



BLUE GRASS LIVING

FEBRUARY 2023

Making life better, the cooperative way®

Healthy Savings available with Co-op Connections

As we begin 2023, don't forget that Blue Grass Energy's Co-op Connections program offers savings on lab and imaging services, chiropractic, dental, vision and hearing care.

Many insurance plans do not include provisions for these five health benefit areas, but you can save 10% to 60% on eyeglasses, contact lenses and eye exams. You can receive 20% to 40% discounts on a range of dental care services or get 30% off chiropractic treatments. There are also 35% discounts on hearing aid prices.

We call this package Healthy Savings. Through the Healthy Savings link at bgenergy.com/co-op-connections-savings, you can locate local providers that participate in the program and find detailed information about how to take maximum advantage of the discounts.

At the link listed above, you can also download the convenient mobile app for this program. If you don't have access to the internet, you can call (800) 800-7616 for assistance with the Healthy Savings benefits. The information you need is listed on the card printed below.

The Healthy Savings package is a benefit that will help you stretch your dollar. Online, you will find other local deals offered through this program. Co-op Connections: Another way we are making life better, the cooperative way.



Billie Smith saved \$1,758 on the cost of braces for her children, Liddie and Davis, through the Co-op Connections program available from Blue Grass Energy. Photo: Tim Webb



CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Ways to manage your energy

When temperatures drop, your energy usage usually starts to climb. Blue Grass Energy can help you manage your energy this winter. We have several programs to assist members with saving electricity—and money.

- **Deal with the ducts.** Improve the efficiency of your heating system dramatically by sealing leaky air ducts. By applying a substance called mastic to every duct seam, you'll plug the leaks. Or call us to see if you qualify for a rebate through our HVAC Duct Seal program.
- **Button-up your home.** Sealing the air leaks in your home can save up to 20% on heating costs. Visit bgenenergy.com for a free, online home energy analysis to identify air-loss problems and learn how to fix them.
- **Make the switch.** Are you heating with an inefficient, costly electric furnace, baseboard heat or ceiling cable heat? Homeowners who replace one of these units with a heat pump can receive a rebate of up to \$750.

Another way we can help is through the Community Assistance Resources for Energy Savings (CARES) program. As a locally based, not-for-profit cooperative, we know many people we serve are facing difficult circumstances that make it challenging to pay wintertime energy bills.

We work closely with community action agencies to connect qualified members with home heating and assistance programs. One such program is CARES, which provides up to \$2,000 for weatherization and energy efficiency of a member's home.

We provide an incentive to the Kentucky Community Action Agency (CAA) network for members who qualify for CARES. To find out more, find your local CAA at capky.org.

As we make our way through winter, give us a call if we can help you manage your energy. We are here if you need us.

*By President/CEO
Michael I. Williams*



Mid-winter: Perfect time for new habits

It's too late for New Year's resolutions and too early for spring cleaning, but mid-winter is the perfect time to break bad habits when it comes to using electricity around the house.

For example, are you still using the extension cords you unpacked when you decorated your house for the December holidays? If so, put them back in their boxes. Extension cords are designed for temporary use only. And if you're hiding them under rugs, they could be getting frayed and damaged, which is a fire hazard.

It's never the wrong time of year to seal leaks around windows, doors and penetrations in walls where wires and cables enter the house. Use caulk and weatherstripping, and engage your children in this energy-efficiency exercise. It will teach them how to conserve energy and use it wisely.

Finally, consider making energy-efficient home improvements



around the house before remodeling season emerges with spring weather and contractors are already

committed. Restore or replace any single-pane windows in your house and add insulation to the attic.



HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS: DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR YOUTH TOUR IS FEB. 15!



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS, apply for one of the 10 \$1,500 scholarships that will be awarded by random drawing at Blue Grass Energy's

Annual Meeting on June 1.

Apply at bgenergy.com.

Pennies for Purpose supports our communities

Recently, our Pennies for Purpose program invested \$6,700 back in to our communities by donating to five local organizations. Our purpose is making life better, the cooperative way, and each of these organizations reflect that in what they do for our members. The program is governed by an independent, volunteer committee of Blue Grass Energy members.

Those recipients were:

- **CASA of Lexington**—\$1,500 to screen, train and supervise Court-Appointed Special Advocates, or CASA volunteers, who will advocate for
- child victims of abuse and neglect through the family court system, serving as the voice in the courtroom for the child's best interest.
- **Hope's Healing Hands Food Pantry**—\$1,950 to provide food for the clients of Harrison County who have food insecurity.
- **Early Bird Foundation**—\$1,000 to support, encourage and empower past, present and expecting NICU families in Kentucky.
- **Paddling for Cancer Awareness**—\$1,250 to raising cancer awareness, encouraging screening, supporting those in
- treatment and local organizations that provide assistance to those diagnosed with cancer, undergoing treatment, and continued support after treatment.
- **Humane Society Animal League for Life**—\$1,000 to help homeless, injured or abandoned animals in need of care.

Members contribute to this program by electing to round up their electric bills to the nearest dollar. If you would like to support this program, visit the Pennies for Purpose section at bgenergy.com.



From left, Paddling for Cancer Awareness representatives Brenda Mahoney, Priscilla Elgersma, Blue Grass Energy President & CEO Mike Williams, Jim Thaxton, Pam Harper and Ted Wanstrath. Photo: Denise Myers

