

Sharing a 'special' connection

Fleming-Mason Energy, along with all members of Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, is a proud sponsor of the Special Olympics Kentucky State Summer Games. Sadly, this year's games, like so many events, had to be canceled. Our commitment to the athletes and the organization continues, however.

We are proud to have our name associated with this organization that shares our mission of being "special" in all that we undertake. In several ways, Fleming-Mason Energy and Special Olympics have commonality that goes well beyond the Summer Games. Here are a few:

We empower Kentuckians. By providing access to reliable, safe electricity, Fleming-Mason Energy is the source of conveniences and benefits that help those in our service area enjoy a higher quality of life. Likewise, Special Olympics empowers

Kentuckians with intellectual disabilities to live well through the physical fitness, self-confidence and life skills they gain from sports training, competition and year-round programs like Special Olympics' Healthy Athletes Initiative. The program promotes healthy lifestyles through education, testing and assistance with dentistry, optometry, audiology and physical therapy.

We embrace volunteerism. Caring for community is a cornerstone of the cooperative business model. Fleming-Mason Energy employees demonstrate caring by giving their time to support the Kentucky Blood Center, Ronald McDonald Charities of the Bluegrass, Beautify the Bluegrass, Honor Flight and a variety of local charities and schools.

Special Olympics depends on the dedication of commonwealth residents who volunteer their time to serve Kentucky's children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Some Fleming-Mason

Energy employees—often along with their families—are among more than 8,000 Kentucky volunteers who work at the Summer Games.

We're investing in tomorrow. Your cooperative supports science, technology, engineering and math educational programming in our local schools to help prepare the next generation to lead our communities.

Through its Unified Sports program and Unified Champion Schools initiative, Special Olympics encourages students with and without intellectual disabilities to work together in planning advocacy, awareness and inclusion activities. Currently, more than 80 Kentucky schools participate. Among them is Rowan County Senior High School in Fleming-Mason Energy's service area.

This year's Summer Games may be canceled, but our special connection with this organization goes on. Together, we're empowering Kentuckians for a better tomorrow.

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.



TIM WEBB



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.

Editor

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June safety matters

Electrical safety around water

Whether it's swimming, boating or fishing, summertime is water recreation time for millions of Kentuckians. To protect yourself and your loved ones, beware of electrical hazards near water.

There is a hidden danger called Electric Shock Drowning, or ESD, and it's entirely preventable. ESD happens when electricity from a dock, boat, pool or hot tub leaks electric current into the surrounding water.

Try to avoid entering the water when launching or loading a boat. Have your boat's electrical system inspected by a qualified electrician annually, and after a major storm, to be sure it is safe and up to code. Know where your main breakers are located on the boat and on shore to respond quickly in an emergency.

Here are other ways to stay safe:

- Never swim near a marina or close to a boat that is running.

- Always check the location of nearby power lines before boating or fishing and stay at least 10 feet away.

- If your boat contacts a power line, stay in the boat, call 911 and avoid touching anything metal until help arrives.

- Have your swimming pool, hot tub or spa inspected by a licensed electrician to ensure your electric equipment is grounded correctly and up to code.

- Keep tools and electric equipment at least 5 feet away from your pool, hot tub or from any water feature, dam or creek on your property.

- When you get out of the water, don't reach to change a radio station or touch electrical equipment before being sure you are dry.

Fleming-Mason Energy cares about your safety. Enjoy the water and be safe at all times.



GPOINTSTUDIO

Safety is our number one priority

2020 Fleming-Mason Energy Annual Meeting postponed

On the last day of 2019, when the World Health Organization first learned of dozens of cases of a pneumonia-like illness in Wuhan, China, the world had no idea that the coronavirus pandemic was about to spread rapidly to take thousands of lives—and close businesses—all across the globe.

In the months that followed, nearly everything shut down. March Madness was canceled. The Kentucky Derby was postponed. Even the magical world of Disney closed for public safety.

To protect our own members, Fleming-Mason Energy also decided to postpone this year's annual meeting. The co-op's meeting will now be Thursday, July 9. Due to social distancing concerns we will not serve food or have a kids' zone as in years past. In addition, the Fleming-Mason Board of Directors may alter or amend the format and conduct of the meeting to comply with any then existing federal, state or local laws and to accommodate public health or safety concerns.

As disappointing as this is for Fleming-Mason Energy and our entire co-op family, safety is our top priority. Nothing is more important than you going home safely to your families each and every day, and that is why Fleming-Mason Energy's board made the decision to change plans for the annual meeting.



Fleming-Mason Energy lights up green to honor those lost in Kentucky during the COVID-19 pandemic. Photo: Tim Pease

In an answer to Gov. Andy Beshear's call to show our compassion for the people and the families who have been taken from us, Fleming-Mason Energy began lighting our office location green.

Fleming-Mason Energy thanks people across our local communities who have taken food to others, helped neighbors, or called friends and relatives who have been home alone just to see how they were doing.

We thank members for your patience with the changes that occurred in our operations with lobby closures and alternate work schedules due to concerns about COVID-19.

We especially thank our lineworkers and other field employees who kept doing the difficult work

to go out in the middle of the night during cold and bad weather to make repairs after storms damaged our electric system. Their efforts to restore service and keep the lights on is truly heroic work.

This spring, many of us have learned the importance of being flexible and realized how truly special it is when families are able to spend time together. So when Fleming-Mason Energy and our members are able to come together to meet once again, we hope everyone in our co-op family can participate.

We've all been battling against this horrible pandemic. But please remember that our nation has faced and overcome many crises. We will overcome COVID-19. We're in this together!

June is Home Safety Month

June is Home Safety Month, and it's the perfect time to sweep your house of electrical hazards.

Start with a self-audit of your home—something you should turn into an annual ritual. Check that all of your appliances are still in working order by turning them on and off, listening to the sound of the motor (is it “normal?”) and inspecting their cords and plugs for damage.

Some more quick tips:

- If you have young children at home, plug wall outlets with child-safety caps. Better yet, replace the old outlets with tamper resistant receptacles for as little as \$2 an outlet (required in new homes since 2008).
- Replace appliances whose cords are frayed or worn. You can't fix those.
- Resolve to buy new appliances that have the thumbs-up from an



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independent testing laboratory like Underwriters Laboratories.

- Choose lightbulbs with the correct wattage for each lamp and overhead light fixture. You'll find the maximum safe wattage imprinted on the fixture.

- Get those electrical cords out from under your carpets. Covering cords can cause them to overheat and start a fire.

- Put your extension cords away. They're not meant for everyday use.
- Install waterproof covers on your outdoor outlets.

5 Easy Ways to Pay

Fleming-Mason Energy offers a number of ways to pay your bill remotely to reflect social distancing advocated by health officials because of COVID-19. Stay home to pay! If you have questions about any of these options, please call us at (800) 464-3144.

1. Online at www.fme.coop

E-Check / Credit Card

2. Direct Withdrawal

Auto Draft

3. Text PAY to 352667

4. Smart Phone App

FMEnergy at app stores

5. Interactive Voice Response (IVR)

Direct Number (855) 464-9842

