



CLARK ENERGYLINES

A publication of Clark Energy Cooperative, Inc., proudly serving our members since 1938.

2018 Citizen-Scholar Scholarship

Clark Energy Cooperative is offering 16 \$1,000 scholarships in a program designed to enhance the education and resulting careers of students in our service area. The scholarships are one-time, non-renewable grants paid directly to the student's chosen college, university or trade school. Funds may be paid to both in- and out-of-state institutions.

Participation Requirements:

- Eligible applicants are graduating high school seniors planning to enroll in an accredited college, university or trade school.
- Eligible applicant or applicant's parents/guardians must have a residential or business account with Clark Energy and the account must be registered in one or both names. In the event the applicant's parents or guardians reside in separate households served by different cooperatives that offer scholarship programs, the applicant's address listed on the official transcript will serve as the primary eligible account.
- Fund requests by the student, whether in full or partial payments, must be made within two years or the remainder of funds is forfeited, unless prior arrangements have been made.
- Students applying for Clark EC scholarships must have a minimum 2.5 GPA and be in good standing. An official transcript must accompany the application.
- Entries will be judged on the following: Essay – 45 percent; School/Community Involvement – 30 percent; GPA – 25 percent. A panel of judges not employed by Clark EC will review the applications and judge the essays.
- The applicant cannot be related to an employee, manager or director of Clark EC or Clark Propane Plus.
- Applicants must make a typed response of 500-750 words and discuss **a problem you've solved or would like to solve—anything of personal importance**. Good grammar and spelling are judged heavily.
- All materials requested must accompany the application or the scholarship application is disqualified. Clark Energy will not contact the student for any missing material.

The deadline for applying is Friday, March 16, 2018 at 4 p.m.

For an application, please visit our website at www.clarkenergy.com and click on "My Community". If you prefer, you may obtain an application in your school counselor's office or request one by sending an email to lhatton@clarkenergy.com and one will be mailed.

DISCLAIMER: Citizen Scholar awards will be chosen by the decision of a panel of judges selected by Clark Energy Cooperative, Inc. All decisions of the judges are final. All materials, images, resumes, essays and applications submitted by the applicant become the sole and absolute property of Clark Energy Cooperative, Inc. and its affiliated companies. It is the sole decision and discretion of Clark Energy Cooperative, Inc. to disqualify any applicant who does not comply with any of the entry and participation rules as set forth in the application process. Incomplete or inappropriate entries will not be considered for awards.

From the President's Desk

Contact Us

CLARK EC OFFICE LOCATIONS

2640 Iron Works Road,
Winchester 40391
28 Bible Camp Lane,
Frenchburg 40322
170 Halls Lane, Stanton 40380

OFFICE HOURS

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.,
Monday - Friday

OFFICE PHONE NUMBERS

Winchester - (859) 744-4251
Frenchburg - (606) 768-2383
Stanton - (606) 663-4330
Toll Free - (800) 992-3269
Emergency - (800) 992-3269
Fax - (859) 744-4218

**To report an outage,
please call
(800) 992-3269.**

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Light in the darkness

Merry Christmas!

At Clark Energy, we treasure this time of year for many reasons. We know that you and your family are counting on us when you plug in your Christmas tree lights, cook your holiday meals and listen as your pastor leans into the microphone to deliver a Christmas sermon.

For people of faith, the concept of "light" is a common metaphor. To think that the work that we do at Clark Energy allows us to play some role in your family's holiday celebrations is truly an awesome feeling and a tremendous responsibility.

When you flip the switch, charge your phone to call family and friends, and try out that new gadget you find under the tree, know that all of us at Clark Energy are committed to delivering reliable, safe and affordable electricity, not only at Christmas time, but all year long.

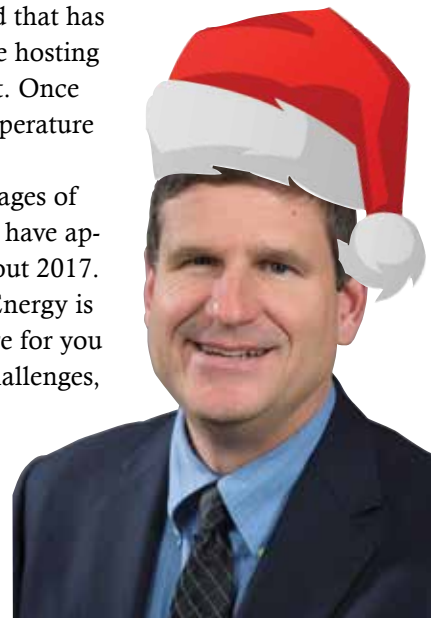
The contrast between darkness and light will be especially evident on December 21, as the winter solstice marks the shortest day of the year and the start of winter. Imagine what people in ancient times must have thought upon the winter solstice. We now know that the tilt of the Earth's axis will gradually come into alignment and bring us more of the sun shining bright on our Kentucky homes.

We encourage you to remember some simple steps to help keep your energy usage and utility bills in check. This is the time of year that lights are on longer, nights are colder and homes generally see more activity.

Use LED lights and put holiday displays on a timer so you aren't illuminating a neighborhood that has settled in for a long winter's nap. If you're hosting a holiday party, turn down the thermostat. Once a home begins to fill with people, the temperature will quickly begin to rise.

As we close another year here in the pages of *Kentucky Living*, please know how much I have appreciated your trust and support throughout 2017. As a member-owned cooperative, Clark Energy is truly *your* electric cooperative. We are here for you through all kinds of weather and other challenges, working to help improve our community. You might say we aim to brighten your life.

