

JACKSON ENERGY



WORKING FOR YOU



jacksonenergy.com

Always striving to serve you better

Providing reliable power to you is and will always be top priority for Jackson Energy. These days, power reliability seems to be making news now more than ever.

As the energy industry continues to transition and more segments of the economy are becoming electrified, such as vehicles, machinery and even lawn equipment, additional pressures are being placed on our nation's electric grid.

With summer storm season upon us, we thought it would be a good time to remind you about a few measures we have in place to ensure you continue receiving the reliable power you depend on and deserve.

While trees provide shade and add beauty to our area, you may be surprised to learn that overgrown vegetation accounts for about half of all power outages.

That's why we strive to keep the co-op's power lines clear in right-of-way (ROW) areas. A ROW area is the land a co-op uses to construct, maintain, replace or repair underground and overhead power lines. This ROW enables Jackson Energy to provide clearance from trees and other obstructions that could hinder distribution power lines. The overall goal of our vegetation management strategy is to provide reliable power to our members while maintaining the beauty of our area.

Generally speaking, healthy trees don't fall on power lines, and clear lines don't cause problems. Being proactive in clearing lines helps to improve power reliability.

However, traditional vegetation management is costly and time consuming. It entails on-the-ground, labor-intensive efforts involving dozens of workers assessing vegetation and overseeing the quality and completion of contractor work. Although this approach has worked for decades, advances and improvements in technology have allowed us to reduce our costs and improve efficiency.

Drones are able to capture images of power lines and vegetation so we can accurately monitor the health of trees and pinpoint problems along the lines. Drone data is incorporated into our routine maintenance and inspections.

Although it may seem counterintuitive, we also maintain power reliability through planned, controlled outages. By carefully cutting power to one part of our local area for a few hours, Jackson Energy can perform system repairs and upgrades, which ultimately improve electric service. Planned outages can also be used to balance energy demand, but only in rare circumstances.



MRECA STRAIGHT TALK

We notify our members in advance of a planned outage, so make sure we have your correct contact information on file to receive the latest emails or texts.

Vegetation management is an essential tool in ensuring power reliability and minimizing the risk of outages. As advancements become more accessible and costs drop, we anticipate using additional technologies to ensure a consistent energy supply while managing the environment.



Lisa Baker, Editor

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WORKING FOR YOU



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Power with purpose

Supporting hometown businesses and their local owners is not a new concept for electric cooperatives. It's been the standard here at Jackson Energy since our founding in 1938. This cooperative is your cooperative. We help power your home and our community, and we're committed to making it better each and every day.

We've always been in the business of not just providing you with safe, reliable power, but also a better way of life that goes beyond the electric lines. By working alongside our fellow Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, we're able to demonstrate our commitment through a variety of high-impact programs and initiatives. Because you're a part of our cooperative, you're also supporting a number of amazing initiatives that make our city, county and state a better place to live.

One of my favorite community projects is this month's Special Olympics Kentucky Summer Games. We've been sponsoring the games since 2015. It's an event that brings athletes, their families and an army of volunteers to Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond on June 2-4. If you've never seen the kind of pure joy that is Special Olympics Kentucky, I invite you to go or even get involved as a volunteer.

Local communities are also strengthened by our educational investments. Jackson Energy actively supports science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education for K-12 schools. We provide scholarships for students who enroll in lineman training programs to prepare for careers in high-demand electric utility industry jobs.

Lastly, we're working to bring good-paying jobs and investment to this area. Economic development projects are helping local communities revive and thrive. Since 2015, Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives projects have attracted more than \$11 billion in new business investment and 16,500 new jobs. That investment means we grow our local revenues so we can have a better quality of life, not just for the employees of those new businesses, but for everyone.

Many things about the electric industry have changed since the first power lines were strung across the hills and valleys of this area. But the purpose of your electric cooperative has remained consistent. Now and always, we are dedicated to elevating the quality of life for you.

By President & CEO
Carol Wright



Home Safety Awareness Month

June is Home Safety Awareness Month, and a good time to check for all kinds of accidents-waiting-to-happen in your home, especially ones that involve electricity.

Start with a self-audit of your home—something you should turn into an annual ritual. Check that all of your appliances are still in working order by turning them on and off, listening to the sound of the motors (are they normal?) and inspecting their cords and plugs for damage.

Some more quick tips:

- If you have young children at home, plug wall outlets with child-safety caps.
- Replace frayed or worn appliance cords. You can't fix those.
- Resolve to buy new appliances that have the thumbs-up from an independent testing laboratory like UL.
- Choose lightbulbs with the correct wattage for each lamp and overhead light fixture. You'll find the maximum safe wattage imprinted on the fixture.
- Get those electrical cords out from under your carpets. Covering cords can cause them to overheat and start a fire.
- Put your extension cords away. They're not meant for everyday use.
- Install waterproof covers on your outdoor outlets.

