

JACKSON ENERGY



WORKING FOR YOU



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Power for the people

Co-ops represent the communities they serve

Fireworks, cookouts and main streets decorated with the Stars and Stripes—there's a lot to love about July.

Independence and representation are concepts that resonate deeply in American history, and they have a special importance for all of us at Jackson Energy, as well.

One of the battle cries of the American Revolution was “no taxation without representation.” The American colonists did not believe they were being fairly represented in Parliament—something they had the right to expect under English law.

Later, when the framers of the Constitution hammered out the details of the relationship between state and federal power, James Madison envisioned that the powers of the federal government would be “few and defined.” The powers of state governments would be “numerous and indefinite.” His reason? State governments would better understand the needs of their citizens, and the issues that affected their lives, liberty and property.

Like the colonists who rebelled against unfair taxes, Madison understood the importance of representation. For Madison, distant, disconnected politicians didn't have the advantage



TIM VIEB

of local knowledge. State governments have a closer view of what matters to their constituents.

In the energy world, the same concept applies. Energy decisions that work for one state might not work for another state. More to the point, distant, disconnected corporate and activist interests might not always be concerned with the issues that matter to our local communities.

Like all cooperatives, Jackson Energy is independent and autonomous. We are built on the principles of independence and representation that we celebrate each July. For example, during our

annual meeting on September 28, the entire membership of Jackson Energy is invited to hear cooperative updates, review our financial statements and participate in our business meeting. Unlike investor-owned utilities, which represent the interests of shareholders, Jackson Energy represents you, our members.

This July, we are grateful for the chance to celebrate our American heritage of independence, and we are honored to represent you through Jackson Energy—your independent energy advocate.

Lisa Baker, Editor

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MAIN OFFICE ADDRESS

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REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

OFFICES

KY HWY 290, McKee
KY HWY 229, London
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MEMBER SERVICES

Headquarters - (606) 364-1000
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Clover Bottom

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Independence is a co-op legacy

July provides another opportunity to gather with family, friends and neighbors to celebrate our nation's birthday. The United States of America will toast its 247th year of independence in 2023. As we celebrate the July Fourth holiday, I'm reminded of the independent spirit we honor daily at Jackson Energy.

There was an independent streak in the group of Jackson County residents who banded together to improve their quality of life by forming the co-op in 1938. These original cooperative members had little help in bringing power to their homes, but they pulled themselves up by their proverbial bootstraps to form a member-owned utility to deliver affordable electricity in rural areas. They may not have known it at the time, but they were creating a legacy and a new way of life for the people of our area for generations to come.

That independent spirit of our cooperative creators is an enduring legacy. The groundwork laid by that small group all those years ago, established a guiding principle that dictates how our co-op operates today.

The Fourth Cooperative Principle states that a cooperative is autonomous and independent. That means the co-op is controlled by you, the members it serves. Unlike investor-owned utilities, the co-op's purpose to reflect the values and needs of the people and communities it serves.

Jackson Energy is democratically controlled, meaning every owner-member has equal voting rights—one member, one vote. The co-op's nine board members, elected from among the membership, serve on your behalf to set policies and make decisions that govern the business.

This Fourth of July, as we recognize the hard-fought war that created the United States, please add a word of thanks for Jackson Energy's founders. When you escape from the July heat into an air-conditioned house or when you bake that all-American apple pie in an electric oven, remember the independent spirit that made—and makes—it possible.

Happy Independence Day to one and all!

By President & CEO
Carol Wright



Commitment to community



Jackson Energy's Estill County Director Teresa Dawes, right, presents Sydni Childers, representing the Estill County Center for Pregnancy and Parenting, with a \$400 Operation RoundUp check. Photo: Brent Jackson



Jessica Blankenship, left, with the Mount Vernon-Rockcastle County Tourism Commission, accepts a \$500 Operation RoundUp check from Rockcastle County Director Phil Thompson. Photo: Brent Jackson



Owsley County Director Tim Bobrowski, right, presents a \$600 Operation RoundUp check to Brandon Moore—along with Candace and Karson Moore—on behalf of Owsley County Search and Rescue. Photo: Brent Jackson

Business of the Year honors



The Rockcastle County Chamber of Commerce awarded Jackson Energy the Business of the Year honors at the 61st Farmer & Business Banquet. Jackson Energy was recognized for its contributions back to the community, such as Operation RoundUp grants to a variety of Rockcastle County organizations, scholarships to local high school students and Beautify the Bluegrass projects—to name just a few.