We hope that you enjoy this holiday season, confident that Clark Energy is ready to light the way.



Chris Brewer, President & CEO

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2018 Youth Tour

Clark Energy is awarding four all-expense-paid trips to Washington, D.C.

For over 50 years, electric cooperatives have sponsored high school students from across America to visit the nation's capital and meet their members of Congress. This may be the year you can be a part of this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Applications for the 2018 Electric Youth Tour are now being accepted by Clark Energy. Eight semifinalists will be chosen to represent their respective schools at the Frankfort Youth Tour in March along with other students from the state. Four will then be selected from the semifinalists to represent Clark Energy on an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., on June 8-15, 2018. These students will travel with other Kentucky co-op sponsored youth and co-op employed chaperones to see our nation's capital and other sites such as Monticello, Capitol Hill, Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, Washington Cathedral, National Holocaust Museum, Library of Congress, U.S. Capitol Building and the White House.

Participation Requirements:

- Student must be enrolled as a junior in high school or currently hold the status equivalent to junior in an accredited home-based school or academy at time application is made.
- Applicant's parents or legal guardians must have a residential or business account with Clark Energy and

account must be registered in one or both names.

- Applicant must submit a typed essay of 250-500 words on "Why I Should Be Clark Energy's Delegate to Washington, D.C."
- Entries will be judged on sincerity of essay content. Correct spelling, grammar and punctuation are essential.
- Judging and selections will be made by a panel of judges not employed by Clark Energy.
- The applicant cannot be a member of the immediate family (reside in same household) of an employee or director of Clark Energy or Clark Propane Plus.
- A copy of applicant's parents' or legal guardians' Clark Energy electric bill must accompany the essay and application for verification of service.

For additional information, contact Lois Hatton at (800) 992-3269 or by email at lhatton@clarkenergy.com. Applications can be found online at www.clarkenergy.com under "My Community" or in your high school counselors' offices. Read more about the youth tour at www.kaec.org or www.cooperativemyouthtour.com.

Deadline for applying is Friday, February 23, 2018 by 4 p.m.



CHARLIE PASLEY

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Holiday Closings

Clark Energy's offices will be closed on Monday, December 25, Tuesday, December 26, and Monday, January 1, for the holidays.

In the event of an emergency, please call our offices at (800) 992-3269.

From the Clark Energy family to yours, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Have a safe, happy holiday

Even the happiest of times can turn to tragedy if everyone's not careful. This winter, practice some common-sense electrical safety. You could prevent accidents, fires and injuries—and save the season for everyone who gathers in your home for the holidays. Here are 10 electrical safety tips:

1. Buy lights designed for outdoor use. The lights you use to safely decorate your indoor tree are not safe to use outside, where it's cold, damp, windy and exposed. Luckily, it's easy to find lights that are designed specifically for the outdoors.

2. Choose a fire-resistant tree. On an artificial tree, look for a label that guarantees it is "fire retardant" so it will resist burning and will be easy to snuff out if it does catch on fire. If you're a fan of live holiday trees, choose one that is fresh and water it every day.

3. Keep your tree away from heat. Not only will the heat dry out a live tree's needles, it can catch a real

or artificial tree on fire. Keep trees and other combustible decorations at least three feet away from a heat source, like a radiator or portable electric heater.

4. Be picky about hooks. Never staple, screw, nail or tack you outdoor lights to your roof, gutter, railings or doors, where you could cut right through the wires on the light strands. Instead, buy insulated hooks. You'll greatly reduce the risk of a fire, and they won't damage your roof.

5. Examine the lights. Whether you just bought a new set or you're reusing last year's indoor or outdoor lights, inspect them to make sure they all light up and their wires aren't damaged.

6. Insist on "certified." The UL label on Christmas lights, replacement bulbs and decorations means the products have passed tests that prove they are fire- and shock-resistant.

7. Use extension cords sparingly. Extension cords extend the reach of your light strands. But if you hide them under a rug, they'll get trampled on—and can overheat and catch that rug on fire.

8. Follow instructions. Manufacturers of incandescent holiday lights usually recommend that you string no more than three sets together before plugging them in. More than that creates a fire hazard. If you're using energy-efficient LEDs, however, you can safely link up to 25 strands.

9. Use battery-operated candles. Almost half of decoration-related fires are started by candles with real flames, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

10. Install smoke alarms. A beeping smoke alarm could be your first clue that you need to get everyone out of the house. Change your alarm's batteries before your home fills with company.

Look out for scams

Unfortunately, in today's world, scams are inevitable. Scammers can threaten you with everything from legal action involving the IRS to turning off power to your home.

Utility scams often involve an individual or group posing as an employee of your electric cooperative. The scammer may use threatening language in order to frighten you into offering your credit card or bank account information. Don't fall victim to these types of scams. Understand the threats posed and your best course of action:

If someone calls your home or cell phone demanding you pay your electric bill immediately, gather as much information as you can from

that individual, hang-up the phone and contact the local authorities. Scammers often use threats and urgency to pressure you into giving them your bank account number or loading a pre-paid credit or debit card (such as a Green Dot card). Clark Energy will never ask you to offer up personal finance information over the phone. If you have any doubts about your utility bill, contact our office at (859) 744-4251 or (800) 992-3269.

If someone comes to your home claiming to be an employee of Clark Energy that needs to collect money



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or inspect parts of your property, call us to verify they are, in fact, an employee. If they are not, call local authorities for assistance and do not let the individual into your home.

Clark Energy wants to make sure you avoid any and all types of scams that could put you or your financial information in jeopardy.