

NO WIPES IN



THE PIPES

Each year during the peak of cold and flu season, we see an increase in flushed wipes. Wipes are not biodegradable and do not break down the same way toilet paper does (even if the packaging says they are flushable). Once flushed, pipes can cause blockages that can create sewer backups into your home. They also cause blockages in our system, which is costly and time consuming to repair.

Whether you're using baby wipes to clean your little or disinfecting wipes to clean your home's surfaces, be sure to dispose of them in the trash! If everyone does their part, it will make a huge impact!

Additionally, do not flush cleaning rags or paper towels. Only flush human waste and toilet paper. Remember — **no wipes in the pipes!**



Mark's Corner

Mark Iverson, General Manager

One of the many issues society is dealing with is how to reduce or eliminate the use of fossil fuels. Burning fossil fuels releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, and too much carbon dioxide has impacts on Earth's climate.

The electric power industry is wrestling with this very question. It is important to understand that electric power is one of the very few examples in life where production and consumption happen simultaneously. A consumer's need for electric power (when you turn on the light switch or your home's air conditioner cycles on) is referred to as "load". Electric utilities have to match, or balance, the load with the exact amount of electric power generation. Over-supply or under-supply of electric power causes problems for customers. Grid operators monitor load conditions every minute of every day to ensure power generation resources produce enough to match load. Those resources have to be sufficient to meet load demands under all sorts of conditions like heat waves and cold snaps.

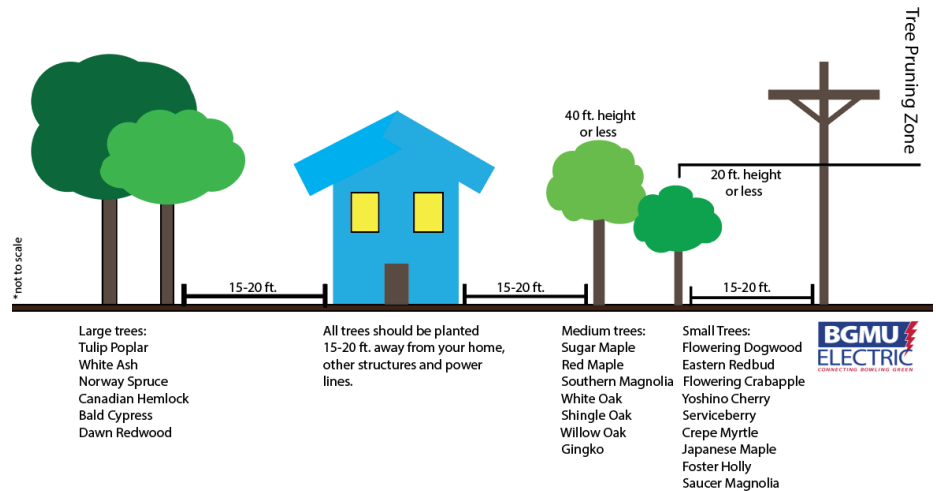
Advocates of aggressive actions to de-couple the production of electricity from burning fossil fuels claim that renewable power (like wind and solar), coupled with battery storage is THE answer to decarbonize the production of electricity. The claim is that excess solar power production during the day can be stored in batteries and used when the sun isn't shining. Further, they claim, renewables plus storage ends the need for fossil fuel-based electric power generation. Linking batteries with renewable resources is an answer, but maybe not THE answer as claimed. Large, substation-sized batteries can discharge stored energy over about four hours. In order to make it through a typical 8-hour night cycle, you would have to install two banks of large batteries to cover the needs of all of the customers served from that substation. How many batteries would a utility need to store sufficient amounts of energy to cover all of its customers' power needs during long periods of cloudy, cold days in winter, for example?

As the electric power industry studies decarbonizing, the best options strike a balance between reliability, resiliency, sustainability, and affordability. What good is an environmentally sustainable solution if it isn't affordable or reliable? What good is a reliable solution if it causes great harm? Absent a breakthrough in storage technology, I suspect the right "balanced" answer for the foreseeable future is a portfolio of different types of electric power generation, some that will probably include the use of fossil fuels and certainly will include an increasing mix of renewables.

PLANTING 101

As you replace trees and shrubs this spring, BGMU asks you to keep safety in mind by planting trees away from power lines and shrubs away from transformer boxes. For information on safe and effective tree planting, visit bgmu.com or call our right-of-way foreman at 270-782-1200. You can also visit the Arbor Day Foundation's website at arborday.org/trees/righttreeandplace/ for tips and tricks regarding effective tree planting.

Don't forget to have underground lines marked at least two days before you dig! Dial 811 or visit kentucky811.org to place your request.



TVA Rebates for Home Energy Improvements

Use a contractor from TVA's Quality Contractor Network to score big savings

Springtime is a great time to make energy improvements to your home! TVA's rebate program makes it more affordable. Simply go to energyright.com to find rebates of up to \$1500!

- ⇒ Go to energyright.com and select **My Home** from the top of the homepage.
- ⇒ From there, you can explore rebates and find contractors that are in the TVA Quality Contractor Network (QCN).
- ⇒ Once work is complete, your contractor will submit the information to TVA. You will then receive a code from TVA EnergyRight via email that will allow you to claim your rebate online.

Rebates can be claimed on the following: window replacement; floor, wall and attic insulation; envelope air sealing; heat pump water heater; duct sealing, repair, insulation or replacement; tune-up for existing heat pump or central air conditioning system; central air conditioner; heat pump (air source or dual fuel); geothermal heat pump and more! See energyright.com for a full list of qualifying rebates and corresponding dollar amounts.

