

# Spotlight

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## Conserve electricity while busy at home

**W**ith the kids studying at home and parents teleworking over the past couple of months, you may have seen an increase in your energy bills.

Like any period of higher-than-usual indoor activity—like around the holidays, and certainly during a period of sheltering at home—it's normal for electricity use to increase.

And if students wind up making up lost time with stay-at-home summer school, your family might continue to increase its use of computers, lights, TVs, game consoles and other electrical devices that can run up electricity use.

The antidote: Follow smart conservation practices to keep energy use in check.

As the weather warms up, delay turning on the air conditioning as long as your home is comfortable with open windows and running ceiling fans.

When you do switch on the A/C, keep it at the highest comfortable temperature. For every degree higher you set the thermostat, you can cut your energy use by up to 4%.

Insist that everyone turn off the overhead lights when leaving a room; power down the TV when nobody's watching; disconnect the computer and printer at the end of the day; and switch off exhaust fans once the steam



clears from the bathroom after a shower.

Unplug cell phone chargers once the phones are charged. Whenever you leave a charger or another unused device plugged into the wall, it continues to draw some electricity, even if there's no longer a phone attached to it.

Clean the A/C filter every month. With more-than-usual activity in the house, filters can clog sooner. A clean filter lets

air flow easily, placing less of a burden on the air conditioning system as it keeps everyone comfortable indoors.

Hold off on running the clothes dryer and dishwasher until after dark. With so many people staying home during the day, we're all using more electricity at the same time.

When we work together to spread our energy use, we can place less of a burden on the overall electrical system.

## SPOTLIGHT

Lisa Baker, Editor  
Published by Jackson Energy

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Jackson Energy

*Working for You*

# We're here for you

Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, a common theme is that "we're all in this together."

It's a familiar theme throughout the entire history of Jackson Energy, which was built by, belongs to and is led by people in the communities we serve. It is this community commitment that drives everything we do, including some operations which, on the surface, might not seem related to the challenges of the pandemic.

### Trimming trees and COVID-19

For instance, what does Jackson Energy clearing trees from a line on your property have to do with the coronavirus? Or, what does a diverse and resilient energy source mix of coal, natural gas, hydro-electric and other renewables have to do with the ability of our communities to respond to this health crisis?

Here's how. Can you imagine trying to cope with the many challenges of the pandemic without electric service? Think about hospitals and grocery stores, farming operations and television updates all powered by electricity. Think about the local students in our community trying to take their classes remotely from the safety of their homes. Knowing that our members rely on us for electricity, an essential necessity, we work hard every day to make sure that our service is reliable.

That's what we're thinking about when we clear trees from our lines. Trees are one of the leading causes of electrical power outages. Clearing trees is a key part of providing safe and reliable electric service.

The reliability of the electric grid that powers local homes and

businesses is rooted in stewardship and careful planning.

That's what we are thinking about when we train and educate our employees and directors, so that we are prepared to overcome any challenges that come our way.

### Commitment to reliability

Our commitment to reliability is why Jackson Energy implemented a series of safety measures as the realities of the COVID-19 outbreak became clear. Social distancing not only protects the safety of our members, but of our workforce, which is essential for the reliability of our service.

As we mourn the deaths of the virus victims and pray for the full recovery of those who have been diagnosed, Jackson Energy is also sensitive to the economic fallout suffered by our communities. We encourage anyone having difficulty paying for their electric service to contact us at (800) 262-7480 or [www.jacksonenergy.com](http://www.jacksonenergy.com). By paying at least a portion of your bill, as you are able, it helps avoid a large multi-month balance when the emergency declaration is lifted.

As a not-for-profit cooperative, Jackson Energy relies on the equitable financial participation of all our members to keep energy costs as low as possible and your electric service safe and reliable. We are, indeed, all in this together.



Carol Wright  
President & CEO

## Sharing a “special” connection



TIM WEBB

**J**ackson Energy and all members of Kentucky’s Touchstone Energy Cooperatives are proud sponsors of the Special Olympics Kentucky State Summer Games. Sadly, this year’s games, like so many events, had to be canceled. Our commitment to the athletes and the organization continues, however.

We are proud to have our name associated with this organization that shares our mission of being “special” in all that we undertake. In several ways, Jackson Energy and Special Olympics have commonality that goes well beyond the Summer Games. Here are a few:

**We empower Kentuckians.** By providing access to reliable, safe electricity, Jackson Energy is the source of conveniences and benefits that help those in our service area enjoy a better quality of life. Likewise, Special

Olympics empowers Kentuckians with intellectual disabilities to live well through the physical fitness, self-confidence and life skills they gain from sports training, competition and year-round programs like Special Olympics’ Healthy Athletes Initiative. The program promotes healthy lifestyles through education, testing and assistance with dentistry, optometry, audiology and physical therapy.

**We embrace volunteerism.** Caring for community is a cornerstone of the cooperative business model. Jackson Energy employees demonstrate caring by giving their time to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Bluegrass, Beautify the Bluegrass projects, local Kiwanis and Rotary clubs—in addition, our employees collect and distribute food baskets and toys to local families within

our service territory during the holidays.

Special Olympics depends on the dedication of commonwealth residents who volunteer their time to serve Kentucky’s children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Some Jackson Energy employees—often along with their families—are among more than 8,000 Kentucky volunteers who work at the Summer Games.

**We’re investing in tomorrow.** Your cooperative supports science, technology, engineering and math educational programming in our local schools to help prepare the next generation to lead our communities.

This year’s Summer Games may be canceled, but our special connection with this organization goes on. Together, we’re empowering Kentuckians for a better tomorrow.



# WATER RECREATION SAFETY

## Pools and lakes and electrical safety

### POOL SAFETY:

- Use battery-operated appliances or waterproof covers for electrical appliances so you can avoid the risk of electrical shock.
- If someone in the pool feels electricity, don't dive in. Use a non-metal shepherd's hook to pull him or her out of the water.

### RIVER/LAKE SAFETY:

- Avoid swimming or getting in the water near boats plugged into shore power or docks with electrical services.
- Fishing on a dock or boat? Keep a distance of at least 10 feet between your pole or boat and nearby power lines.
- If someone in the water is shocked, turn off the power source and use an insulated device to attempt to remove him or her from the water.



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## Annual business meeting postponed

Jackson Energy plans to host its annual business meeting and member appreciation events later in the year.

Watch social media, our website at [www.jacksonenergy.com](http://www.jacksonenergy.com) and *Kentucky Living* for more information once plans have been finalized.

