

FEBRUARY 2022

Making life better, the cooperative way®

OUR 2022 CHARITY

Introducing Kentucky CancerLink

We are excited to announce our new charity for 2022. This year we will be working with Kentucky CancerLink in raising money and awareness for their purpose. Kentucky CancerLink is an organization devoted to reducing barriers to screening, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. Their goal is to make an impact on cancer

incidence and mortality in all of Kentucky while supporting those diagnosed with cancer.

Our fundraising efforts are employee led and conducted throughout the entire year.

To learn more about Kentucky CancerLink, visit kycancerlink.org.



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

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

Rachel Settles, Editor



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

This institution is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's a people program

Most of rural Kentucky did not have access to electricity in the 1930s. At the same time, a man named J.K. Smith began work laying the foundation in forming electric cooperatives in Kentucky. He was instrumental in obtaining funding for the co-op program, and he dedicated his career to making life better for Kentuckians through rural electrification.

In 2008, David Dick—a long-time CBS news correspondent and professor emeritus of journalism at the University of Kentucky—interviewed Smith for a book he was writing about Kentucky's electric cooperative program. When Dick asked him where he should start his book, Smith replied, "Start with people—it's a people program."

While there have been many changes over the last eight decades in the electric cooperative program, this statement remains the same today. Everything we do at Blue Grass Energy begins and ends with our people we serve. As it should, because our people own the cooperative.

This way of doing business is one of the many ways that makes us different from other utilities and businesses. Because we are owned by our members, we keep our focus on them, not a distant stockholder in another state or country. While we sell our power at cost, any realized profits are given back to the members in the form of capital credits. That means the money goes back in our members' pockets and stays in our local communities.

This member-first mindset, combined with our purpose of making life better, the cooperative way, drives every decision we make. As a proud partner of our communities we serve, we never act without asking ourselves, "Will this help our members?"

Other than paying a bill or calling to ask a question, we know members may not often think of us. However, you can rest assured, all of us at Blue Grass Energy think about you every day while we work for you. After all, the electric co-op program is a people program, and we appreciate each of you being members.

*By President/CEO
Michael I. Williams*



High school juniors

Don't miss this incredible opportunity!

For more than 50 years, electric cooperatives across Kentucky have recognized outstanding high schoolers by providing a leadership experience for rising seniors.

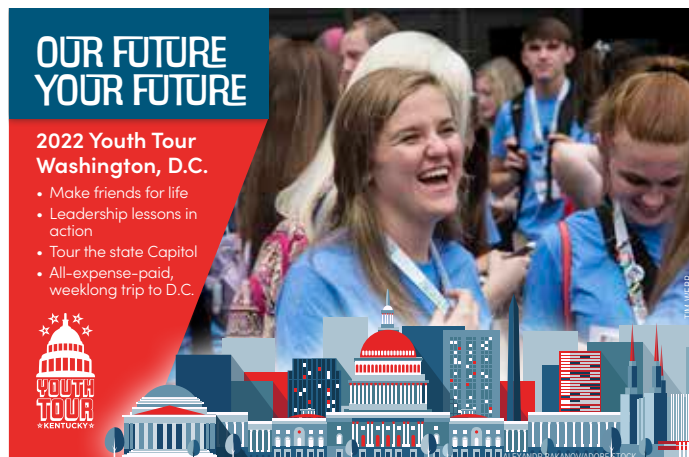
Blue Grass Energy offers high school juniors the opportunity to visit Washington, D.C., and learn about our country's history. The Washington Youth Tour (WYT) is a six-day event in June where high school juniors from across the country travel to Washington, D.C., to learn more about government, cooperatives and electrification.

During the Washington Youth Tour, delegates will get the opportunity to meet youth from across the country, interact with cooperative and government officials and visit historic landmarks.

The purpose of the tour is to provide outstanding young people with the opportunity to:

- Better understand the value of electricity
- Become more familiar with how government works
- Become more familiar with the historical and political background of the United States
- Prepare for their future

The application process is open to any high school junior, whose primary residence is in Blue Grass Energy's service territory. **Applications are due March 11, 2022.**



**HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS APPLY BY MARCH 11
LEARN MORE AND APPLY AT [BGENERGY.COM](https://bgenergy.com)**

Winners will also be invited to be a part of the Frankfort Youth Tour—the date is yet to be determined.

