# DISCOVERING SOUTHKENTUCKY

www.skrecc.com • NOVEMBER 2025

### Thanksgiving, plugged in

## Turkeys, touchdowns and touchscreens: energy tips for a modern Kentucky holiday

hanksgiving in Kentucky is about more than turkey, pies and football—it's a day full of energy in more ways than one. From cooking the feast to streaming games, charging devices and prepping for Black Friday, electricity keeps every part of the holiday running smoothly. Understanding how energy flows throughout the day can help families save money, stay safe and enjoy a connected, modern Thanksgiving.

#### **Cooking the feast**

The kitchen is the heart of Thanksgiving—and the biggest energy hub. Ovens roast turkeys and bake pies, stovetops simmer side dishes and slow cookers keep everything warm. Mixers, blenders and microwaves handle prep work and reheating, while the dishwasher cleans up afterward.

*Energy-saving tip:* Cook multiple dishes at once, use lids on pots and consider smaller appliances like slow cookers for side dishes to reduce electricity use.

### Staying comfortable and connected

Thermostats maintain a cozy temperature, and the warmth from many family members helps naturally heat rooms.

TVs stream parades and football games,



while smart devices manage music, lights and home automation.

Energy-saving tip: Let the presence of guests help warm the home, turn off electronics when not in use, and use LED lighting for holiday decor to cut energy costs.

### Charging up for family and friends

Smartphones, tablets and laptops are essential for sharing photos, recipes and video calls with relatives who couldn't travel.

*Energy-saving tip:* Charge devices overnight when possible, and unplug them once fully charged to save energy and prevent unnecessary power use.

### Prepping for Black Friday and cyber shopping

Modern Thanksgiving often includes online shopping and deal-hunting for Black Friday. Laptops, tablets and routers consume energy while browsing, and charging devices keeps you ready to check out.

*Energy-saving tip:* Power devices only when actively using them, and take breaks to prevent overheating and conserve electricity.

#### **Cleaning and maintenance**

Vacuum cleaners, robotic vacuums, laundry machines and water heaters all rely on electricity to keep the home clean and running smoothly before and after dinner.



*Energy-saving tip:* Consolidate laundry and dishes to minimize cycles and run appliances efficiently.

#### Safety tips for a powered Thanksgiving

- Avoid overloading outlets with multiple high-draw appliances.
- Keep cords away from wet surfaces, especially in the kitchen.
- Turn off appliances when leaving the room.

#### Holiday wrap-up

Electricity powers every aspect of a Kentucky Thanksgiving—from the kitchen to the couch, and even to your online shopping cart. By being mindful of energy use and practicing simple efficiency and safety measures, families can enjoy a comfortable, connected and safe holiday.

### Thank you for your service

#### SKRECC sponsors Honor Flight

ach November, Veterans Day reminds us to pause and honor the men and women who have served our nation. One way Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, including South Kentucky RECC, show that gratitude is through support of the Honor Flight program. Honor Flight provides veterans with an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., giving them the chance to visit the memorials dedicated to their service and sacrifice. For many, it is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reflect, heal and connect with fellow veterans who share their experiences.

In August, South Kentucky RECC proudly sponsored Honor Flight 2025. The flight departed from Blue Grass Airport and carried 65 Kentucky veterans to Washington, D.C., for a day of honor and remembrance at memorials dedicated to their service. Among those making the journey were South Kentucky RECC members Arnold Flynn of Pulaski County and Janis Ray Smith of Casey County, both of whom served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. They joined fellow Kentuckians in visiting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery and other sites honoring their sacrifice and service.

South Kentucky RECC is grateful for the service of Flynn, Smith and all veterans. This Veterans Day, and every day, we honor their courage, sacrifice and dedication to our country.

> Top, Arnold Flynn. Bottom, Janis Smith. Photos: Tim Webb







### Stay safe and warm this winter with SKRECC

hen winter storms roll across
Kentucky, South Kentucky
RECC is here for you. Our
crews are on call day and night,
ready to respond when outages occur, no
matter the weather. But being prepared
begins at home, too.

Now is the time to check your weather stripping and insulation, wrap exposed pipes and make sure you have a safe backup heat source. Keep flashlights, extra blankets and nonperishable food handy so your family can stay safe and comfortable.

If you or a family member rely on oxygen or other medical devices that require electricity, make sure you have a backup plan in case of an outage.

"We know our members depend on us, and our crews are committed to working around the clock until the lights are back on," says SKRECC President and CEO Kevin Newton. "That's the co-op wayneighbors helping neighbors, especially when it matters most."

Stay connected by downloading the SmartHub app, visiting skrecc.com and following us on social media for outage reporting and updates. Together, we can weather whatever winter brings.



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**Discovering South Kentucky** is a newsletter insert to Kentucky Living magazine and is published by the Kentucky Electric Cooperatives, Louisville, KY, and by South Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, P.O. Box 910, Somerset, KY 42502, (606) 678-4121.

Address all correspondence to: Discovering South Kentucky, P.O. Box 910, Somerset, KY 42502.

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Visit www.skrecc.com to pay your bill online, to visit our outage center, or for more information about the Co-op Connections Program.

To report an outage 24/7/365, please call your local office, (800) 264-5112, or set up your account to be able to text outages. Please do not report outages via social media.

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Electric space heaters and blankets are great ways to stay toasty warm when the temperature drops. But don't forget about safety when you plug in these chill-chasers.

Remember—an electric space heater is a temporary option for supplemental heat. When you leave a room or go to sleep, turn off your electric space heater.

Always plug space heaters directly into a wall outlet. Never use an extension cord, which can cause overheating.

Never fold electric blankets or heating pads, and avoid using them while sleeping. Inspect them for dark, charred or frayed spots, and check to see if the electric cord is cracked or frayed.

Install smoke alarms on every floor of your home and outside all sleeping areas. Test them once a month.

