

# Foliar diseases spread in wet weather

Weather can bring on all kinds of natural occurring oddities. Too wet, too dry, too hot or too cold, there is a pest problem that is favored by every weather pattern imaginable and this year the cool, wet spring favored fungal diseases like rust and anthracnose. Now the heat and humidity make some plants a little weary. And the pop-up summer thunderstorms, lately, add to the easy spread of disease.

It is already clear that rust diseases like cedar-apple rust, cedar-hawthorn rust and cedar-quince rust are widespread this season. The disease is evidenced in the early spring by bright orange spores (the slimy orange globs) on eastern red cedars or other Juniperus species. Once



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development is complete on the cedar the teliospores are released and carried through the air to the next host plant. These other hosts include apple, hawthorn, crabapple and serviceberry. We have some young apple trees that look like they have been splattered in orange paint.

These rust diseases must have two specific hosts to complete their life cycles. For example, cedar-hawthorn rust needs a Juniperus species, like the eastern red cedar to develop during the parasitic stage of life; then needs as a second host plant, the hawthorn, to complete the fruiting stage; then it travels back to re-infect the cedars once again. Yellow spots appear on the foliage in the spring, turning orange as the season progresses and fruit is infected.

Anthracnose will likely be more prevalent this year, too. Trees that are susceptible include dogwood, sycamore, maple and ash (if there are any left from the emerald ash borer). The fungus that causes anthracnose is slightly different for each species of tree, so the fungus that infects sycamores will not infect maples, and so on. Symptoms vary from species to species so for a definite diagnosis samples should be sent to your county extension service.

Anthracnose on sycamores results in leaf and twig dieback early in the season; the leaves that fall are often replaced by new ones. The infection is still there, however, and may continue to develop into cankers on larger branches and limbs. The fungus will remain viable in these cankers and on the fallen debris and re-infect the tree the following year, so this is why it is important to prune away

diseased twigs and limbs and rake up fallen debris. It seems that sycamores suffer no matter the weather or our efforts to thwart the disease. Also, be aware that if you had a 17-year cicada emergence this year like we did in western Shelby County then you will also be seeing flagging (the dieback and dropping of twig tips).

Ash trees react a little differently to the fungus that causes anthracnose. As the new leaves grow, brown splotches will appear, at first around the edges, and the entire leaflet will fall from the tree. Leaves that are mature will have brown circular scars, but you will not see any twig or branch cankers...they are there we just don't see them. Similarly, maples will show leaf spots, but they will be irregular in shape and you will see more tip dieback where the new shoots were infected. Some maples show most of the lesions

near the leaf veins. Dogwood anthracnose causes leaf spots, blighted foliage and twigs and can cause lower branches to die back completely.

It is difficult to distinguish which disease pathogen is causing leaf spots; and, at this point it is essentially too late to effectively use a fungicide, instead, utilize good housekeeping by raking up leaves and infected twigs that have fallen from infected trees. Removing the pathogen this year will reduce the incidence next year. So, clean up what falls to the ground and prune out what dies back on the tree to prevent re-infection. Keep your trees healthy by irrigating them during times of drought and if you fertilize do so only in the late fall to promote healthy root development. Usually, anthracnose won't kill a healthy shade tree, although it does take away from the tree's appearance.

## SCHOOL

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to that, and it's helpful as far as, we're going to have a policy that's very much tight beyond this policy that allows

(cellphones in school), so long as there's the ability for that child to be permitted to have it," he said. "And then on the backside of that, the monitoring of that for instructional purposes."

But board member Steve Carmichael questioned how

schools could restrict the use of devices if the law says students "shall" be permitted to have them.

Harley pointed to the portion of HB 208 that prohibits the use of devices if they "disrupt the educational process." The law lists six

examples of disruptive behavior but clarifies that the list is not limited to only those half dozen situations.

"Shall have it, shall put it in the caddy, those are some things we can talk through," Harley said, giving an example of a possible

restriction. "... The piece of this law that's in this Code of Conduct, I believe it allows us the ability to further manage it.

"... Following the law, it's recommended to add it into that Code of Conduct," Harley added.

"It's good to follow the law," Carmichael responded.

"I would agree," Harley said.

