# INTER-COUNTY ENERGY

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**MAY 2025** 

### **Cooperatives support Special Olympics Summer Games for 13th year**

ore than 1,200 athletes and hundreds of coaches and family members will gather June 6-7 at Eastern Kentucky University for the Special Olympics Kentucky State Summer Games.

Our co-op and other Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives are proud sponsors of the games. The Summer Games include track and field, soccer, bocce and rhythmic gymnastics.

Cooperatives provide more than 100 volunteers every year to help events go smoothly. Once again, our co-op will have hot air balloon rides, courtesy of Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives during the morning.

"We are proud to help make the Special Olympics State Summer Games possible and to make it an unforgettable day for the athletes," says Dan Hitchcock, vice president of member services and communications. "We are inspired by their courage and compassion, and we are proud to support them and the communities we serve."





This is the 13th year of the partnership between Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives and Special Olympics Kentucky.

The State Summer Games are the Kentucky Special Olympics' largest competition of the year. This will be the 31st year of competition at Eastern Kentucky University. Each athlete qualifies through participation at a regional or area-level event.



# **Advanced meter project update**

emaining focused on reliability and efficiency standards is our commitment to our members with this meter exchange project. The Kentucky Public Service Commission approved Inter-County Energy to change out and upgrade all electric

meters across the service area. We are contracting with Luthan Electric Meter Testing. Members do not need to be present during the installation of the new meter, but Luthan will require access to the cooperative meter. The meter exchange process will only take a few minutes, with a brief power interruption during the exchange. As our meter exchanges continue into late spring, work continues in Marion, LaRue, Nelson, Taylor and Washington counties. If you have any questions, contact our office at (859) 236-4561.



Inter-County Energy will be closed Monday, May 26, in honor of Memorial Day.

We honor our veterans and say thank you for your service.

Please use our mobile app or contact our 24-hour outage line in case of an emergency or outage at (888) 266-7322.

# **FLAGPOLE SAFETY**

Memorial Day, the last Monday in May, honors those who have died in American wars. To mark this day, many people fly the American flag.

Being patriotic is important, but so is being safe when working with flagpoles. Whether you are installing a fiberglass or a metal flagpole, follow these tips to be safe:

- 1. Call 811 before digging to install a flagpole.
- 2. Be overly cautious when working around power lines. Maintain at least a 15-foot clearance around power lines and any nearby trees. Consider both the flagpole and the flag for the 15-foot clearance.
- 3. If a pole comes in contact with a power line, serious injury or death can occur to anyone holding the pole or standing nearby.
- A typical residential flagpole, which is installed in the ground, is 20–25 feet tall. When using a 20-foot pole with a

recommended maximum flag size of 3x5 feet, the pole should be no closer than 45 feet to any overhead power lines. If you are using a 25-foot pole with a recommended maximum flag size of 4x6 feet, the pole should be no closer than 51 feet from any existing overhead power lines.

- 5. Any object touching an overhead power line could serve as a conduit for the electricity should it reach the ground, including humans.
- 6. Check local regulations and building codes before installing a flagpole.

# **UPGRADE** your space safely

## When planning home improvement projects, do you know when to DIY and when to hire a professional?

Home rewiring, breaker box replacement and adding a large number of electrical outlets should be left for the pros. Faulty electrical installations can lead to large expenses and even injuries or death.

If you're doing work yourself with power tools, be careful.

- Use ground fault circuit interrupters, or GFCIs, with power tools to protect against electrical shock. Use caution when cutting or drilling into walls where electrical wires or water pipes could be.
- Never use power tools without the proper guards or near live electrical wires or pipes.

Call 811 several days in advance if digging is part of the project so the underground utilities can be marked.

Contact your electric utility if your meter must be removed or relocated to accommodate renovations to your property.



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 🔨

#### **OUR MISSION**

Inter-County Energy accomplishes our daily mission by providing energy and services to our members through a culture of Safety, Accountability, Integrity, Innovation and Commitment to Community.

**PRESIDENT/CEO** Jerry Carter

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#### 24-HOUR EMERGENCY/OUTAGE REPORTING (888) 266-7322

For major outage updates and restoration efforts, listen to the following radio stations; WPBK 102.9, WHIR 105.1, WOKH 102.7, WDFB 88.1 or WLSK 100.9.

#### **OFFICES:**

DANVILLE/BOYLE COUNTY OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. (859) 236-4561

LEBANON/DISTRICT OFFICE OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 A.M. - 4 P.M. (270) 692-3761

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From the President/CEO

by Jerry Carter



## **Off and running**

### Inter-County Energy invests in education

his issue of *Kentucky Living* has an unmistakable racing theme, from Kim Perry's Derby Festival art to a feature on Derby-winning jockey Brian Hernandez. But as the flowers bloom and warm weather returns, another kind of race is shaping up as well. High school students across the commonwealth are graduating. Before you know it, they'll be off and running-to careers, to further education and beyond.

Education has always been a priority for Inter-County Energy. In fact, it's one of the seven cooperative principles that distinguish the cooperative model from other types of businesses. We are deeply invested in advancing education, training and information, not only for our employees, but also for our consumer-members and for the next generation. We do this in many ways.

At Inter-County Energy, we believe in investing in our community's future through supporting education programs. Each year, we send promising high school students on the Frankfort and Washington, D.C., youth tours, where they learn about government, leadership and the cooperative business model alongside peers from across the nation. These students return with expanded horizons and fresh perspectives on what's possible for their futures.

We're also proud to offer scholarship opportunities that help ease the financial burden of higher education and vocational training for families in our service area. These scholarships represent our commitment to fostering local talent and helping students achieve their dreams without the weight of excessive student debt. The



Kentucky Chapter of Women in Rural Electrification, or WIRE, also offers three \$1,000 scholarships to Kentucky college students each year. To learn more about this opportunity, visit kyelectric.coop and search "WIRE."

Beyond financial support, our team participates in career fairs at local schools, sharing insights about the career paths available within the electric cooperative network. From lineworkers to engineers, accountants to communicators, we showcase the breadth of opportunities available right here in Kentucky.

Our school-based demonstrations bring energy concepts to life in classrooms throughout our service territory. Whether it's teaching electrical safety or explaining how the grid works, these hands-on experiences spark curiosity and learning.

As we celebrate this season of achievement and new beginnings, I want to extend hearty congratulations to all graduating seniors in our community. Inter-County Energy is proud to play a small role in powering your educational journey, and we remain committed to supporting lifelong learning opportunities for all our members. Your race is just beginning– and we can't wait to see where you go.