

FLEMING-MASON ENERGY

2018 National Co-op Month

Fleming-Mason Energy puts people first

Before Fleming-Mason Energy formed in 1938 to bring power to northeastern Kentucky, rural life was hard with many people having no electric light, heat or refrigeration. But a simple philosophy that guided our founders still holds true today: We help people best by working together to improve lives.

Their vision of working together for a better life didn't stop there.

One of our system's power plants, for example, is named after J.K. Smith. Born in Meade County, he was the first general manager of Fleming-Mason RECC. He worked to establish our power supply, and then brought the co-op model to people in Ecuador and other nations

Energy has grown tremendously. Today, we serve over 24,000 members across eight counties. Even though the areas where we distribute power have much less population—four to six times fewer people per mile to spread operating costs—than utilities serving cities, we are competitive on rates.

We're proud of our history and also embracing the future. Last year, we helped build Cooperative Solar Farm One, one of the largest solar farms in Kentucky. It provides enough electricity to power 1,000 homes.

Cooperative principles, such as supporting local communities, still guide us today. We do that by providing scholarships to students, sponsoring Honor Flights for veterans, helping families facing illnesses at Ronald McDonald Houses and sponsoring athletes at the Special Olympics.

Putting people first. That's what we do. That's our purpose, and that's the cooperative way.

Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperatives



serve
80%
of **U.S.**
counties


employ
54,002
PEOPLE

Cover
70% of the
U.S.



serve 
32 million
people
46 in  States

That principle is why we exist. It's why we're celebrating National Cooperative Month in October, and why this month we're reflecting on our proud past and the bright future ahead.

Our parents and grandparents planted the cooperative model here. When the utilities serving cities would not provide power to the countryside, local farmers joined together, formed our co-op and built their own power supply system.

around the world. He was a driving force behind the creation of the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives and the Cooperative Finance Corporation, which helped to start 1,000 cooperatives nationwide.

Since those early days, Fleming-Mason

At your service, 24/7

Should you experience an electric outage, cooperative employees are standing by to respond 24/7—even during a holiday. To report an outage, call 1-800-464-3144.



Joni Hazelrigg
PRESIDENT & CEO

Contact us:

In Fleming County:

(606) 845.2661

Other Counties:

(800) 464.3144

Hours:

7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

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5 tips for planting a tree

Tree roots and power lines often coexist without problems. However, there are precautions you should take when planting a tree. Here are some things to be aware of when digging into the earth and growing a tree into the sky, and a few tips you can use to safely beautify your home and landscape.

Tips for safely planting a tree

1. Call 811 to have underground pipes and utilities marked at least a few working days before digging. Knowing their locations helps you dig safely, and planting a safe distance away will help prevent damage from roots.
2. Create a basic plan, or a sketched diagram, before you begin planting to avoid future troubles. Using the information from the underground utility locator service will be a big help in setting some guidelines.
3. Consider a tree's potential growth when choosing its location. If it's expected to grow higher than 15 feet, choose a spot 25 to 50 feet away from utility lines and your home.
4. Plant with energy savings in mind. Not only can you upgrade your landscape, but you can decrease your energy use, too. Trees can keep your home cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Just be sure you're aware of power line location and avoid structural damage.
5. Call your local co-op if you need help trimming a tree away from power lines. This will keep you and everyone around you much safer.

Understanding 811's underground utility markings

So you call 811, the underground utility locator service, to mark the location of underground utilities before you start digging. You see each is marked with a specific color, but what do they represent?

- **RED** – electric power lines, cables, conduit and lighting cables
- **YELLOW** – natural gas, oil, steam, petroleum or other gaseous or flammable material
- **ORANGE** – telecommunication, alarm or signal lines, cables, or conduit
- **BLUE** – portable (drinking) water
- **GREEN** – sewers and drain lines
- **PURPLE** – reclaimed water, irrigation and slurry lines
- **WHITE** – proposed excavation limits or route

Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place

For more tips on smart tree planting in your community, contact your local electric cooperative or visit www.ArborDay.org.

Trees beautify our neighborhoods, and when planted in the right spot, can even help lower energy bills. But the wrong tree in the wrong place can be a hazard... especially to power lines.

