

# INTER-COUNTY ENERGY

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DECEMBER 2025

*From the President/CEO*

## The gift that keeps on giving

*Electricity through the decades*

As I flipped through the *Kentucky Living* archive recently, I was struck by this thought: electricity really is the gift that keeps on giving.

It's hard to imagine now, but during the early history of Inter-County Energy, one of our challenges was educating people about why they should use electricity—helping them understand the many ways electricity could make their lives better.

That's why we spent so much time in early issues of this magazine talking about kitchen appliances that could save time and effort, household tools like vacuum cleaners and farm equipment like water pumps, barn lights and brooder lamps.

"Too many rural people still think of electricity as merely a luxury," the editors wrote in February 1950. "Electricity on the farm should be thought of and used as a never-tiring work hand; a servant that will make money for you."

Just 10 years later, 97% of American farms were electrified, and power was no longer seen as a luxury—it was a baseline resource for every home. Inter-County Energy had helped



SONYACHNIVA DOBE STOCK

transform our communities, and we were already looking ahead, planning for growth and ensuring reliability.

In 2025, we face a different challenge when it comes to communicating about electricity. We no longer have to convince anyone that it's important, because electricity supports nearly every aspect of our lives. Instead, we must remind ourselves not to take it for granted.

In January 1958, Women's Editor Mary Alice Willis wrote in this magazine that a "box-like oven that cooks with microwaves instead of heat is destined to begin a new era in cooking." Today, you might have not only a microwave in your kitchen, but also an electric coffee pot, refrigerator, dishwasher and toaster. You might have an electric range, slow

cooker or pressure cooker. In 1950, we wrote about the safety benefits of electric Christmas lights. This December, entire front yards will be illuminated for the holiday season.

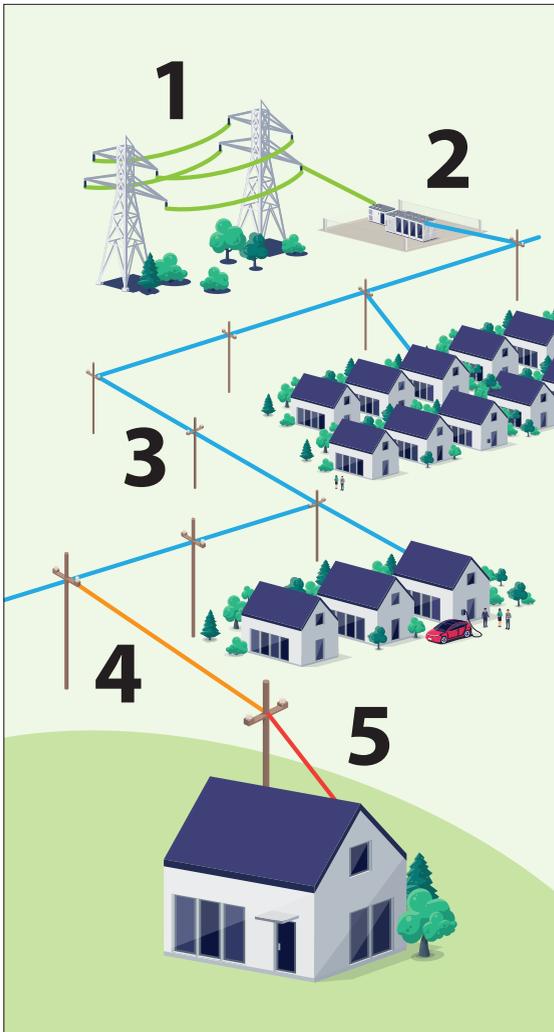
We've come a long way since the early days of electrification, and while the benefits of electricity are greater than ever, they're also easier to miss. This season, every Christmas light display will remind me of our blessings, and the pride we take in serving you. From all of us at Inter-County Energy, merry Christmas!

President/CEO  
Jerry Carter



INTER COUNTY ENERGY COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative



# Restoring Power

- 1 High-Voltage Transmission Lines**  
Transmission towers that supply power to substations (and thousands of members) rarely fail. But when damaged, these facilities must be repaired before other parts of the system can operate.
- 2 Distribution Substation**  
Each substation serves hundreds or thousands of members. When a major outage occurs, line crews inspect substations to determine if problems stem from transmission lines feeding into the substation, the substation itself or if problems exist down the line.
- 3 Main Distribution Lines**  
If the problem cannot be isolated at a substation, distribution lines are checked. These lines carry power to large groups of members in communities or housing developments.
- 4 Tap Lines**  
If local outages persist, tap lines are inspected. These lines deliver power to transformers, either mounted on poles or placed on pads for underground service, outside businesses, schools and homes.
- 5 Individual Homes**  
If your home remains without power, the service line between a transformer and your residence may need to be repaired. Always call to report an outage to help line crews isolate local issues.

