



THE WIRE

*Published by
The Electrical Clearing House of Louisville
Established: 1912*

102 Whirlaway Ct, Cox's Creek, KY 40013
502.528.9319
www.echlky.com

MAY 2025

The Presidents' Letter

Our April meeting presentation was very well received by the members in attendance. Metro Inspector Norb Thorpe and myself discussed some problems that Norb has been experiencing regarding surge protectors on dwelling unit panels. It was a very timely discussion that spurred many questions and much discussion. I really appreciate Norb's time and effort with helping present this very interesting material. Norb always does an excellent job explaining code provisions.

We are trying to make the presentations more meaningful and relevant. Metro electrical inspectors, L.G. & E. supervisors, and some knowledgeable National Electrical Code people are present at most meetings. If you haven't been to a meeting lately, check out the May 12th presentation. It will be the last one before summer break. We will resume our general membership meetings September 8th.

We are adding a help request form to the ECHL website. Many of our members are experiencing problems getting answers to questions. Questions regarding licensing, electrical inspections, utility concerns, or electrical code are just a few examples that we have heard about. Take a look at the site and see what you think.

Beginning July 15, 2024 any license renewals for contractor, master, or electrician licenses will be for two years. With this next renewal, you will pay a fee for two years. When you renew again two years later, you will be required to have 12 hours of continuing education for each license that is being renewed and will pay a fee for two years. Call the department at (502) 573-2002 with any questions.

The Sponsorship Form is on the website. If you know of any company that may be interested in becoming a sponsor, please print off the form and give it out to any prospective sponsor. The cost for a company or organization to become a sponsor is \$100.

MAY 12, 2025 Code Program

***Sign-in 6:30 P.M. - Program at 7:00 P.M.
ELKS LODGE # 8 - 2824 KLONDIKE LN -***

The program for May will be a continuation of the all the Code Updates. The presentation will be presented by Dennis Steier and Steve Willinghamurst and cover the Code Sections that are being enforced January 1, 2025.

Steve and Dennis will also touch some of the Code Articles that are being delayed. This presentation will be a review/comparison of each section of the Code updates from 2017 to present.

Bring a friend and enjoy the program.

Dennis will also go over the Code Questions from the April 2025 Wire.

See you Monday Evening, May 12, 2025, at 6:30pm.

Stay Alert! Work Smart & Stay Informed!

Mark you calendars - CEU Renewals!

Our General Membership meetings are held at the Elks Lodge located at 2824 Klondike Lane. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm with sign-ins beginning at 6:30 pm. You can obtain your CEU Hours toward your Master Electrician License, by attending 4 classes of 1.5 credit hours at each class. Membership also includes a Saturday class in February to obtain the credit hours to renew your contractor's license.

Upcoming ECHL General Membership Meeting Dates
May 12, 2025

Summer Break (June, July & August)

September 8, 2025

October 13, 2025

November 10, 2025

December 8, 2025

Applications for membership can be obtained from our website: www.ECHLKY.com

MAY Code Questions

1. Can you install a # 10 AWG THWN copper conductor in a 55 foot overhead span and follow the 2023 NEC? Where would you find this answer in 2023 NEC?

YES NO

Section: _____

2. Can you perform maintenance on a listed piece of equipment without referring to the original equipment manufacturers' instructions? Where would you find this answer in 2023 NEC?

YES NO

Section: _____

3. If you are performing work in a control panel with a main circuit breaker installed inside the panel and you have turned it off, is this panel considered in a Electrical Safe working condition and NFPA 70E does not apply?

YES NO

Section: _____

4. Can you install on the threaded end in a RMC and be compliance with the 2023 NEC? Where would you find this answer in the 2023 NEC?

YES NO

Section: _____

5. If you have a span that is 16 feet and you are running a 2" RGC and would you need special permission from the AHJ for this installation? Where would you find the answer in the 2023 NEC?

YES NO

Section: _____

Code Corner

NEC 2023

Well, this is the last Code Corner until September, and we only had the 2023 NEC in effect in Kentucky as of January 1st, 2025. Kentucky once upon a time was an example as a State that quickly adopted the current NEC, in most cases it would go into effect around July of the year. Oh, how times have changed since that time makes us want to yearn for the good old days when Kentucky cared about a safely installed electrical system.

Throughout this year I have addressed changes and the exception the Home Builders delayed because of simple greed on their part. The irony is that the 2026 NEC is current in print, and we will more than likely face the same resistance that we have experienced since the 2008 code cycle. We know it will once again be a battle and we need to be ready to protect the public from the uneducated legislators, who do not seem to think an Electric Code is necessary.