LARGE TREES

Height/spread of more than 40 feet, such as:

- Maple
- Birch
- Oak
- Sweetgum
- Spruce
- Linden
- Pine

MEDIUM TREES

Height/spread of 25 to 40 feet, such as:

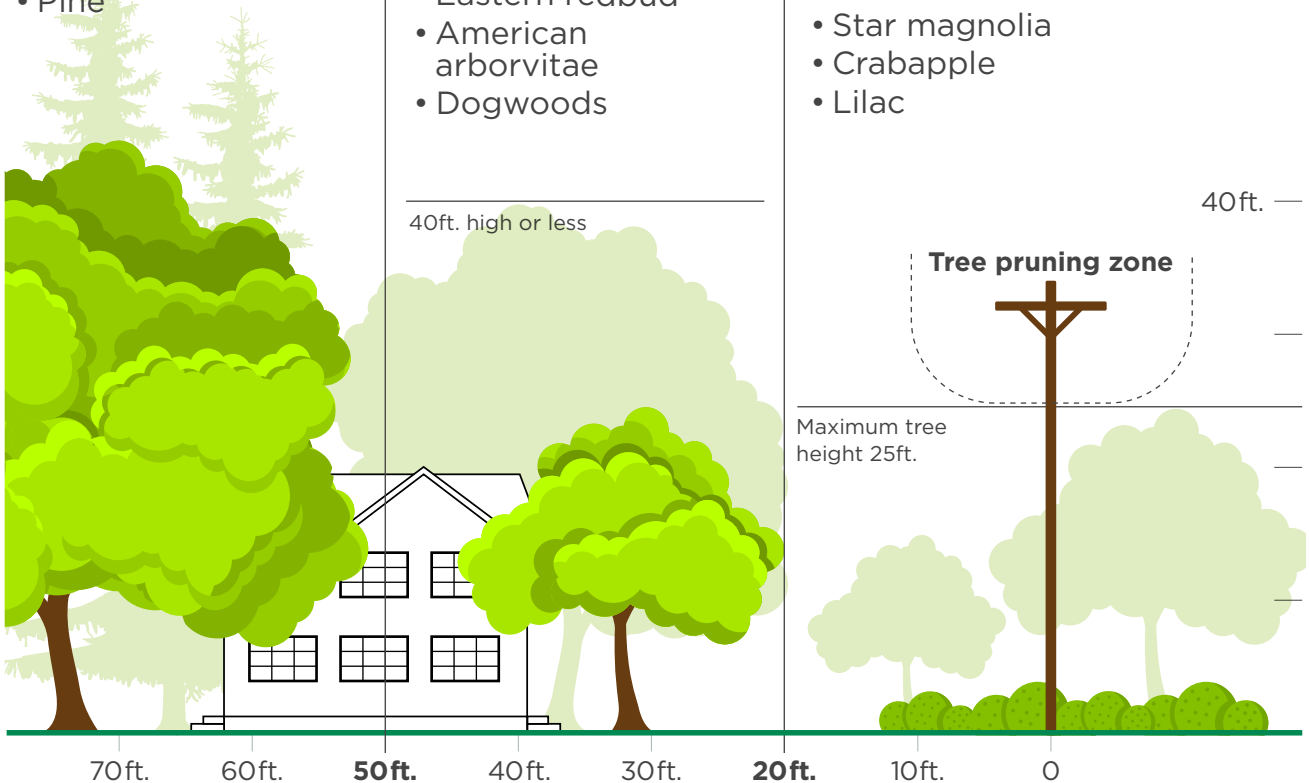
- Washington hawthorn
- Goldenrain tree
- Eastern redbud
- American arborvitae
- Dogwoods

SMALL TREES

Avoid planting within 20 feet of power lines. When planting within 20 feet is unavoidable, use only shrubs and small trees.

Height/spread of no more than 25 feet, such as:

- Star magnolia
- Crabapple
- Lilac



Be safe! Always call 811 before you dig to locate any buried utility lines.

Source: The Arbor Day Foundation and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association



**SAFE,
RELIABLE,
AFFORDABLE
ENERGY.**

**THEN. NOW.
ALWAYS.**

**We are proud to
power your life.**

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

Helping families...

Your local co-op employees care. That's why they've donated time and money to help the Ronald McDonald House Charities in Kentucky. The Houses provide comfort to families during one of the most unimaginable times - when a child is in the hospital. Co-ops are committed to the communities they serve.

The power of human connections

