



# Shelby Energy Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

April 2020

## Unsung heroes

*Lineman Appreciation Day is April 13*

We are proud of every member of our dedicated team here at Shelby Energy and this month we take a moment to honor the dedication and professionalism of our linemen.

On the second Monday in April, electric cooperatives recognize Lineman Appreciation Day. I encourage you to join me on April 13 as Shelby Energy expresses our gratitude to the 15 linemen, the unsung heroes that maintain over 2,100 miles of line and ensure safe and reliable power to our homes and businesses.

We expect a lot of our line technicians. Because of the challenging weather and terrain they often face, it's easy to focus on the physical demands of the job. Indeed, the job requires physical strength and endurance,

especially during the long hours of power restoration in extreme weather.

Yet, for all the physical strength required in this profession, the mental strength and focus of our line technicians is crucial. Working with dangerous high-voltage lines on a daily basis requires extraordinary attention to detail and safety.

That's why Shelby Energy Cooperative insists upon thorough and constant safety training, provided in conjunction with Kentucky Electric Cooperatives, and a careful adherence to safety standards and equipment. Shelby energy has signed the Commitment to Zero Contacts initiative with hundreds of electric co-ops across America. Before our line techs begin any job, we first assess the staffing and equipment needs.



Photo: Line Technician Kelly Michels

A mandatory job briefing is required to discuss the objective, location of the work site, potential hazards, nearest emergency help and if anyone besides Shelby Energy needs to be involved. These practices reflect the professionalism of our line crews.

On April 13, please join me in expressing gratitude to these dedicated members of our community, and to the retired linemen who have helped build the safe and reliable electrical system we enjoy today.

Please drop them a line on April 13 and use #ThankaLineman in your social media posts to show support for our Shelby Energy Cooperative line technicians who power our homes and businesses every day.



Jack Bragg Jr.  
President & CEO  
Shelby Energy  
Cooperative



TIM WEBB

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### Shelbyville Office Hours

Monday – Friday:  
7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Mailing Address: 620 Old Finchville Road  
Shelbyville, KY 40065-1714  
(502) 633-4420

### Remote Payment Centers

Henry County Supply  
Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday: 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Riverside

Smoker's Friendly  
Monday - Saturday: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Poppy's General Store  
24 Equity Drive, Bedford, KY 40006  
(502) 663-6028

Monday - Friday: 6 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Saturday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Sunday: 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

For information or to report an outage  
**1-800-292-6585**

Visit our website at:  
[www.shelbyenergy.com](http://www.shelbyenergy.com)

Email: [shelbyenergy@shelbyenergy.com](mailto:shelbyenergy@shelbyenergy.com)

### Online Bill Pay:

Access your Shelby Energy account  
through our website at  
[www.shelbyenergy.com](http://www.shelbyenergy.com).

Click on "Online Bill Pay" to view your  
electric bill and make payments by debit  
card, e-check, Visa or MasterCard.

All members signing up for new service  
with Shelby Energy receive a short survey.  
Members who return the completed survey  
to Shelby Energy are automatically eligible  
to win a one-time \$20 credit on their elec-  
tric bill. Each month, one name is drawn  
and a lucky Shelby Energy member receives  
a bill credit on their next statement.

The new member survey winner for January is  
Carolyn Case.



# Find electrical hazards before they find you

You can't see all the electrical hazards  
in your home unless you go looking for  
them. Here are five invisible hazards  
that your family should avoid:

**1. Overload:** Especially if your home  
is older, it might not have the  
capacity to handle all of today's energy-  
intensive gadgets. When your home  
was built, for example, it didn't have to  
handle phone chargers, electric tread-  
mills or even automatic coffee pots.  
Invite an electrician over to evaluate  
your home and upgrade  
its electrical capacity.

**2. Old circuit break-  
ers:** A box that feels  
hot is probably faulty and  
needs replacing.

**3. Constantly trip-  
ping breakers:** It's  
annoying when your  
hair dryer stops work-  
ing when your hair is  
halfway dry or you trip  
a breaker whenever you  
plug two things in at the same time.

But those are warning signs that you're

overloading your circuits.

**4. An outdated fire extinguisher:**  
These life-saving devices don't  
come with an expiration date, but that  
doesn't mean it will work when you need  
it. Extinguishers last between five and 15  
years. Check the pressure gauge on yours  
every month. It is good to go only if the  
needle is in the green area.

**5. Hot outlets:** Regularly touch  
outlets. Warm or hot outlets  
could signal an electrical overload

or wiring that's melting.  
While you're at it, have an  
electrician switch out your  
old outlets for those with  
GFCIs, which will shut off  
in case of hazard.