When we had resistance, it was in the 2011 cycle we formed a coalition with a group that consisted of IBEW, IEC, ABC NECA, NFPA and Fire Fighters from across the State and we were successful in getting that cycle adopted. Unfortunately, we did not keep that coalition together and we certainly should have.

We did put a group back together this year, and we need to keep this coalition together for what we know will once again be a battle to get the 2026 NEC adopted. Eddie Devine the Business Manger of IBEW Local 369 has been instrumental in putting this coalition together. Hopefully, this time this coalition will stay together to fight for the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky once again to go back to the good old days when we adopted the NEC in a timely manner.

Submitted by Dennis Steier

Top Three Code Violations Louisville Metro Inspections MAY 2025

These violations are costing you time and money.

1. **NEC Article # 225.35 ACCESS TO
OCCUPANTS**

In a multiple-occupancy building, each occupant shall have access to the occupant's supply disconnecting-means.

Exception: In a multiple-occupancy building where electric supply and electrical maintenance are provided by the building management and where these are under continuous building management supervision the supply disconnecting means supplying more than one occupancy shall be permitted to be accessible to authorized management personnel only.

2. **NEC Article # 225.20 Protection
Against Physical Damage.**

Conductors installed on buildings, structures, or poles shall be protected against physical damage as provided for services in 230.50.

3. **NEC Article # 225.17(A) Strength**

The mast shall have adequate strength or be supported by braces or guys to safely withstand the strain imposed by the overhead feeder or branch-circuit conductors. Hubs intended for use with a conductors shall be identified for use with a mast.

*Submitted by Arnold Hornback
Assistant Chief Electrical Inspector
Louisville Metro - Dept of Codes and Regulations*

Presidents Letter - Cont'd

Our next general membership meeting is scheduled for Monday May 12, 2025 at the Elks Lodge located at 2824 Klondike Lane. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm with sign-ins beginning at 6:30 pm.

Hope to see you there.

As Always Stay Safe and Work Safe
Steve Willinghurst
ECHL President

LG&E NEWS

This specifically focuses on underground electric. There currently is an increase in turn downs for underground services. As a reminder, crews will turn down any service that does not meet the correct criteria. The overwhelming issue is not enough cable left over to make the proper connections.

The customer service cable must be installed within 18" of the transformer (secondary side), splice box or pedestal **AND** have a minimum of 6 feet of cable left above ground in order to make connections. The utility will not excavate beyond the required 18". It's cheaper to provide a little more wire than lose time and money fixing a problem with a simple solution.

Additionally, please check the cable for any damage. If the cable is visibly damaged, it will need to be repaired before it can be connected.

*Submitted by Joel McCauley
Team Leader Electric Design Svcs
LG&E and KU Energy LLC*

Doing Electrical Work for Friends and Family

Many jurisdictions across North America allow you to [do your own electrical work in your home](#). As long as it passes inspection, there's no code violation concerns for DIYers handling their own wiring. Trouble is, once friends and family hear you're good at [electrical work](#), requests to help with theirs may start coming. This is a [code violation](#) in most places. Working on your own [electrical system](#) is fine, but only licensed electricians can work on someone else's. However, make sure to check with your local municipality before performing any electrical repair work on your own.



Choosing the Wrong Circuit Breaker

To help you understand which electrical protection goes where, consider what each type of breaker was designed to do and make sure to follow the national electric code.

Standard Circuit Breaker

[Circuit breakers protect home electrical wiring and equipment](#) like furnaces, air conditioners, dryers and stoves. Standard circuit breakers are better at protecting wiring and equipment than preventing fires and protecting people. That's why they have largely been replaced by GFCIs

and AFCIs. There are only a few places left where [standard circuit breakers](#) can be used, typically for large home electrical appliances.

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter

Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) protect people in areas where they are likely to be using small appliances and where water is present. GFCI breakers and outlets have been around for a while, and most people know they're required in bathrooms, kitchens and outdoors. But our experts are still finding home electrical violations, especially in garages, crawl spaces, storage/work areas in unfinished basements, wet bars (within six feet of a sink) and sump pumps.

And don't forget that GFCIs need to be readily accessible to be reset. This means they shouldn't be installed on the ceiling or buried under a hydro massage tub without an [access panel](#).

Arc fault circuit interrupter

Arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs) prevent fires in living areas where appliance cords are prone to be pinched or crimped, or chewed by pets. They used to be required only on bedroom circuits, but the National Electrical Code now requires AFCI protection in all living areas. They're equipped with sophisticated electronics that can detect an arcing condition (like in a frayed lamp cord), which may not be detected by a standard circuit breaker until after a fire has started.

AFCI protection is not just required for new construction. It's also required where branch-circuit wiring is modified, replaced or extended into existing homes. It's important to know the [difference between GFCIs and AFCIs](#).

Source: Internet Search Circuit Breakers