

# JACKSON ENERGY



WORKING FOR YOU



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## Proud to be an American

*Celebrating true greatness*

It's almost Independence Day, and across the state, folks are planning cookouts, fireworks and family get-togethers. Behind the scenes, there's even more planning than usual—because the countdown has begun for July 4, 2026. Next year will mark the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

The next 12 months are full of opportunities to explore and celebrate American history, our founding ideals and the sacrifices that have made our nation great.

That's why, in this issue of *Kentucky Living*, we want to invite you to share on a very special topic: **what makes you proud to be an American?**

It might be a story, a memory or a photo: but whatever it is, we want to hear from you. *Kentucky Living* will collect and review your responses, and next July, many of them will be shared online at [KentuckyLiving.com](http://KentuckyLiving.com), and some will be printed in the magazine. Learn more about this special opportunity at [KentuckyLiving.com/250](http://KentuckyLiving.com/250).

In a nation of 340 million people—and a state of 4.5 million—each of us will answer that question a little differently. But it's no coincidence that many of the same things that make us proud to be



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Americans are also things we love about our co-op family.

Here at Jackson Energy, every voice matters. In the communities we call home, we look out for our neighbors. When tragedy or disaster strike, we learn once again just how much we rely on each other—and we celebrate sacrifices for the common good.

It's not hard to find examples of service and self-sacrifice in our communities. We see it in our first responders, who put themselves in harm's way, and in our teachers, who invest so much in the next generation. We see it in our lineworkers, who brave challenging

conditions to maintain and restore power. And we see it daily in you, our members, through countless acts of kindness and generosity. The examples could go on and on.

What is greatness, after all? It's not prestige, wealth or power. True greatness is found in serving others.

We are grateful for the chance to celebrate our American heritage of independence, and we are proud to serve our members in our co-op community.

Be sure to share and submit what makes you proud to be an American. We are excited for the wonderful stories, photos and memories coming next year.

**Lisa Baker, Editor**

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## Recent review of EPA rules signals reliability wins

**E**lectric cooperatives are applauding a recent series of actions announced by the Environmental Protection Agency. These actions would alleviate reliability and cost challenges for electric co-ops across the U.S.

The EPA said it will review and reconsider the Biden administration's power plant greenhouse gas rule. The agency also plans to reconsider other rules hindering America's energy dominance, including the mercury and air rule, ozone transport rule and power plant wastewater rule. The agency will also address a number of fundamental problems with the coal ash program and take other actions to unleash American energy while protecting the environment.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association that represents electric cooperatives in D.C., flagged concerns with these rules in a letter to EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin in January. NRECA CEO Jim Matheson met with Zeldin at EPA's headquarters to discuss these issues. The letter served as a policy roadmap recommending ways the EPA could address harmful regulations for electric co-ops while ensuring reliable and affordable power and promoting a healthy environment.

The recent EPA announcements are another critical step that puts our nation on a path toward a more reliable and resilient electric grid—and not a moment too soon. The demand for electricity is skyrocketing, yet unrealistic public policy decisions are forcing always-available generation resources to retire faster than they can be reliably replaced.

Electric cooperatives appreciate the EPA's recent actions that could bolster American energy dominance with sound policies that protect our environment—without leaving American families in the dark.

By President & CEO  
Carol Wright



# Your meter doesn't go on vacation just because you do

Packing your bags for a well-earned vacation? Don't forget that your home will continue to use electricity while you're away. You can limit that use by taking some simple steps to avoid wasting electricity and energy dollars while you're gone.

## Adjust the thermostat

If no one (including your pets) is staying home, raise the temperature by 8 to 10 degrees from your normal setting. Aim for 80 to 85 degrees to reduce humidity (which can damage belongings) and promote energy conservation. Most smart thermostats have a "vacation mode" that will override your normal daily schedule.

## Unplug

Unplug as many appliances as you can, from clothes washers to chargers to televisions. Any device with a power light consumes energy even when not in use. You can also plug these devices

into a smart power strip that automatically cuts power to them when not in use.

## Limit lighting

Rather than leaving lights burning 24/7 for security, use timers or programmable smart light bulbs to turn on a few lights at various times in the evening.

## Prep the fridge

Ensure the refrigerator compartment is set between 36-40 degrees and is two-thirds to three-quarters full. If you've emptied the fridge because you'll be away, fill it with jugs or bottles of water. Cold items help to keep the temperature down inside the refrigerator, so you use less energy.

## Adjust water heater temperature

Even when you're away, your water

heater will continue to heat water unnecessarily. Turn the heater's temperature down or put it in "vacation mode," if you'll be away for several days.

These simple steps take just a few minutes but can result in meaningful energy savings. You can enjoy your trip, knowing you're saving energy and money. For more energy-saving tips, visit [togetherwesaveky.com](http://togetherwesaveky.com).



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## THE IMPORTANCE OF RELIABILITY

Electric cooperatives are advocating for smart energy policies that prioritize reliability and affordability for all.



DWIGHT ROBINSON

# Who owns what?

## Understanding electric equipment responsibilities

As July rolls in with longer days and rising temperatures, it also brings the increased potential for severe weather. Summer storms can arrive quickly and hit hard, sometimes causing significant damage to essential electric equipment throughout our community.

Jackson Energy is always prepared to respond swiftly to outages and restore power safely, but it is also important for homeowners to understand which parts of the electric system are their responsibility and which are maintained by us at the co-op. Understanding these key differences can help speed up repairs and ensure everyone stays safe when the weather turns rough.

Jackson Energy is responsible for maintaining and repairing the equipment and lines that run to your home, including utility poles, distribution power lines, electric meters and padmounted transformers.

Jackson Energy members are responsible for the equipment located between the electric meter and your home or business, including any underground service lines that lead into the structure and the service panel. Members are also responsible for the weatherhead and service mast located outside the home.

If any equipment that you (the homeowner) are responsible for is damaged, please call a licensed electrician to conduct the repairs. A professional has the experience and know-how to assess and manage these types of repairs.

When severe weather damages electrical equipment, it's important to note that any necessary repairs to the homeowner's equipment must be conducted before Jackson Energy crews can restore power to your home or business. By understanding the equipment you are responsible for, the repair and restoration process will be smoother and faster.

Our community takes great pride in the beautiful trees and landscaping that contribute to the natural beauty where we live. However, regular clearing is essential to ensure reliable electric service and minimize damage from severe weather. Jackson Energy regularly clears trees throughout our service territory to improve service reliability. If you spot a tree limb that is obstructing a distribution power line outside your home, please call Jackson Energy so we can clear those limbs and maintain those lines.

Any overgrown limbs or vegetation around the service line is the homeowner's responsibility. In these cases, please call a professional tree trimming service to assist.

By working together to understand the essential equipment that powers daily life, we can all be better prepared to start the repair and restoration process if severe weather impacts our community.

If you have any questions about your electrical equipment, we're here to help. Please contact Jackson Energy at (800) 262-7480.

## Who Owns What?

### Electric Co-op Owned Equipment vs Member-Owned Equipment

This graphic depicts equipment owned by the co-op (in gold) and the member (in blue). If a storm damages any equipment owned by the co-op, we are responsible for repairs. If a storm damages any member-owned equipment, the member is responsible for repairs. Members should hire a licensed electrician when making any repairs to member-owned equipment.