EKPC

## Plug in cheer, not danger

That twinkling tree is the heart of your holiday decor. But without proper care, it can become a fire hazard.

Keep your holidays safe with a few simple steps.

- 1** If you love a real tree, pick one with springy green needles that don't shed easily. Give the trunk a fresh cut before placing it in water, and top off the stand daily. A dry tree can ignite faster than you'd think. Keep it far from fireplaces, radiators or heat vents.
- 2** For artificial trees, make sure the label says "fire-resistant." Before hanging a single ornament, check your lights for frayed cords or loose connections. Replace damaged strings. Don't try to fix them.
- 3** Use LED lights if possible. They stay cool, use less energy, last longer and allow more strands per outlet. And when the night winds down, always unplug your lights before bed.

A safe setup takes only minutes, but it protects everything and everyone you love.



FAMVELDMAN/ADOBESTOCK

# Festive fraud: Beware of holiday scams

The holidays are here, and while you may be merry and bright, scammers are hoping you're not paying attention while online. Don't let your defenses down and allow online fraudsters to gain access to your personal and financial information. Be on the lookout for:

**Online shopping scams.** Bogus websites and social media campaigns impersonate major brands and offer too-good-to-be-true deals. These ads entice you to pay for products you'll never receive. Always research before buying.

## Credit card fraud.

Fraudsters steal credit card information via data breaches, skimming and fake websites. Check bank statements and pending charges to ensure all purchases are yours. Check your online banking often during periods where you're shopping more often, and ask anyone using your account about their purchases to coordinate.

## Social media scams.

Huge discounts for followers who share a post, close-out sales or unbelievable holiday deals are likely scams. Most of these posts deploy malware designed to obtain personal information.

## Delivery scams.

Scammers send out phishing emails and texts disguised as UPS, FedEx or U.S. Postal Service notifications about incoming or missed deliveries. Links lead to phony sign-in pages asking for personal information, or to sites that may be infested with malware. If you know you haven't ordered from a company, or don't have a pending delivery, report the texts or emails as spam or fraudulent and delete them. Always log in to your account through the company website, not through a potentially fake email link.

**Charity scams.** Beware phony charities that take advantage of the holiday giving spirit. Avoid the scammers by giving directly to your favorite local charity.

**Fake contests or giveaways.** Beware online promotions that award products, cash or an all-expenses-paid vacation in exchange for an "entry form" that requires personal or financial information. If you receive a suspicious text or email, avoid clicking any links, and make sure to mark the message as spam.



KENTUCKY'S TOUCHSTONE ENERGY COOPERATIVES



## HOLIDAY DECORATING

### Pet safety tips

**Pet-proof your home to deter your cute and curious family members from encountering electrical dangers this holiday season.**

**Make sure the electric wires for the tree lights are secured to the branches and not loosely looped.** If your cat is a curious climber, it could become entangled in loose cords that could burn or strangle it.

**Protect the cord running from the tree to the outlet if your pet likes to chew it.** Most hardware stores sell flexible electrical safety cables, covers and PVC conduit.

**Visit your veterinarian immediately if you suspect your pet has chewed on a power cord and been shocked.** Electric shocks are life threatening and are emergencies.

SHUNTERRA/DOBE STOCK

# Merry Christmas from Inter-County Energy!

## 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.

## SAFETY MESSAGE

Hunter Electrical Safety: For those who hunt, know where power lines and equipment are located on the land where you hunt and avoid placing deer stands near power lines running through trees.

## PRESIDENT/CEO

Jerry Carter

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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

[www.intercountyenergy.net](http://www.intercountyenergy.net)

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## SWEETS AND PHOTOS

*with Santa and  
the Grinch!*

FREE EVENT | TREAT BAGS | TAKE YOUR OWN PHOTO

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025 | 3-6 P.M.**

Inter-County Energy  
1009 Hustonville Rd, Danville

Sponsored by:  
Christmas Blessings, Inc.

Inter County Energy will be closed  
December 24-25 and January 1  
in celebration of the Christmas holiday  
and New Year's Day.

Please feel free to contact our  
24-hour outage line in case of an  
emergency/outage at (888) 266-7322.

We hope everyone has a merry Christmas  
and a happy New Year, from our  
Inter-County Energy family to yours.