



# POWERSOURCE

Customers first. Energy that lasts.

## "WinterCare" available for coming season

The WinterCare Energy Assistance Fund is a statewide privately-supported energy assistance fund. WinterCare is a partnership between utilities and Community Action Agencies designed to help low-income, disabled and elderly persons with their utility expenses. Donations to the WinterCare Energy Assistance Fund assist those who are not eligible for federal assistance but still fall below the poverty line.

Residential customers may donate to the WinterCare Energy Assistance Fund by making a donation in the appropriate box on their monthly utility bill or by making a direct contribution to WinterCare (available in all Kentucky counties, except Jefferson).

Eligibility is determined by dire financial situation and lack of resources, leaving a family with no heat or the immediate prospect of no heat; and by a family



who is elderly, very young, seriously ill or disabled. Those who qualify receive benefits only in the peak heating and cooling months. Clients must pay the remainder of their utility bill each month or they could risk being removed from the program. Also, in order to remain on the program, individuals must accept weatherization services if offered. KU plays no part in determining the eligibility for those applying for assistance.

Recipients are encouraged to visit a Community Action Agency office first in order to receive their benefits if they qualify. You can find these local offices in your area online at: [www.eon-us.com/rsc/ku/heating\\_assistance.asp](http://www.eon-us.com/rsc/ku/heating_assistance.asp).

## Have you given a HUG lately?

Due to tremendous interest and customer demand, we offer Home Utility Gift (HUG) certificates throughout the year. HUGs are extremely popular, especially during the holiday season. A HUG is a gift certificate that credits the utility account of any KU customer. HUGs are ideal for individuals on fixed incomes, families in need, senior citizens, and young people just starting out on their own. Many customers also have purchased HUGs for nonprofit and social service organizations.

The purchaser receives a gift certificate to present to the recipient indicating the amount of the purchase. The HUG is a credit placed directly on a customer's account and is automatically subtracted from the customer's next bill. HUGs are available during normal business hours at any customer service walk-in center and can be purchased by cash or check in any denomination over \$25. Be prepared to provide the name and address of the HUG recipient when making your HUG purchase.



## Use LEDs to light up your home this holiday season

The LED, a type of semiconductor, generates light when an electric current is passed through positive and negative materials. As there is no filament to heat, LEDs are **12 to 100 times more efficient** than incandescents and generate less heat. \* Benefits include:

- **Energy savings** – LEDs use a tiny fraction of kilowatt-hours (kwh) of energy compared to incandescents. During a 90-day holiday season using a 300-bulb string for six hours a day with an energy rate of 6.4¢ per kwh, you'll pay **\$0.53 for a string of LED lights** (0.05 kwh per bulb) **versus \$73.58 for a string of incandescents** (7 kwh per bulb). LEDs cost more than incandescents; however, energy savings will allow costs to be recouped in the first season or two (be careful to review packages carefully as LEDs tend to be sold in shorter strings).
- **Safety** – LEDs run much cooler than incandescents, reducing fire hazards. Because they run much cooler, LEDs can be constructed with plastic bulbs instead of glass, reducing their likelihood to break. Make sure lights you purchase have a holographic "UL Listed" tag.
- **Environment** – LEDs do not use mercury and last at least twice as long as incandescent lights, reducing waste we create when throwing out old lights.
- **Brightness** – Mini-LEDs tend to be brighter than incandescents. Regular LEDs are a bit dimmer than incandescents, but the difference is moderate.

\*Source: [consumerreports.org](http://consumerreports.org)



## Technotes

### What's on the big screen?

According to the Department of Energy, 4% of your total home energy use originates from your TV. Though newer flat screen TVs are more energy efficient than old models, the larger screen sizes use a lot more energy. Use these tips to lower your energy costs:

- If you're not watching it, turn it off – **80%** of its energy is used when on.
- **20%** of your TV's energy is being burned while off. To avoid this consumption, plug your TV into a powerstrip and turn off the strip each night and while you're at work.
- In the market for a new TV? Pay close attention to the kwh used. Some TVs made this year use less than half of what they did even three years ago. ENERGY STAR® certification ensures **30% less energy usage** but only in stand-by mode.

## Eco-Centric

KU's Tyrone Generating Station in Woodford County and LG&E's Paddy's Run Generating Station are the latest E.ON U.S. facilities to obtain membership into KY EXCEL, the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection's (DEP) environmental leadership program. The program offers unlimited opportunities for public, corporate and private sectors to improve Kentucky's diverse and unique environment through environmental leadership. Additional E.ON U.S. facilities will gain membership into the program in the coming months as each facility meets the requirements of the program.

"We're honored to be accepted as a member of KY EXCEL for continuing to go beyond what the law requires to operate in an environmentally responsible way," said Sharon Dodson, director of Environmental Affairs for E.ON U.S.

The four environmental goals chosen by the Tyrone Generating Station facility are to:

- **Print carbon footprint information** on residential and small commercial

customer bills to help customers see the impact of their energy use on carbon emissions.

- **Create a Salato Wildlife Center Outdoor Classroom** by having Tyrone Station employees remove logs from a historic structure that has deteriorated beyond repair. The logs will be recycled into benches for a public education area.
- **Excavate, transport, compact and recover 65,440 tons of coal combustion products** from the Tyrone Station to the Falling Springs Recreational Center near Versailles. This was used to fill an unusable low-lying area to provide leveled space for soccer and football fields.
- **Support a five-year project that will commit up to \$10,000 per year** to the rehabilitation, reforestation and preservation of a wildlife sanctuary on the 280-acre site at the Tyrone Station.

To learn more about how we serve as responsible environmental stewards, visit [www.eon-us.com](http://www.eon-us.com).

## Portable electric heaters: Are they safe and effective?

Space heater sales are growing as millions of homeowners buy into the promise of lower-cost heating that provides savings on utility bills. But to realize the full benefit of a space heater to save money, adjust your thermostat down several degrees and use the space heater in one room. Allow the rest of the house to remain cool.

According to *Consumer Reports*, the latest electric space heaters provide more consistent heat than older models and are safer. However, space heaters still

account for 40 percent of the deaths and 30 percent of the injuries in heating-related incidents each year per the U.S. Fire Administration.

Newer space heaters provide a sensor that turns off the unit when the grille is touched, helping to prevent accidental burns or fires. Other models provide a tip-over switch that shuts off when the heater is knocked over. Regardless, space heaters should never be moved while they are on or still hot from recent use.

Remember to keep children, pets, all paper and flammable liquids away from a space heater. Also, be sure to place the heater on a stable surface at least three feet away from other furniture and window treatments and do not leave the heater unattended. Space heaters should not be left on while you sleep; instead use more blankets. Be sure to check your smoke alarm to ensure it has good batteries and is operating properly before using any type of heating appliance this winter. These tips will ensure the safety of your family and home.

## Contact Information

### Kentucky Utilities

KU Customer Service  
Monday – Friday  
7 a.m. – 7 p.m. (EST)  
(800) 981-0600

For hearing/speech-impaired  
Dial 711  
24-hour Power Outages  
(800) 981-0600

Business Service Center  
Monday – Friday  
7 a.m. – 6 p.m. (EST)  
(859) 367-1200  
(800) 383-5582

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