



OCTOBER 2022

*Making life better, the cooperative way®*

## October is National Cooperative Month

The nation's member-owned, not-for-profit electric co-ops constitute a unique sector of the electric utility industry. Distribution cooperatives form the foundation of

the rural electric network delivering electricity to more than 20 million American homes, businesses, farms and schools in 48 states.



Crew chief Derek Bell and Line Technician Chris Johnson. 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

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**Nicholasville, KY 40340-0990**

## LOCAL OFFICES

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

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**Lawrenceburg, KY 40342-0150**

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**Richmond, KY 40476-0276**

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AS A SERVICE TO OUR MEMBERS.**

**Rachel Settles**, Editor



This institution is an equal opportunity  
provider and employer.



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

# Celebrating what makes us different

October is National Cooperative Month, and Blue Grass Energy—along with many co-ops across the U.S.—is celebrating the benefits and values we bring to our members and communities.

While co-ops operate in many industries and sectors of the economy, seven cooperative principles set all of us apart from other businesses. The seven cooperative principles, when paired with our purpose of making life better, the cooperative way, guide our daily decision making.

You may wonder how Blue Grass Energy's business model reflects these principles. When you hear the phrase: "Blue Grass Energy is a member-owned cooperative," that means you are an actual owner of Blue Grass Energy if you receive your power from us.

We are a not-for-profit cooperative, which ensures we will continue to offer power to you at our cost. Should profits be earned, those are returned to you in the form of capital credits. We are not pressured by stockholders to earn large profits, and that allows us to keep rates as low and competitive as possible. In fact, over the last six years, we have returned about \$12.4 million to you, our members. Let me assure you, as the president and CEO of your cooperative, we are continuously examining ways to operate more efficiently while continuing to provide the highest level of service.

These seven cooperative principles along with our purpose guide our involvement in and support of our local communities. Concern for community is shown through our Pennies for Purpose program. Over the last three years, more than \$10,000 has been distributed within our communities to non-profits who are doing great work throughout our service area. We also have a yearly corporate charity that is chosen and supported by our employees. We have donated over \$118,600 since 2014 to organizations like Hospice, God's Pantry Food Bank, Harrison Co. Food Bank, Kentucky Children's Hospital, Parkinson's Foundation, American Cancer Society, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Kentucky Wounded Heroes and Kentucky CancerLink.

As we celebrate National Cooperative Month, we want to make sure you know of the benefits and values we offer our members and communities. These are just a few of the cooperative differences that make your membership with us valuable.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve you and your family.

*By President/CEO  
Michael I. Williams*



# Look up to bring down electric bills

## STOP CEILING AIR LEAKS TO KEEP YOUR HOME COMFORTABLE AND ENERGY EFFICIENT THIS WINTER

Cooler days and rustling leaves are sure signs that it's time to begin preparing your home for the winter ahead. Make sure this year's fall fix-ups include projects that can help lower your electric bills.

Where to start? Look up, suggests H.C. Kenney, residential energy advisor at Blue Grass Energy.

"On cold winter days, leaks in the ceiling of your home let heated air escape and cold air enter," says Kenney. "By repairing common ceiling leaks, up to one-third of a home's overall energy loss can be prevented."

He suggests scouting these common culprits for ceiling air leaks:

- **Recessed lights.** Older lights installed in rooms below an unheated attic can allow big air leaks. Consider replacing them with lights designated as I.C.A.T. (insulated cover, air tight) to prevent some heat loss.
- **Bathroom fans.** Use high-temperature caulk to seal gaps between fan and drywall.
- **Chimney.** A chimney that runs from the basement through the attic should be sealed at both the basement ceiling and attic floor.
- **Sewer vent pipes.** A sewer vent pipe that runs vertically from the basement through the attic should be sealed at both the basement ceiling and attic floor.
- **Pull-down doors.** Install latch bolts and weather-stripping to make attic access doors and stairs airtight. Add an insulated cover to the back of the pull-down door.

As home improvement projects go, sealing air leaks in your ceiling is relatively easy and inexpensive. Blue



QUALITY STOCK ARTS/ADOBE STOCK

Grass Energy members can access easy, step-by-step instructions for preventing ceiling leaks at [bgenergy.com](https://bgenergy.com). Look for "Simple Energy Tips" under the "Programs" drop-down menu. You can also use our virtual energy assessment tool at [bgenergy.com/home-energy-analysis](https://bgenergy.com/home-energy-analysis).

## Levelized Billing

### As Easy as 1-2-3!

*Even out your monthly electric payments.*



SCAN ME





**OUR 2022 CHARITY PARTNER**

**KENTUCKY CANCERLINK (KCL)**

Regular cancer screenings save lives; and that is why the mission of Kentucky CancerLink is to reduce barriers to screening, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. KCL wants to be a link to hope in Kentucky to make an impact on cancer incidence

and mortality. Their programs serve those 18 and older.

If you have a need, contact a Certified Patient Navigator. Call (859) 309-1700/ (877) 597-4655 or submit an online form at [kycancerlink.org](http://kycancerlink.org).



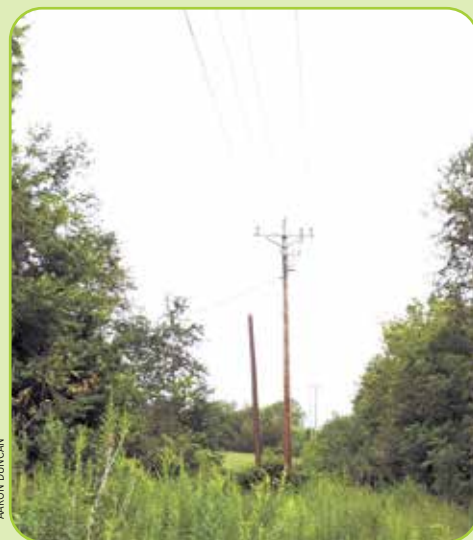
## Benefits of Tree Trimming

Clearing trees and overgrown vegetation is vital to providing safe, reliable and affordable power to our members.

Areas in our service territory are maintained in order to:

- Keep power lines clear of vegetation
- Keep crews and members of our community safe
- Restore power outages more quickly
- Reduce unexpected costs for repairs

Vegetation management improves service reliability and safety for you.



AARON DUNCAN

### Play it safe. That text can wait.



While driving, turn phone to silent mode or pull over if the text can't wait.

## TEXTING CAN WAIT

At Blue Grass Energy safety is foremost in everything we do—for our employees and the members of the communities we serve. We constantly remind our crews of the dangers of distracted driving, and we hope you'll have similar conversations—especially with your teens who may be new to the roadways and are especially susceptible to the lure of technology.

Let's work together to keep everyone safe on the roads. Remember: That text can wait and waiting just might save a life.