Have a safe Father's Day

Keep Father's Day happy by keeping dad safe, even as he tries out his new electric gifts.

Warn your dad that home repairs can be a dangerous undertaking when electricity gets involved, so he needs to use care with electrical equipment and steer clear of power lines.

A bit of common sense and caution while working outside this spring and summer can keep everyone safe.

Some tips:

- A ladder—even a wooden one—can cause a fatal shock if it touches a power line.
- Inspect power tools and cords for frayed or broken wires and cracked cases before plugging them in.
- Unplug outdoor tools and appliances when you're not using them. Store them out of reach of children.
- Wait for things to dry off before working outdoors after it rains. Even damp grass can be dangerous when using electricity.
- When carrying ladders, aluminum siding, poles and other long objects, look up. More than 20% of people who die in electricity-related home repair accidents have touched a power line with a ladder or building material.
- Keep your projects at least 20 feet away from power lines.

School Career Days



Jackson Energy Purchasing Agent Jim Ball, left, and Member Relations Coordinator Brent Jackson work with students to help plan for real life situations—such as paying their utility bills—at East Bernstadt Independent School's Career Day. Photo: Reghan Hedrick



Representing Jackson Energy at North Laurel Middle School's Career Day are Member Service Representative Ashley Hampton, left, and Engineering & Operations Administrative Assistant Brooke Bengé. Photo: Joey McKnight

Soak up summer savings

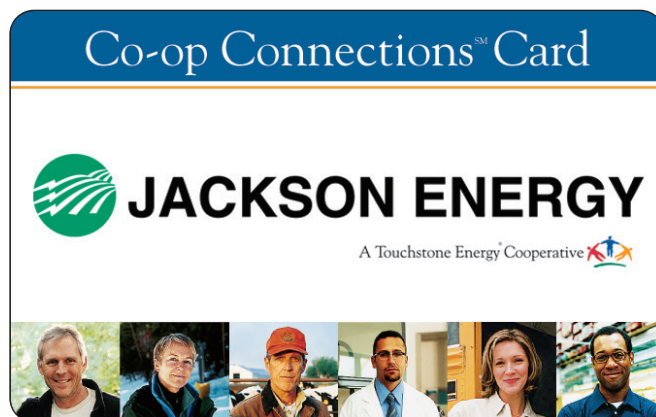
Summer is the perfect time for travel and fun. The Co-op Connections Program gives Jackson Energy members access to hundreds of discounts wherever you choose to play or stay.

Planning a big vacation this year? Use your Co-op Connections for savings on hotels, cruises, vacation rentals, airfare, tours and car rentals. You'll also find discounts on tour packages to destinations in Europe and the Caribbean.

Co-op Connections members also receive exclusive discounts at amusement parks like Kings Island, Walt Disney World and Six Flags. If you're driving to your vacation destination, be sure to note the roadside assistance offer available to Connections members.

For weekend fun, Jackson Energy members can buy discount tickets for Cincinnati Reds games or Kentucky Down Under Adventure Zoo or snag discount movie tickets to see the latest summer blockbuster.

In addition to fun and adventure, you can also save money on prescriptions and healthcare expenses such as vision and dental.



Put the power of Co-op Connections to work for you and save all summer. Get connected, and keep more money in your pocket. For easy access to discounts, download the Co-op Connections app from the App Store or Google Play. It's just another benefit of being a member of Jackson Energy. Find a full list of discounts at connections.coop.

OVERHEAD LINE SAFETY

WHEN IN DOUBT, LOOK UP AND OUT!

Follow these guidelines to prevent the most common mistakes made near power lines.

When working on an outdoor project, stay at least 20 feet away from overhead lines. If your ladder or piece of equipment touches an overhead line, both you and the equipment can become a path for the electricity. Look up and out in front of you before using a ladder, large machinery or long tools like pool cleaning nets. Even non-metallic ladders and equipment can conduct electricity. If power lines are present, always carry ladders and long poles horizontally.

Using large tools or machinery can make it harder to avoid overhead power lines. Always consider where power lines are before you begin a project. Scanning the area should be part of your plan from the start.

Special connection

Special Olympics is the world's largest program of sports training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics Kentucky began as a one-day event in Louisville in 1970 and now offers year-round activities in 15 sports. This year, Special Olympics Kentucky began offering robotics as a nontraditional competitive activity.

Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, including Jackson Energy, have provided financial sponsorship and volunteers to power Special Olympics Kentucky's State Summer Games since 2015.

The event is the largest of the organization's statewide competitions, with more than 1,300 athletes competing in five sports and hundreds of coaches



and volunteers taking part.

Because caring for community is a cornerstone of the cooperative business model, several employees of Jackson Energy will be among the hundreds of volunteers who work at the Summer Games this month in Richmond. We will be there cheering on these exceptional athletes as they compete in their special events and recognized for their hard work and achievements.