GUIDELINES FOR ENTRY

1. Eligible applicants are high school juniors living with a parent or guardian who is a Blue Grass Energy member.
2. All contestants are required to write a letter of 300 words or less addressing this question: How can Blue Grass Energy connect with the younger generation of members in new and innovative ways?
3. All contestants will have an interview and will take a brief quiz on cooperatives.

Program note: While every effort will be made to participate in the tour, the trip is subject to cancellation or postponement depending on COVID-19 concerns at the time of departure. Up-to-date information will be available on the WYT page, located under the Community tab at bgenergy.com.

Scholarships available for high school seniors



HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS, apply for one of the ten \$1,500 scholarships that will be awarded by random drawing at Blue Grass Energy's Annual Meeting on June 2.

Go to bgenergy.com for more information and to pre-register. Applicants, along with a parent/guardian, must be present to win.

Be prepared for storms

When winter temperatures drop and storms hit, it can be challenging to stay safe and warm. Because Blue Grass Energy cares about your safety, we want you to be prepared.

Heavy snow and ice can lead to downed power lines, leaving co-op members without power. During extremely low temperatures, this can be dangerous. During a power outage, our crews will continue to work as quickly and safely as possible to restore power, but there are a few things you can do to prepare yourself.

Plan ahead – With today's technologies, we usually have advanced warning of possible bad weather. Be sure to prepare in advance of the storm. If you are on oxygen or other life supporting equipment, have a plan in place. This may be battery backup when possible, it could also be going to a family member or friend's home that has generator backup. Find what works for you.

Stay warm – Plan to use a safe alternate heating source, such as a fireplace or wood-burning stove during a power outage. These are great options to keep you and your loved ones warm, but exercise caution when using, and never leave the heating source unattended. Remember that fuel- and

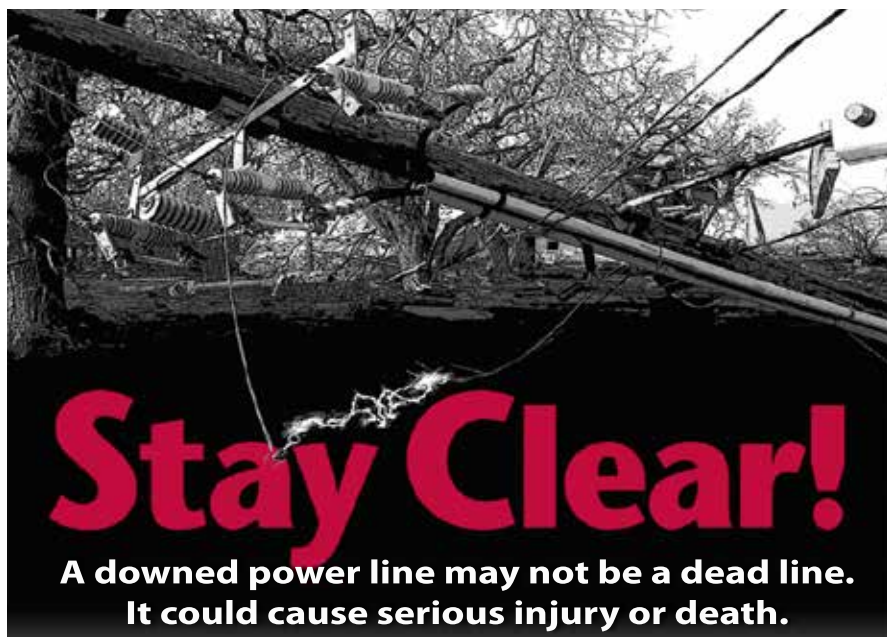
wood-burning sources of heat should always be properly ventilated. Always read the manufacturer's directions before using.

Food – Plan to have several days' supply of food that does not require cooking. Crackers, peanut butter, canned goods and bread are good options. Five gallons of water per person should also be available in the event of an extended power outage.

Stay safe – When an outage occurs, it could mean power lines are down. It is

best not to travel during winter storms, but if you must, bring a survival kit along, and do not travel alone. If you encounter downed lines, always assume they are live. Stay as far away from the downed lines as possible, and report the situation to our dispatchers by calling (888) 546-4243 or 911.

Weather can be unpredictable and dangerous, and planning ahead can make the difference. Blue Grass Energy is ready for what Mother Nature has in store, and we want you to be ready, too.



Don't miss the convenience of the Blue Grass Energy App

Download our app for fast and secure account information and to report outages.

This is another tool we offer to help make life better for our members.

WITH THE APP, YOU CAN:

- Make payments
- Manage alerts
- Set reminders
- Report an outage