The board approved the language without any opposition. Chairman Jason Collins was not present for the vote.

### NOTICE

In accordance with the requirements of the Public Service Commission ("Commission") as set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 17 and 807 KAR 5:007, Section 3, of the Rules and Regulations of the Commission, notice is hereby given to the member consumers of Blue Grass Energy Cooperative Corporation ("Blue Grass Energy") of a proposed rate adjustment. Blue Grass Energy intends to propose an adjustment of its existing rates to reflect the wholesale rate adjustment of its wholesale supplier, East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc., pursuant to KRS 278.455(2), by filing an application with the Commission on or after August 1, 2025, in Case No. 2025-00220. The application will request that the proposed rates become effective on or after September 1, 2025.

The present and proposed rates for each customer classification to which the proposed rates will apply are set forth below: <sup>1</sup>

Rate	Item	Present	Proposed
GS-1	Residential, Farm & Non-Farm Customer Charge	\$ 17.10	\$ 18.07
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.09598	\$ 0.10142
GS-2	Residential and Farm Inclining Block Customer Charge	\$ 14.36	\$ 15.17
	Energy Charge - First 200 per kWh	\$ 0.08824	\$ 0.09324
	Energy Charge - Next 300 per kWh	\$ 0.10379	\$ 0.10967
	Energy Charge - Over 500 per kWh	\$ 0.11415	\$ 0.12062
	Customer Charge	\$ 25.91	\$ 27.38
GS-3	Residential Time of Day		
	Energy Charge - On Peak per kWh	\$ 0.11357	\$ 0.12001
	Energy Charge - Off Peak per kWh	\$ 0.06598	\$ 0.06972
	Customer Charge	\$ 33.69	\$ 35.60
SC-1	Small Commercial (0-100 kW)		
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.09644	\$ 0.10190
	Demand Charge over 10 KW per kW	\$ 8.06	\$ 8.52
	Customer Charge	\$ 41.46	\$ 43.81
SC-2	General Service 0-100 KW Time of Day Rate		
	Energy Charge - On Peak per kWh	\$ 0.14184	\$ 0.14988
	Energy Charge - Off Peak per kWh	\$ 0.08012	\$ 0.08466
	Customer Charge	\$ 57.60	\$ 60.86
LP-1	Large Power (101 - 500 kW)		
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.06569	\$ 0.06941
	Demand Charge per kW	\$ 8.64	\$ 9.13
	Customer Charge	\$ 57.82	\$ 61.10
LP-1	Large Power (101 - 500 kW) (Time of Day)		
	Energy Charge - On Peak per kWh	\$ 0.10703	\$ 0.11309
	Energy Charge - Off Peak per kWh	\$ 0.07519	\$ 0.07945
	Customer Charge	\$ 115.20	\$ 121.73
LP-2	Large Power (over 500 kW)		
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.05932	\$ 0.06268
	Demand Charge per kW	\$ 8.64	\$ 9.13
	Customer Charge	\$ 115.20	\$ 121.73
B-1	Large Industrial (1,000 - 3,999 kW)		
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.05986	\$ 0.06497
	Demand Charge	\$ 7.42	\$ 8.05
	Contract per kW	\$ 10.33	\$ 11.21
B-2	Large Industrial (over 4,000 kW)		
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 2,301.71	\$ 2,498.20
	Demand Charge	\$ 7.42	\$ 8.05
	Contract per kW	\$ 10.33	\$ 11.21
B-2	Large Industrial (over 4,000 kW)		
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 2,301.71	\$ 2,498.20
	Demand Charge	\$ 7.42	\$ 8.05
	Contract per kW	\$ 10.33	\$ 11.21
L	Lighting		
	Open Bottom Light- 6000-9500 Lumens	\$ 12.23	\$ 12.92
	Open Bottom Light- 25,000 Lumens	\$ 19.02	\$ 20.10
	Directional Flood Light	\$ 19.45	\$ 20.55
L	Lighting		
	Shoebox Fixture	\$ 21.35	\$ 22.56
	Acorn Fixture	\$ 20.60	\$ 21.77
	Colonial Fixture	\$ 17.45	\$ 18.44
L	Lighting		
	Cobra Head- 5 0,000 Lumens	\$ 26.55	\$ 28.05
	Ornamental Light 6000-9500 Lumens	\$ 12.07	\$ 12.75
	Ornamental light- approx 25000 Lumens	\$ 17.27	\$ 18.25
L	Lighting		
	Colonial Fixture-		

