

OWEN ELECTRIC CONNECTION

March 2025 • Owen Electric • A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Prepare for spring weather

As spring approaches, we welcome warmer weather, blooming flowers and longer days. However, the season also brings the potential for severe weather, including thunderstorms, high winds and even tornadoes. At Owen Electric Cooperative, our priority is ensuring the safety and comfort of our members, especially during unpredictable weather events. While we work tirelessly to maintain reliable power, spring storms can sometimes lead to outages. Here are some tips to help you prepare:

Assemble an emergency kit

Prepare a kit with essential items to sustain your household during a power outage. Consider including:

- Flashlights and extra batteries.
- A battery-powered or hand-crank radio to stay informed.
- Nonperishable food and bottled water (enough for three days per person).
- A fully stocked first-aid kit.
- Personal hygiene items.
- Extra blankets or sleeping bags.
- A backup power bank for charging mobile devices.

Plan for medical needs

If someone in your household relies on medical equipment that requires electricity, develop a backup plan.

This might include:

- Keeping a fully charged backup battery on hand.
- Arranging alternative accommodations where power will be available.
- Communicating with your health care provider about your emergency plan.

Protect your electronics

Spring storms may result in power surges. Safeguard your electronics by:

- Installing surge protectors.
- Unplugging sensitive devices during severe weather.
- Considering an uninterruptible power supply for critical electronics.

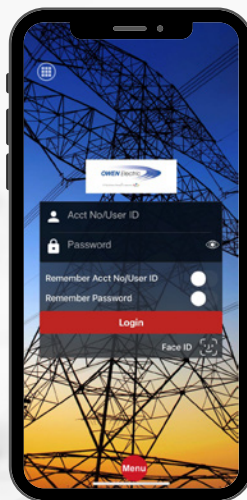
Stay informed

Monitor weather forecasts and warnings to stay ahead of changing conditions. Sign up for emergency alerts from local authorities and follow our cooperative's social media channels for real-time updates.

Know how to report an outage

Familiarize yourself with the process for reporting outages to Owen Electric, and make sure your current phone number is up to date on your account. Save our outage reporting phone number, app or online portal link so you can quickly notify us if the power goes out. During large outages, the phone lines can be busy.

Outage Resources



Reporting

OEC Mobile App

OEC MOBILE IS AVAILABLE AT

App Store Google Play

Call (800) 372-7612

Status Updates



<https://outage.owenelectric.com/>

OWEN Electric

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

The OEC Mobile app is the quickest and easiest way to report your outage.

Prepare your home

Take steps to minimize potential storm damage and ensure safety:

- Avoid planting trees near power lines. If there are branches or growth near power lines or your service drop, contact us for further information.

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President and CEO
Michael Cobb



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Charge at home and save

Driving an electric vehicle has many perks, and charging it can be more affordable by participating in Owen Electric's EV pilot program.

How does it work?

When you sign up to join the program, you'll receive an approval email with instructions on completing the registration process. Once the application is processed, you've granted permission to Owen Electric to receive monthly off-peak charging data from your EV. This transfer of data is collected through a trusted, third-party vendor without any work on your part.

All you need to do is program your EV to charge at home between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. (eastern prevailing time) for all days of the year, while participating in the

program. This test program runs through June 30, 2026.

Owen Electric will use the charging information to apply a monthly bill credit of \$.02 per kWh of off-peak charging completed by your EV while at home.

In the event you need to charge during peak times, no problem. There is no penalty for charging during peak times; you will be billed at the normal kWh rate. Plus, you can discontinue participation at any time by contacting us.

Why delay charging?

Charging your EV as soon as you arrive home (typically at peak demand times in the early evening), creates a significant demand on Owen Electric and the grid, resulting in increased cost for the co-op. By delaying your

charge time to after 10 p.m., you can reduce the energy demand cost during those peak times. It helps Owen Electric keep rates low and helps you save money.

Who can participate?

- Any residential-rate member of Owen Electric Cooperative who charges an EV at home with Level 2 electric vehicle supply equipment (240 volt).
- Member's EV must be included in the compatibility list of the energy software platform utilized for this program.

For more information, call us at (800) 372-7612, option 4, or go to <https://togetherwesaveky.com/ev-pilot-program>.



driving is BELIEVING

Owning an electric vehicle or EV is easier and more exciting everyday. With more models available, lower cost of maintenance, reduced fuel costs, the ability to charge on the go and at home, electric vehicles are the way of the future and that future is today.

togetherwesaveky.com
Calculate your potential savings



EAST KENTUCKY POWER COOPERATIVE

WinterCare

Owen Electric Cooperative's WinterCare donation program plays a vital role in assisting vulnerable households—such as those with elderly people, people with disabilities and children—during the harsh winter months. The program collaborates with Community Action Kentucky agencies to provide financial aid, ensuring that families in need can maintain their heating services. Members of Owen Electric can contribute to the WinterCare fund by designating a donation on their electric bill.

Funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, or LIHEAP, depends on variable budgets. For that reason, contributions to WinterCare are increasingly crucial.

In 2024, Owen Electric members generously donated \$7,515.39 toward the WinterCare program. Demonstrating our commitment to community, Owen Electric matched this amount, effectively doubling the support available to those in need and providing in total, just over \$15,000 in heating assistance.

All donations to the WinterCare program are tax-deductible. Members wishing to contribute can indicate the additional amount on their bill payment stub when paying by check. For those sending a separate check, it's



RASULOV/ADOBEE STOCK

important to denote that it is for WinterCare. Please note that payments made online or through a bill pay source do not have an option to indicate an additional donation to WinterCare.

Free energy audits, virtual energy assessments, home energy library & so much more.

Learn more at:
www.owenelectric.com



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This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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Powering through together: mutual aid



Owen Electric sent crews to Salt River Electric and Licking Valley Rural Electric Cooperative to assist with repairs and power restoration in the wake of Winter Storm Blair. Shown are Nate Pickett, left, Seth Kingkade, Dylan Howell, Josh Hearn, John Lilly, Charlie Colligan, Bobby Von Bokern, Dalton Anderson and Evan Meenach. Photo: Zach Epperson

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- Secure outdoor furniture, grills and other items that could become projectiles in high winds.
- If your home is equipped with a sump pump, ensure it is functioning correctly.

Consider a backup generator

For extended outages, a backup generator can provide much-needed power. If you invest in one, ensure it is installed and operated safely.

- Use generators outdoors and away from windows to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions and hire a licensed electrician for permanent installations.

Stay safe during an outage

If the power goes out, prioritize safety:

- Avoid downed power lines and report them immediately.
- Use flashlights instead of candles to reduce fire risks.
- Conserve phone battery life by limiting nonessential use.

At Owen Electric, we're committed to serving you year-round, rain or shine. By taking these proactive steps, you can help ensure that your household remains safe and prepared, no matter what the spring weather brings.

Thank you for trusting us as your energy partner. Together, we can weather any storm.