Attending the banquet on behalf of Jackson Energy were, from left, London District Operations Supervisor Randell Morgan, Member Relations Coordinator Brent Jackson, Service Technician Royce Baker and President & CEO Carol Wright. Chamber President Steve McKinney presented the award.

Keep fireworks away from power lines

Whether you're in charge of a fireworks display for your community or you're just having fun with your kids and some sparklers, put safety above all else this Fourth of July.

First, steer clear of power lines. A fireworks display, no matter how grand or how modest, should take place only in open areas where there are no power lines at all. Fireworks that contact power lines can start a fire, injure spectators and leave nearby homes without electricity.

But the kind of fireworks that you shoot into the sky aren't the only ones that can start fires. Even sparklers burn hot enough to start a fire; in fact, they can burn up to nearly 2,000 degrees.

Officials advise parents not to give sparklers to their children, and to keep the kids far away from the site of a fireworks display. Never let them help set up a fireworks show or light the fireworks.

Beat the heat

July in Kentucky can be a month of sweltering heat and humidity, making life uncomfortable both indoors and out. Summer's high temperatures can also have a significant impact on your monthly electric bill.

Nothing has a greater effect on energy use than the weather. In fact, the two largest uses of residential energy in Kentucky are heating, followed closely by cooling.

The U.S. Department of Energy says for optimum comfort and savings, thermostats should be set to 78 degrees in the summer months. But that doesn't tell the whole story. Setting your thermostat at 78 may be too high for comfort. But you can find a thermostat setting and a level of savings that both keeps you comfortable and saves money.

For every degree you raise your thermostat in the summer, you save about 3%. By moving your thermostat just five degrees, you could save 15% off your cooling bill.

Indoor humidity can also affect comfort, and in the summer, the lower the humidity, the better. Indoor comfort in the summer is as much a factor of the relative humidity as it is temperature. People are most comfortable between 45-50%, with 45 better than 50. Part of the air conditioner's job is not only to cool, but to remove moisture from the air inside your home. Keep an eye on the humidity in your home and if you notice it's high, consider having an HVAC professional check it out.



GIULIO BENZIN SHUTTERSTOCK

Here are some simple things you can do to save money while beating the heat.

- **Window coverings:** Close blinds and curtains during the day to deflect unwanted heat generated by sunshine.
- **Thermostat:** Don't cool an empty house. Increase your thermostat setting when you're leaving home for several hours.
- **Ceiling fan:** A fan uses far less electricity than an air conditioner. Running a fan in conjunction with air conditioning lets you raise your thermostat a few degrees and remain comfortable.
- **Stove:** Reduce indoor heat by cooking some meals on an outdoor grill.
- **Laundry room:** Wash clothes in cold water and hang them outside to dry.

For more energy-saving ideas, visit togetherwesaveky.com.

Keep utility poles clear

Yard sale signs, no trespassing signs, basketball hoops, satellite dishes—even member-owned lights—all pose a dangerous risk to utility workers. Not only is it dangerous—but it is also life threatening.

These items, along with the nails, staples and tacks used to hang them, can cause snags and tears in the utility workers' safety boots and rubber protective gear, which is the first line of protection from electrical shock in the event of an accident. They can also injure workers despite the safety gear they wear to avoid contact with rough edges.

In addition, anyone posting items on utility poles is also at risk of exposure to thousands of volts of electricity pulsing overhead. For your safety, always stay at least 20 feet away from utility poles.

Utility workers' jobs are dangerous enough—please do your part to help them stay safe by not attaching anything on utility poles.

Due to safety concerns, Jackson Energy has the responsibility and the right to remove any item from our utility poles and Jackson Energy is not held liable for any damages that may be caused to such item.



SEANADOBE STOCK