

KENERGY

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KenergyCorp.com



JOE IMEL

MARCH 2024

Springtime brings out scammers

Springtime is coming, and so are the scammers.

Their timing is as reliable as the birds, flowers and buds on the trees in your yard. But that's the only thing that's reliable about the folks who pose as electric cooperative employees and call you or visit you to ask for money.

Impersonators will ask you for everything, from making good on a supposedly overdue bill to paying upfront to replace your electric meter. They might tell you about a fantastic new program designed to save you energy and ask you for your personal information to sign up—including your bank account or credit card number. Don't fall for it. Here's what to be on the lookout for:

- Someone who calls on the phone might convince you that you've overpaid your electric bill and ask for your bank account or credit card number for a refund. Think before you agree: If you usually pay your bill with a card or check, the utility already has that information and doesn't need to ask for it.
- Scammers who show up at your home claiming to be from a utility might offer to do a free energy audit and then either ask for your credit card number to pay for additional services or convince you to let them come inside your house, where they can rip you off.



TEROVESALAINEN/ADOBE STOCK

- Never agree to pay by wire transfer, cryptocurrency, a gift card or a cash-reload card. Those are sure signs you're being scammed.
- Any contractor who demands immediate payment is not legitimate. No one from your electric cooperative

will visit or call you, threatening to cut off your service unless you pay on the spot.

If you think a phone call or situation seems suspicious, hang up and call Kenergy at (800) 844-4832.



2024
Kenergy
Annual
Meeting

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

Save the
date



Member Engagement Coordinator Jeanette Weedman—35 years of service. Photo: Kenergy staff

Remember and prepare

Be ready for storms

After a long winter, we all hope for green trees, spring blooms and a respite from the cold. March is the beginning of spring and gives us hope for warmer days to come. However, spring always finds ways to remind us that we are not in charge of the weather.

We do not have to look back very far for examples of dangerous and destructive spring weather. In March 2023, Kentucky saw one of the worst windstorms in our state's history. Extreme gusts up to 75 miles per hour buffeted the state, toppling at least 1,000 utility poles and impacting more than 300,000 cooperative members across Kentucky. Kenergy worked alongside each of Kentucky's 24 distribution cooperatives to restore power. We did not work alone—71 cooperatives from 12 states sent crews providing mutual aid.

As I look back with pride on Kenergy's relentless restoration efforts I have witnessed over the years, I am reminded that when it comes to bad weather, the question is never "if," but "when."

As we look forward to spring, take a moment to be prepared for whatever it might throw our way. The National Weather Service offers these tips to stay safe during high winds.

Before a storm:

- Be sure your property is secure. Remove any dead trees or overhanging branches near structures, loose roofing materials and objects in yards, patios, roofs or balconies that could blow away.
- Bring in unsecured objects from patios and balconies and secure outdoor objects such as lawn furniture or garbage cans that could blow away and cause damage or injury.

During a storm:

- The safest place to be is inside. Postpone outdoor activities if a wind advisory or high wind warning has been issued.
- If you are caught outside during high winds, take cover next to a building or under a shelter, and stand clear of dangerous areas like roadways or train tracks.
- If you are driving, keep both hands on the wheel and slow down. Watch for objects blowing across the roadway and keep a safe distance from cars in adjacent lanes.

Continued on 26C

By Matt Moffitt
Vice President of Operations



Pole inspections to start in spring

Alamon, a pole inspection contractor for Kenergy, will begin inspecting poles in the spring. Each wooden pole Kenergy owns, or is attached to, will be inspected to ensure there are no hazards. Inspectors check for decay, insects, cracks, holes, age and any damage members may have caused.

You may see trucks in your area bearing a Kenergy Contractor magnet. Inspectors will also have an Alamon picture ID with them. Inspectors will be working during daylight hours only. Don't be alarmed if you see the contractors parked for a few hours or riding from pole-to-pole on an all-terrain vehicle.

Inspection areas include West Owensboro, Guffie, Utica, Dixon and Tyson.



J.J. BROWN

If you suspect something irregular or suspicious, please give us a call at (800) 844-4832.

Continued from 26B

- Following a storm, debris and broken or fallen tree limbs can pose numerous additional risks. Downed or low-hanging lines can still be energized and deadly; stay away from them.

Finally, if your power is out, please check your circuit breakers or fuses first. If your circuit breakers have not tripped or fuses have not blown, notify Kenergy by calling (800) 844-4832 to be directed to Kenergy's automated phone system to report your power outage. Do not assume your neighbor or someone else has called the power outage in. Make sure your phone numbers, including cellphones, are current in Kenergy's system. While we all hope for a mild spring, all of us at Kenergy are standing by, ready to work around the clock for our members and community.

Kenergy members can utilize our Outage Center during a service disruption to learn more information about the outage. Members can view our live system map at www.KenergyCorp.com, click Outage Center and System Map.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Toll Free: For information or to report an outage
(800) 844-4832

Henderson: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
6402 Old Corydon Road

Owensboro: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
3111 Fairview Drive

Hanson: 9 a.m. – Noon, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
2620 Brown Badgett Loop

Hawesville: 9 a.m. – Noon, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
315 Hawes Blvd

Marion: 9 a.m. – Noon, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
3000 Mott City Road

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WIRE Scholarships available for Kentucky college students

The Kentucky Chapter of Women in Rural Electrification (WIRE) is offering three \$1,000 scholarships to Kentucky college students. The scholarships are open to any applicant who meets the following criteria:

- Student or student's family must be served by a Kentucky rural electric cooperative.
- Student must have completed at least 60 credit hours at the end of the 2024 spring college term.
- Student must attend a Kentucky college or university.

The scholarship application deadline is June 5, 2024. Scholarship recipients will be notified in July.

Scholarships will be awarded based on academic achievements, extra-curricular activities, career goals, recommendations from professors and community leaders and financial need.

You can find an application at www.kyelectric.coop. Search "WIRE."

- Applications can be mailed to:
Mallory Wafzig
c/o Kentucky Electric Cooperatives
P.O. Box 32170
Louisville, KY 40232
- Applications may also be sent by email to mwafzig@kyelectric.coop.

WIRE Scholarships for Kentucky College Students

From Kentucky's electric cooperatives

**APPLY
TODAY.
DEADLINE
JUNE 5,
2024**