Rate	Item	Present	Proposed
Special	15ft Mounting height	\$ 10.61	\$ 11.21
	Cobra Head- 25000 Lumens	\$ 18.83	\$ 19.90
	Cobra Head- 6000-9500 Lumens	\$ 12.72	\$ 13.44
	Customer Charge	\$ 5,726.70	\$ 6,127.60
Special	Special - EKPC Rate G		
	Demand Charge per kW	\$ 7.30	\$ 9.14
	Interruptible Credit per kW	\$ (5.60)	\$ (5.60)
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$ 0.05146	\$ 0.05478

The effect of the change requested, in both dollar amounts and as a percentage, for each customer classification to which the proposed rates will apply is set forth below:

Rate	Item	Present	Proposed	Increase
		Dollars		Percent
GS-1	Residential, Farm & Non-Farm	\$ 5,019,764		5.01%
GS-2	Residential and Farm Inclining Block	\$ 1,913		5.01%
GS-3	Residential Time of Day	\$ 1,299		5.01%
SC-1	Small Commercial (0-100 kW)	\$ 569,455		5.04%
SC-2	General Service 0-100 KW Time of Day Rate	\$ 9,641		5.01%
LP-1	Large Power (101 - 500 kW)	\$ 193,445		5.02%
LP-2	Large Power (over 500 kW)	\$ 499,160		5.00%
B-1	Large Industrial (1,000 - 3,999 kW)	\$ 334,892		7.83%
B-2	Large Industrial (over 4,000 kW)	\$ 801,806		7.62%
L	Lighting	\$ 139,093		5.47%
Special	Special - EKPC Rate G	\$ 640,575		10.40%
Total		\$ 8,211,042		5.51%

The amount of the average usage and the effect upon the average bill for each customer classification to which the proposed rates will apply is set forth below:

Rate	Item	Average Usage (kWh)	Dollars	Increase	Percent
GS-1	Residential, Farm & Non-Farm	1,118	\$7.05		5.01%
GS-2	Residential and Farm Inclining Block	91	\$1.30		5.01%
GS-3	Residential Time of Day	941	\$5.57		5.01%
SC-1	Small Commercial (0-100 kW)	2,188	\$15.98		5.04%
SC-2	General Service 0-100 KW Time of Day Rate	2,272	\$16.86		5.01%
LP-1	Large Power (101 - 500 kW)	49,269	\$260.01		5.02%
LP-2	Large Power (over 500 kW)	325,327	\$1,459.53		5.00%
B-1	Large Industrial (1,000 - 3,999 kW)	1,732,321	\$11,960.42		7.83%
B-2	Large Industrial (over 4,000 kW)	3,755,634	\$22,272.38		7.62%
L	Lghting	NA	NA		5.47%
Special	Special - EKPC Rate G	7,271,261	\$53,381.26		10.40%

A person may examine the application and any related documents Blue Grass Energy has filed with the PSC at the utility's principal office, located at 1201 Nicholasville Road, Lexington, KY 40356. (859) 885-4191.

A person may also examine the application: (i) at the Commission's offices located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; or (ii) through the Commission's website at <http://psc.ky.gov>. Comments regarding the application may be submitted to the Commission through its Web site or by mail to Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602,

The rates contained in this notice are the rates proposed by Blue Grass Energy, but the Commission may order rates to be charged that differ from the proposed rates contained in this notice. A person may submit a timely written request for intervention to the Commission at Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602, establishing the grounds for the request including the status and interest of the party. If the Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty (30) days of initial publication or mailing of the notice, the Commission may take final action on the application.

<sup>1</sup> The present and proposed rate in this notice reflect Blue Grass' approved rates at the time of this notice and not the rate Blue Grass has proposed in Case No. 2025-00103, *Electronic Application of an Alternative Rate Adjustment for Blue Grass Energy Cooperative Puruant to 807 KAR 5:0708*. Therefore, the present and proposed rates in this proceeding could differ based up the Commission's decision, and timing of decision, in Case No. 2025-00103.