first working day not less than forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Meeting shall be established as the certificate date which determines whether a member is in good standing and qualified for the purpose of signing a nominating petition and/or voting. A member in good standing is any active member who is in compliance with the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the Cooperative, and Rules and Regulations of the Public Service Commission as of forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting. The Secretary shall deliver a list of members in good standing on the certification date to the Provost.

Any member, whose service is disconnected for any reason, will automatically become a nonvoting member until said member is reconnected and receiving electrical current.