# Shelby Energy Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup> Cooperative K

#### April 2019

### **Catching some rays** *Harnessing solar energy for a bright future*

At Shelby Energy Cooperative, we celebrate Earth Day by catching some rays.

Before you start getting visions of sandy beaches and swimsuits, let me be clear: I'm referring to our earth-friendly work done through our Cooperative Solar One farm.

Cooperative Solar One has been generating electricity from the sun's rays since 2017. This renewable energy project has continuously exceeded expectations and is one of Kentucky's largest sun-to-electricity farms.

Shelby Energy Cooperative joined with 16 other Kentucky Touchstone Energy Cooperatives to build the 60-acre solar farm near Interstate 64 in Winchester. Sporting more than 32,000 photovoltaic panels, the farm currently produces enough sunpowered energy to supply the power needs of around 1,000 Kentucky homes.

Participating in Cooperative Solar is one way Shelby Energy demostrates its everyday commitment to environmental sustainability. It allows us to provide an easy and affordable choice for co-op members who want to help the environment and future generations by powering their homes or businesses with renewable energy.

Want to check out the solar farm for yourself? Free tours are available on the last Friday of each month at 1:30 p.m.

Please let us know you'll be joining us by emailing info@cooperativesolar.com. If you have 10 or more people, contact us to schedule a private group tour.

When you visit, you'll discover that the sun isn't the only thing being harvested there. Among other environmental stewardship projects on the farm is



Cooperative Solar One features 32,000 solar panels located near Winchester The farm produces enough power to supply electricity to 1,000 homes. Photos: East Kentucky Power Cooperative



Visitors enjoy the farm's pollinator station, providing nesting habitat for native bees, butterflies and other insects that pollinate nearby trees and flowers.

a habitat that accommodates insects to pollinate flowers and plants. Last year, the beehives on the farm yielded 76 pounds of honey—a sweet reward for caring for our Kentucky home.

Earth Day is April 22, a time when many of us pause to think about how our actions and decisions affect our planet. At Shelby Energy Cooperative, catching the sun's rays and generating electricity from them is just one of the ways we're powering a bright future.

For a low, one-time payment, any Shelby Energy Cooperative member can license a solar panel for 25 years. Learn the details at CooperativeSolar.com.

Jack Bragg Jr. President & CEO Shelby Energy Cooperative



#### **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, Wednesday, Friday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Saturday: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Riverside Smoker's Friendly Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday: 8 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Poppy's General Store 24 Equity Drive, Bedford, KY 40006 (502) 663-6028 Monday - Saturday: 6 a.m. – 7 p.m. Sunday: Closed

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

Visit our website at: www.shelbyenergy.com Email: shelbyenergy@shelbyenergy.com

#### **Online Bill Pay:**

Access your Shelby Energy account through our website at 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 electric 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 2019 is Louise Bijesse of Simpsonville.





### **Spring Cleaning?** Don't forget about electrical safety

It's that time of year when homeowners are itching to get out of their homes to start working on projects around the yard.

Whether or not you are making spring cleaning a priority this season, it is a good time to take notice of any electrical hazards that you could address to ensure your family's safety.

Always call before you dig. Make a plan before beginning any major project in your yard. Start by calling 811. The professionals there will mark any potential dangers on your property, like buried wires, piping or gas and water mains located where you plan to dig.

Whether you are trimming trees or clearing out the gutters, if using a ladder always be sure to look up and out. Ensure your safety and the safety of those around you by staying at least 15 feet away from power lines when working outside.

■ Inspect power tools and outdoor appliances before using them. The long winter months could have left some wear and tear, and the risk of electrical dangers is too high to avoid taking a few minutes to check for a frayed cord.

■ When working outdoors, keep electrical cords and tools away from water, even wet grass. Remember water and electricity do not mix! Use caution when working with electricity in conditions such as wet grass.

■ Use caution and inspect outdoor electrical outlets for damage and debris. Do not attempt to make repairs on your own. Always call a certified electrician if there is an issue.

Above all, continue to practice good electrical safety all year round!

Source: mistersparky.com



### Shelby Energy celebrates National Lineman Appreciation Day with #ThankALineman

On April 8, Shelby Energy Cooperative will honor the hard working men who often face challenging conditions to keep the lights on. The efforts and sacrifice of a line technician are plain to see.

From the start of their training to becoming a seasoned journeyman line technician is about a five-year process.

Many linemen will leave home for weeks of training and return to be an apprentice lineman for years before earning the journeyman title.

A lineman's job can also be very dangerous. Safety is a priority at Shelby Energy Cooperative and an important aspect of linemen's training. When working with electricity, diligence and professionalism are absolute necessities. The line technicians at Shelby Energy are never done "training." In conjuction with Kentucky Electric Cooperatives, Shelby Energy Cooperative's line technicians are always learning and practicing their skills to keep everyone safe.

Linemen are the first responders of Shelby Energy Cooperative and they're always ready to get the job done, day or night, and in any weather.

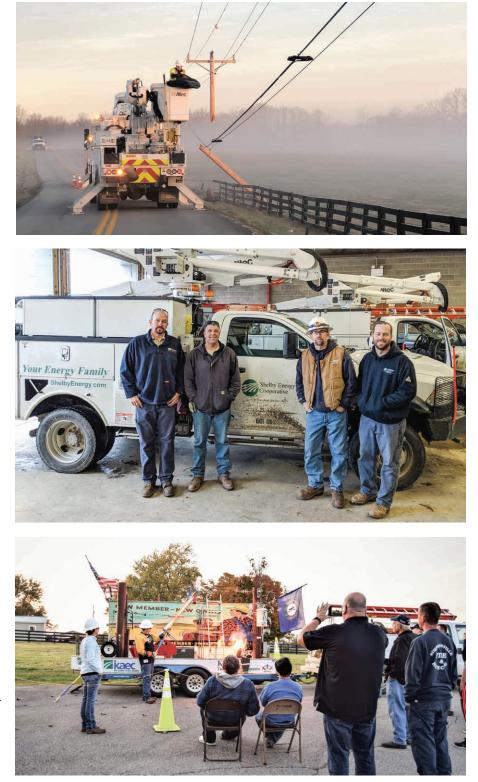
Whether, they're restoring power after a major storm or maintaining critical infrastructure to the electric system, line workers are the heart of Shelby Energy Cooperative.

Shelby Energy invites you to take a moment to thank a lineman for the work they do. Use #ThankALineman on social media on April 8 to show support for the line technicians who power your lives.

Top, linemen work to restore power on a foggy morning after a car drove into a utility pole. Photo: Gary Warford

Middle, line technicians Tyler Workman, James Crume, Kelly Michels and Richard Spoonamore head to Nolin RECC to help with outage recovery following an ice storm in November 2018. Photo: Billy Moore

Bottom, Line Technician Mike Mason performs a live line safety demonstration for First Responders in Shelby County. Photo: Melanie Morrow



# **#ThankALineman**

#### **Frankfort Youth Tour**





Shelby Energy Cooperative would like to congratulate this year's Youth Tour candidates, Kendall Bingham, Hayley Snelling and Kailey Kays. Joined by student representatives from across the state, the group toured Kentucky's capital on March 5 and have been selected to represent Shelby Energy in June for the Washington, D.C. Youth Tour.



## Happy Easter from your Shelby Energy Family

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