



# OWEN ELECTRIC CONNECTION

April 2026 • Owen Electric • A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

## April is a season of renewal—and preparedness

April brings longer days and a shift in seasons across Kentucky. As winter fades, spring introduces new growth along with changing weather conditions. For Owen Electric, this time of year is not only about welcoming warmer temperatures, but also about preparing for the challenges that often come with spring—particularly storms that can impact your electric service.

April can bring everything from gentle rains to strong storms, and our crews stay ready to respond at a moment's notice. Behind the scenes, that means inspecting equipment, trimming trees near power lines and ensuring our system is positioned to withstand weather impacts that come with the season.

Safety is always at the forefront of that work. For our employees, it means regular training and strict procedures designed to protect them as they work—often in difficult and dangerous conditions. For our members, it means encouraging awareness and preparedness at home.

Spring is a great time to review severe weather plans, ensure weather radios are working properly and know the safest place in your home should storms threaten. If you use a generator during outages,

please remember to operate it outdoors and away from windows and doors to avoid carbon monoxide risks.

April also brings opportunities to think about energy use as temperatures begin to fluctuate. You may find that opening windows on mild days reduces the need for heating or cooling, while routine maintenance—such as replacing HVAC filters or sealing air leaks—can improve efficiency and comfort as summer approaches. Small steps taken now can make a noticeable difference on your energy bill later in the year.

Beyond wires and poles, spring is also a season when our cooperative spirit is on full display. Across our communities, students are preparing for graduations, families are gathering for school and church events, and local organizations are gearing up for summer programs. We're proud to support these efforts, whether through youth opportunities, educational initiatives or community partnerships. As a cooperative, we exist not just to deliver electricity, but to invest in the people and places we serve.

April is also a reminder that Earth Day is right around the corner. Caring for our environment aligns naturally with our mission to provide safe and reliable power. From system upgrades that improve efficiency to member programs that encourage energy-saving technologies, we're




continually looking for ways to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

As we move deeper into spring, I want you to know that your cooperative remains committed to you—rain or shine. When storms roll through, our crews stand ready. When questions arise, our employees are here to help. And as our communities grow and change, we will continue working to ensure the power you depend on is there when you need it.

May this season bring renewal, safety and connection to you and your family. Thank you for allowing us to serve you—not as customers, but as members and neighbors.

President and CEO  
Michael Cobb



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

# SimpleSaver: Saving energy made simple

Managing energy use during Kentucky's hottest days is a challenge shared by utilities and members alike. That's why Owen Electric offers SimpleSaver, a voluntary program designed to reward members who help reduce electricity demand during periods of peak use—while keeping comfort in mind.

SimpleSaver is available to residential members who use eligible internet-connected smart thermostats with central air conditioning. By enrolling, participants agree to allow brief, limited thermostat adjustments during times when demand on the electric grid is highest, typically on especially hot weekday afternoons during the summer months. These adjustments help balance the system, reduce strain on the grid and support long-term reliability for everyone.

During a SimpleSaver event, a thermostat may be adjusted up to four

degrees for no more than four hours, generally between 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Adjustments do not occur on weekends or holidays, and participants can expect only a limited number of events each summer. In some cases, homes may be slightly cooled ahead of time to minimize any impact on comfort. Once the event ends, thermostats automatically return to their normal settings.

Comfort and control remain priorities. Participation is completely voluntary, and members may opt out of any adjustment event at any time using their thermostat, mobile app or web browser. For most devices, opting out of a pre-cool also opts out of the adjustment itself. Members always retain control of their thermostat settings.

In return for participating, members receive bill credits. After enrollment and acceptance into the program, participants receive a one-time

enrollment incentive of \$10 per thermostat, up to two thermostats. Members also earn a \$20 bill credit per thermostat at the end of each summer season for staying enrolled. Some members may qualify for an additional enrollment incentive if they purchased a qualifying thermostat on or after March 2, 2019.

SimpleSaver supports a cooperative approach to energy management—one where small actions add up to meaningful benefits. By helping reduce peak demand, members play a role in maintaining system reliability, managing costs and supporting a more efficient electric grid for the communities we serve.

To learn more about eligibility, qualifying thermostats or how to enroll, visit [owenelectric.com/energy-efficiency-rebates](http://owenelectric.com/energy-efficiency-rebates), or contact member services at (800) 372-7612, option 4.

## Thinking of a smart thermostat?



# SimpleSaver

You could get \$100+ from your local, participating cooperative by enrolling your Wi-Fi enabled device in SimpleSaver. Plus, yearly credits are available.

For details, go to [www.simplesaver.coop](http://www.simplesaver.coop).



# Starting 2026 strong: safety first



J.C. Lyons of Kentucky Electric Cooperatives conducts CPR, first aid and automated external defibrillator training for all employees. Emergencies can happen anywhere, and having the knowledge and confidence to respond quickly can make a critical difference in the outcome. By participating in this training, we're helping ensure our team is ready to look out for one another, our members and our communities—on the job and beyond.



Above, Owen Electric crews participate in a chainsaw operation and line clearing workshop. Linework takes a variety of specialized skills, including the safe removal of trees and limbs from energized lines.



Above and right, Owen Electric Safety Manager Cody Beckham recently brought the Powertown safety demonstration to the Owen County Public Library for a homeschool program. Students learned important lessons about electrical safety—how to recognize hazards, stay safe around power lines and make smart choices every day. We're proud to support hands-on learning opportunities that help keep our community safe. Photos: Whitney Duvall



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# Call 811 Before You Dig

## Why call 811?

- Protect yourself, your family and your property
- Prevent power outages and service interruptions
- Avoid costly repairs and potential fines

## When should you call?

- At least two full business days before digging
- Call before projects like planting trees, installing fences, decks, mailboxes or sheds—even shallow digging can be dangerous

## What happens after you call?

- Utility companies are notified of your project
- Underground lines are marked with color-coded paint or flags
- Once all utilities are marked, it's safe to begin digging—carefully

## Remember:

- Calling 811 is free
- It's required by law in Kentucky
- Always dig with caution around marked lines
- Only publicly-owned utilities are located by 811, NOT private, resident-owned

**Call 811, or visit [811beforeyoudig.com](http://811beforeyoudig.com)**