If you notice any of  
these signs of electrical  
hazards, don't hesitate.  
Call an electrician and  
make sure your fire extin-  
guisher is always working  
properly.

Contact Shelby Energy Cooperative  
for more information.



## Easy Ways to Pay

Shelby Energy offers a number of ways to pay your bill  
remotely to reflect the "social distancing" advocated by  
health officials because of COVID-19. Stay home to pay!

- **Online bill pay** at [www.shelbyenergy.com](http://www.shelbyenergy.com) or download the  
"ShelbyEng" mobile app
- **Automatic Bank Draft** applications are available at [www.shelbyenergy.com/bankdraft](http://www.shelbyenergy.com/bankdraft) and can be returned to set up automatic payments.  
Receive a one-time \$10 bill credit when you sign up!
- **Enroll in Prepay Program:** pay at your convenience and receive daily  
usage alerts. Call (800) 292-6585 for more information.
- **Make credit card or check payments over the phone** by calling (800)  
292-6585
- **Mail payments** to Shelby Energy Cooperative at 620 Old Finchville  
Road, Shelbyville, KY 40065

Questions? Call (800) 292-6585

# Celebrating Earth Day the cooperative way

Since 1970, people around the world have celebrated Earth Day on April 22. Events and acts of conservation occurring on this day to remind us all the need to care for our planet. But what about the rest of the year?

At Shelby Energy Cooperative, every day—all 365 of them—is Earth Day. Caring for the community, which includes conserving and protecting Kentucky's natural treasures, is among the principles we operate by as a cooperative. It's why Shelby Energy supports clean, renewable energy. We've long used hydropower generated from the water in our lakes and rivers to supply some of the electricity you use.

Kentucky's cooperatives were also the first in Kentucky to build renewable power plants fueled by methane from landfills. More recently, we built one of Kentucky's largest solar projects where more than 32,000 photovoltaic panels capture the sun to power local homes.

We also care for the environment by protecting birds and animals native to our area. Through our peregrine falcon program, we provide a home high above one of our power plants to give these rare birds a safe place to nest. We've also established nesting boxes for American kestrels, small falcons native to Kentucky.



Our plant's conservation efforts also protect rare and native plants, such as the blazing star, which grow under Shelby Energy's power lines. Co-op employees build a habitat for pollinators that are essential for plant reproduction.

We're sharing our passion for environmental stewardship. Our instructors host Conservation Clubhouse programs, a free educational program offered at local schools where they learn about electric co-ops, reptiles and amphibians.

You can join Shelby Energy Cooperative in celebrating Earth Day

every day by supporting our renewable energy programs. Sign up for our envirowatts program to invest in solar, wind, biomass and hydro projects. Or, learn how you can license one or more Cooperative Solar panels.

Check out the solar calculator at [CooperativeSolar.com](http://CooperativeSolar.com) to determine how many panels are needed for your home or business.

Have fun celebrating Earth Day on April 22. But don't let the calendar stop you from celebrating it every day just as Shelby Energy does.



## Ready for Renewables?



Cooperative Solar



envirowatts

# Congratulations!



**Jace Ogburn**  
Trimble County High School



**Jacob Floyd**  
Martha Layne Collins High School



**Isabella Bates**  
Eminence High School

*Shelby Energy's 2020 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour Delegates  
Jace, Jacob and Isabella will be wonderful representatives of Shelby Energy Cooperative  
and we wish them a safe, exciting week of learning and fun in Washington, D.C.*

## Your Safety Matters

# Call 811 before you dig

April is National Safe Digging Month, and Shelby Energy urges members and contractors to call 811 before starting any digging project.

Making this call is vitally important to prevent injuries and avoid hitting utility lines that could disrupt services to your neighbors. The call might also save a life and prevent a

life-altering injury. Calling 811 also avoids potential fines for digging and not calling in a timely manner.

After you call 811, a utility professional will visit and mark where underground lines are buried on your property. The technician will place flags on the surface to show where the utilities

are located so that you can avoid danger. The flag colors used for each utility type include:

- Red—Electrical
- Yellow—Gas
- Blue—Water
- Orange—Fiber optic/Phone/Cable
- Green—Sewer

In many newer subdivisions, electric lines are buried. Also, fiber optic cables are often located close to the surface.

It is especially important to call 811 when using a bulldozer or backhoe for major projects on your property, such as adding a swimming pool or new room. If using a contractor, make sure the company has located lines before digging.

Even when you plant flowers, bushes and trees, or dig holes for a mailbox or fence posts, it's important to call 811 to be safe.

Shelby Energy cares about your safety. Be proactive. Call 811 before you dig.



SHUTTERSTOCK