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## Respect the power of electricity

One of the greatest things that powers our lives every day is electricity.

It is a powerful force that we see in nature like when lightning flashes across the sky. Through modern technology, our cooperative is able to harness the power of electricity and bring electric power to homes and businesses all across our local communities.

But electricity must also be respected. Why? Without the proper precautions, electricity can cause serious injuries, even death.

Here at Jackson Energy, we work with electricity every day. No matter how familiar we are with electricity, we know that it's a force that must always be used with care and that is why safety for our employees and members is our top priority.

Electricity always seeks a path to the ground, and because humans are made up mostly of water filled with all types of minerals, we conduct electricity. All we have to do is make contact and



Jackson Energy 1st Class Line Technician Logan Estridge works to install a transformer for underground power lines in a new subdivision. Photo: Lisa Baker

devastating, or potentially lethal, injuries are instant.

It's important be safe with electricity whether you are inside or outside of the home.

If you are climbing trees or on a ladder, make sure that a limb is not touching a wire. Always look up and watch out for overhead lines, staying a minimum of 10 feet away.

You may see a green box—such as pictured above—in your neighborhood. That's a transformer for

underground power lines. Please don't sit on it, and never dig near it, even to plant a bush or a tree.

Remember to be safe around electricity when using all the appliances and tools in your home. When you use tools: look for frayed, damaged cords and prongs.

Remember, that Jackson Energy cares about your safety. We want you to go home to your families safely each and every day.

## SPOTLIGHT

Lisa Baker, Editor

Published by Jackson Energy

A Touchstone Energy<sup>™</sup> Cooperative 

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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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### CONSUMER SERVICES

Headquarters - 606-364-1000  
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Clover Bottom

Jackson Energy

*Working for You*

## Looking back and moving forward

**A**s I reflect on what May Electrical Safety Month means, I think about the terrible weather we've experienced this year. It underscores why it's so important for all of us to prepare to keep our families and friends safe in the future.

I also want to thank the members for their patience during the February ice storm, and to salute our lineworkers and field employees who worked 16-plus hour days and nights to restore power.

All the employees of Jackson Energy appreciate the members who brought food and coffee to the crews, and took care of their neighbors. You showed the true cooperative spirit by being your brother's keeper, and that is what our safety program is all about.

Despite the many punches Mother Nature threw day after day, week after week—beginning with sleet, snow and ice, and followed by record flooding—the co-op family kept fighting. The ice added tremendous weight to Jackson Energy's lines, breaking poles and making it extremely difficult to restore power. Our crews spent days rebuilding entire line sections and replacing hundreds of broken poles.

New challenges seemed to emerge every morning, but the lineworkers never quit. Crews from outside our local area spent many nights away from their own families to help. The kindness shown by our members and communities was overwhelming and greatly appreciated.

Even though the threat of winter storms has passed, spring and

summer may bring more severe weather events. So now is a good time to think ahead and prepare for possible power interruptions. We can all do that by:

- Having an emergency kit, non-perishable food and extra water in our homes.



DWAYNE WILSON

- Purchasing a backup generator and installing it correctly and safely.
  - Developing a plan for family members who depend on medical devices that require electricity.
  - Elevating your furnace, electrical panel and other appliances if your home has a high flood risk.
- Safety is Jackson Energy's number one priority. Let's all renew our commitment to stay safe.



Carol Wright  
President & CEO

## No posting zone



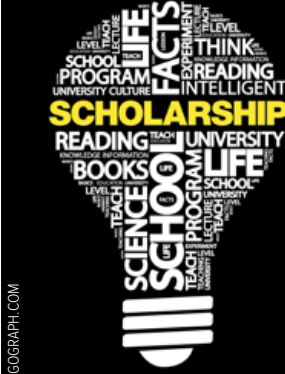
LISA BAKER

Yard sale signs, no trespassing signs, basketball hoops, satellite dishes and even birdhouses 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. It 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 10 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.



**\$2,000  
Scholarship  
Essay Contest  
Winners  
Announced**

**JOHN LUCAS HUBBARD**  
*Clay County High School*

**JENNA STONE**  
*Estill County High School*

**SARAH MARKS**  
*Jackson County High School*

**CALEB SLONE**  
*Lee County High School*

**NATHAN SANDERS**  
*North Laurel High School*

**GABRIELLE BOWMAN**  
*Owsley County High School*

**JACOB COOK**  
*Rockcastle County High School*

**ELI SINGLETON**  
*South Laurel High School*

**LACIE DEGOUGH**  
*At-Large—Laurel County*



JD-PHOTO/DESIGN/ADOBE STOCK

**In honor of Memorial Day  
Jackson Energy will be closed  
Monday, May 31.**

Let us take a moment to show our appreciation to our veterans—*not just this day, but every day.*

# BUYING A NEW HOME?

**Make sure its  
electrical system is up  
to snuff**

.....  
Have a licensed electrical inspector thoroughly check out any home you're buying, especially if it's older.

## **DURING AN INSPECTION, THE ELECTRICAL PROFESSIONAL WILL:**

- Identify any fire or safety hazards, including frayed, exposed or damaged wires as well as inside and outside receptacles not protected with arc or ground fault circuit interrupters, and tamper-resistant outlet electrical receptacles.
- Make sure all the electrical components are working safely.
- Identify any problem areas/wiring mistakes.
- Help meet insurance risk assessment inspection requirements.



CS MEDIA/ADOBE STOCK

## **LINEMAN TRAINING CENTER** **Scholarship Deadline** **May 21, 2021**



Jackson Energy Cooperative is proud to offer one-full scholarship for the Lineman Training Center at Somerset Community College

Scholarship presented by:



**To be considered for this scholarship:  
APPLY ONLINE,  
or RETURN application to our office,  
or MAIL application postmarked  
no later than May 21, 2021**

The scholarship amount will not exceed \$4,200.

1. Applicants must be at least a senior in high school.
2. Applicants shall enroll in the Somerset Lineman Training Center and begin the program by October 2021. The applicant chosen for the scholarship shall also acquire their CDL permit before beginning the program.
3. Applicants, their parents or legal guardians must be a Jackson Energy member and their primary residence or business served by the cooperative.
4. Students who apply for the scholarship will be required to interview with a Selection Committee consisting of Jackson Energy personnel.
5. Scholarships will be paid directly to Somerset Community College Lineman Training Center.
6. Applicants must not be a member of the immediate family of an employee or director of Jackson Energy Cooperative. Immediate family is defined as a spouse or a child of an employee or director.
7. Applicants shall not be previous winners of the Jackson Energy Scholarship Essay Contest.
8. Entries must be legible. Any entry that is not legible will be disqualified.

Complete application and return to Attn: Lineman Scholarship Program  
Jackson Energy Cooperative  
115 Jackson Energy Lane, McKee, KY 40447  
OR apply online at  
[www.jacksonenergy.com/scholarship-programs](http://www.jacksonenergy.com/scholarship-programs).