

INTER-COUNTY ENERGY



www.intercountyenergy.net

MARCH 2020

Inter-County's Conservation Clubhouse reptiles and amphibians program

We've been busy with our Conservation Clubhouse program this year. During the approximately 25-minute presentation and 20-minute hands-on program, students learn how Inter-County Energy works with biologists to ensure that building new electric

lines doesn't interfere with the natural habitat of native plants and animals. After a slide show of various reptiles and amphibians found in Kentucky, students have the opportunity to hold the animals, including turtles, frogs and snakes. While most of us cringe at the thought of even seeing a snake,

most of the students can hardly contain their excitement during this portion of the show.

For more information about Inter-County's reptiles and amphibians program for your school, please contact April Burgess at (859) 936-7822.



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Conservation Clubhouse is often presented at local libraries, as well as the Inter-County Energy Annual Meeting. Photos: Morgan Janssen and Tim Webb

Your Safety Matters

Work safely near power lines this spring

Whether trimming trees, using ladders outside, harvesting crops or flying drones, thinking about electric power line safety is important every day.

Trimming trees or bushes near power lines can be dangerous because electricity can arc from the power line to the tool, potentially causing injuries and even death. When working near power lines, look up and stay at least 10 feet away from them at all times.

When using a ladder to climb on the roof or to trim trees, the same

rule applies. Keep 10 feet between you and any power line.

When using tractors or other farm machinery, be sure there is 10 feet of clearance between the equipment and any overhead line.

Use caution and check local laws before flying a drone near power lines, power plants, substations and other electrical equipment. A drone crash can cause a power outage and operating drones near electric infrastructure could violate local ordinances.



TOUCHSTONE ENERGY

Power lines are necessary to distribute electricity to homes and businesses, but always respect potential safety hazards when working near them.

Inter-County Energy hopes you will be safe around power lines.

Attention high school seniors: Apply for Inter-County's scholarships

Each year, Inter-County Energy offers six, \$1,000 scholarships to rural students. Applicant must be an enrolled high school senior from one of Inter-County Energy's directorial districts: Boyle, Casey, Garrard, Lincoln, Marion or Mercer. Applicant's parents or legal guardian must be a resident of Inter-County Energy's service area and a current member


with the primary residence being served by the cooperative. Applications must be turned in to Inter-County Energy by Friday, March 10, 2020. For more information, please visit www.intercountyenergy.net. Applications can be obtained online or by calling April Burgess at (859) 236-4561 or (888) 266-7322 toll-free.

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Contact Inter-County Energy before you plant trees or build

Do you own property in a rural area with power lines crossing it? If so, please contact Inter-County Energy before you plant trees, build a barn or new house, or erect any structure near the right-of-way easement. The right-of-way is the corridor of land on both sides of utility poles that must be kept clear in order to safely provide you with reliable service.

Inter-County Energy will be glad to mark the location of the right-of-way and explain any landscaping or construction requirements necessary.

To keep our electric system accessible, property owners cannot plant incompatible tree species, (any species that would attain a height greater than 10 feet at maturity), construct buildings, structures,

foundations, garden sheds, signs or erect any other structures within the right-of-way. Flower beds, vegetable gardens, compatible tree species, crops and fields for livestock grazing are acceptable within a right-way.

When planting around pad-mounted transformers or other electrical equipment, please leave adequate space for co-op employees to do maintenance.

When in doubt, though, please call before you landscape or build.

Call before you do any digging, to make sure you avoid hitting an underground utility line by accident. Inter-County Energy participates in the state call center, so simply call 811 to check, or call our co-op offices, whether you are planning to dig yourself or if you are hiring a professional.



PAULIUS

ALWAYS CALL BEFORE YOU DIG



One free, easy call gets your utility lines marked AND helps protect you from injury and expense.

**Safe Digging is No Accident:
Always Call 811 Before You Dig.**

Kentucky 811

www.kentucky811.org



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.



U.S. Department of Transportation

Kentucky State Police

JOHN DEERE

TRAVELERS
Common Ground Alliance



Here Comes The Sun

OUR MISSION

The mission of Inter-County Energy Cooperative is to provide long-term valued electrical energy and services to our members through a culture of safety, accountability, innovation, integrity, and commitment to community.

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Jerry Carter

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24-HOUR EMERGENCY/OUTAGE REPORTING (866) 224-2235

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.

FOR INFORMATION AND INQUIRIES:

Toll-free: 1-888-266-7322

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM

DANVILLE/BOYLE COUNTY

(859) 236-4561

LEBANON/DISTRICT OFFICE

(270) 692-3761

www.intercountyenergy.net

E-mail: mail@intercountyenergy.net

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Fifty years after The Beatles released *Here Comes The Sun*, the song continues to be an anthem to spring.

As the story goes, George Harrison wrote the song in Eric Clapton's garden in 1969 while taking a break from the tensions that plagued The Beatles before the band's ultimate break-up the following year. You can hear his relief in the lyrics.

Little darling, it's been a long cold lonely winter

Little darling, it feels like years since it's been here

As winter gives way to spring this month, (the first day of spring is March 19), we look forward to opening the windows, a little more

sunshine and a sense of renewal. We take our cues from nature with its blossoming flowers and bees and butterflies spreading their wings.

For a third year, Inter-County Energy is pleased to join our fellow electric cooperatives all across Kentucky in the Beautify the Bluegrass initiative, a springtime encouragement to show pride in our local communities by cleaning, sprucing up or renovating a public space that could use a little TLC.

A Beautify the Bluegrass project can be as simple as picking up litter, or as ambitious as renovating a dilapidated baseball field.

Whether you are already involved in a beautification project, or you are interested in completing a new one, we encourage you to take "before and after" photos and enter the con-



JOE ARNOLD

test. By sharing your project with the rest of the commonwealth, you can inspire Kentucky's renewal.

All the information you need is available at KentuckyLiving.com/beautify. Be sure to register your project by June 25 to be considered for recognition by Governor Andy Beshear.

Just as co-ops partnered with Governor Matt Bevin on Beautify the Bluegrass in 2018 and 2019, we are proud to continue this celebration of community with Governor Beshear in 2020, a reflection that Inter-County Energy is non-partisan and eager to work with anyone, regardless of party affiliation, who shares our mission of improving the quality of life in the communities we serve.

In the words of George Harrison, "Here comes the sun, and I say, it's all right!"