LG&E a PPL company

POWER SOURCE

DECEMBER 2022



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# YEAH, IT'S COLD, BUT YOU CAN STILL STAY WARM, COMFY AND ENERGY EFFICIENT

It's cold. And it's only going to get colder in the days and weeks to come. This time of year, the trick is to stay warm and comfortable while at the same time keeping your energy usage (and your bill) under control. Here are a few suggestions.

- Consider setting your thermostat at 68 degrees Fahrenheit during the winter months to keep your heating unit from running as much. Even lowering it by one degree can make a difference.
- Use caulk and weather stripping to help keep cold air from getting in (and warm air from getting out).
- Check and/or replace your furnace filter per manufacturer's instructions.
- Make sure your warm air registers are not blocked by drapes or furniture.

And finally, a simple warm soup can hit the spot on those cold, gray days. And using a slow cooker saves on energy use, too. Check out this easy recipe.

## SLOW COOKER BEAN SOUP

**Ingredients:**

1 carrot, chopped

1 onion, chopped

1 lb. bag dry pinto beans, rinsed

1 ham hock

8 cups water

1.5 tsp. salt

1 tsp. pepper

**Directions:**

Place chopped carrot and onion in slow cooker. Add remaining ingredients. Cook on high 8–10 hours.

# BE READY FOR WINTER STORMS THAT COULD LEAVE YOU IN THE DARK

For the next few months, winter storms are a real possibility. Occasionally, a severe storm – with heavy doses of ice, wind and/or snow – could lead to a power outage. Just know LG&E crews will work hard to restore power as quickly and as safely as possible if your service is interrupted. Download our mobile app to easily report and receive updates on power outages. (Use the QR code in this newsletter.) You can also text us at 4LGEKU (454358) to report an outage. Text STATUS to get outage updates. Check to be sure the mobile phone number in your My Account is up to date before severe weather hits.

Now is the time to prepare in the event a storm does leave you without power.

- Assemble an emergency kit. Include a flashlight, a battery-operated radio, extra batteries and a first-aid kit at the minimum. Also, having a portable charger for your cellphone would be wise. (Make sure it's charged.)
- Gather a supply of nonperishable food (canned goods, bagged snacks, granola bars, etc.). Also, keep your refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to protect your perishable food.
- Grab some candles or lanterns. (Don't forget the matches.) Be sure to keep them away from any flammable materials, such as drapes or curtains. And never leave them unattended while burning.
- Have plenty of dry firewood if you have a fireplace or wood stove.

Please remember to stay away from any downed power lines. You should always assume they are live. If you see any downed lines, call us to report them at **502-589-1444** (**800-331-7370** outside Louisville) and press 1-1-2.

## HERE COMES 2023!

It's hard to believe we're about to close the books on 2022, but the new year is just around the corner. We wish you and all your loved ones a healthy and happy 2023!

# USING SPACE HEATERS PROPERLY WILL KEEP YOU WARM – AND SAFE

Cold will be the order of the day (and night) as winter settles in. You may be like a lot of people who supplement their home's heating system by using space heaters to help battle the chill, but it's crucial to be very careful when using them.

- Keep space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can catch fire, such as drapes, bed linens and furniture.
- Make sure your space heater meets the latest safety standards and carries the Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) label.
- If you buy a new space heater, purchase one with a tip-over safety switch, which automatically shuts the unit off if it gets knocked over.
- Never leave a space heater unattended. Always turn it off and unplug it before you leave the house or go to bed.
- Keep children and pets away from space heaters.
- Do NOT use a space heater to warm or dry towels, bed linens or clothing.
- Do NOT use a space heater near water or anywhere else it could get wet.
- Do NOT use an extension cord. Always plug space heaters directly into an outlet.
- Stop using your space heater if the cord or plug gets hot. Space heaters draw quite a bit of electricity during use, meaning cords or plugs may feel warm to the touch, but they should never feel hot.

We also recommend limiting the amount of time you use your space heater. It can significantly increase your energy usage if it's used for a long period of time.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates there are more than 20,000 residential fires every year associated with the use of space heaters. So, remember: safety first when using space heaters.

Visit **lge-ku.com/safety/electric** for more tips to follow when using electricity.

# FOR SAFETY'S SAKE, DON'T TAKE CHANCES WITH YOUR NATURAL GAS PIPING

Is corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST) installed in your home or business? If the structure was built after 1990, it's likely the answer to that question is yes. CSST is a flexible pipe used to supply natural gas to a home. If you have CSST, it's vital for you to know if it was properly installed, bonded and grounded. Otherwise, you risk the possibility of a natural gas leak, a fire or even an explosion. For example, a lightning strike could travel through the gas piping and cause a leak – or something worse.

We recommend hiring a licensed electrician to inspect your home or business for CSST and to make sure it is properly grounded and bonded.

In addition, you should never hang clothes on natural gas piping. And do not let children play around the pipes.

Visit **csstsafety.com** for more helpful information.

# MAKE LIFE A LITTLE SIMPLER – CREATE AN ONLINE ACCOUNT

When it comes to your LG&E account, we have tools to make life a little easier. One of those is to create an online account – called My Account – if you don't already have one. Go to **my.lge-ku.com** and take a couple minutes to sign up. Once you do, you have a safe and secure tool that makes it a breeze to:

- View your monthly bill and billing history.
- Make a payment and/or view your payment history.
- Make a payment arrangement.
- Sign up for other convenient tools, such as paperless billing and auto pay.
- Enroll in My Notifications for bill reminders via text, email and/or voice call.
- Report a power outage.
- Start/stop/transfer service.

With an online account, you have easy, safe and secure access to your information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**LG&E Contact Information**

**Online – My Account**
lge-ku.com

**Residential Service Center**
502-589-1444
(800-331-7370 outside Louisville)
Self-service anytime day or night
Reps available Monday–Friday
7 a.m.–7 p.m. (Eastern Time)

**For Hearing- or Speech-Impaired**
Dial 711

**Business Service Center**
502-627-3313
(800-331-7370 outside Louisville)
Monday–Friday
8 a.m.–6 p.m. (Eastern Time)

**Business Office**
701 South Ninth Street
Monday–Friday
9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (Eastern Time)
Closed for lunch
12–1 p.m. (Eastern Time)

**811 – Locate Service**
Dial 811 or go to kentucky811.org

**Visit our website:**
lge-ku.com

**Editor**
Ann.Abrams@lge-ku.com

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**Like us on Facebook (facebook.com/lgeku) and follow us on Twitter (@lgeku), Instagram (lge_ku) and TikTok (@lgeku).**

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