

Winning traditions

Fleming-Mason Energy and Wildcats basketball share common bonds

When the calendar flips to the year's third month, University of Kentucky basketball fans know it's time to get serious. Big Blue Nation, as the UK fanbase is known, revs up for another March Madness experience. Here at Fleming-Mason Energy, we're focused on another form of madness that begins this month: spring storm season.

At first glance, UK basketball and the co-op seem to have little in common. But take a closer look. Each has a well-deserved reputation for winning.

Adolph Rupp began his 41 seasons of coaching University of Kentucky men's basketball in 1930. By 1933 the Wildcats were ranked the nation's best.

Around the same time, rural electric co-ops were getting their start thanks to Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal federal legislation. Fleming-Mason Energy was among them, forming in 1938 to serve farmers living in Nepton (Fleming) and May's Lick (Mason). Our early victories came in the form of setting poles and stringing power lines in the rugged Kentucky landscape to energize rural homes and farms.

Those early successes would have been forgotten, though, if not for the "winning seasons" each has recorded in the decades since. Rupp preached that excellence is achieved through precision, dedication and innovation. This philosophy established a performance standard that has stood the test of time, earning the Wildcats more all-time victories than any other college men's program in the nation.

We operate with a similar mindset at Fleming-Mason Energy. The electrical grid reliability and resilience our members have come to know and expect—our winning traditions—are achieved through employees' unyielding commitment to hard work and dogged attention to even the smallest details. The result: reliability for our members.

As you click the remote to watch this year's edition of March Madness, I hope you'll take a moment to think about your co-op team. We'll never be hoisting a championship banner, but our winning attitude



can't be matched. You can always count on us to keep the power flowing even when storms roll through. Go, team!

At your service, 24/7

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

Brandon Hunt
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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Prepare for spring storm season

The first week of March is designated Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kentucky. Fleming-Mason Energy urges our members to take this opportunity to renew emergency plans and emergency supply kits before the spring storm season arrives.

“Here in Fleming-Mason Energy’s service area, we’ve witnessed first-hand the damage and disruption extreme weather can cause, but being weather aware and prepared can help us fare better and recover quicker,” says Fleming-Mason Energy President and CEO Brandon Hunt.

Hazardous weather events sometimes lead to extended power outages, Hunt says. “We urge our members to be proactive in preparing for power interruptions, especially for those who depend on electric medical equipment.”

Use this checklist to update protections for your family in the event of an extended outage.

- 1. Replenish emergency supplies.** Restock your emergency supply kit and store it in an easy-to-find place. Find a supply list on Fleming-Mason Energy’s website, www.fme.coop.
- 2. Update plans for medically fragile family members.** Those reliant on in-home, electricity-dependent medical equipment should have a backup power option. Refill prescriptions and



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have medicine on hand. Have an available cooler and ice for refrigerated medicines.

- 3. Review your emergency plan.** Every household member should know the plan.
- 4. Check connections.** Follow Fleming-Mason Energy on Facebook to stay informed about outages and power restoration. Update contacts for family and friends (via text, social media or messaging app). Ensure contact information is updated for microchipped pets.
- 5. Store important documents.** Add newly acquired documents (birth certificates, property deeds, etc.) to those already stored in a safe place away from home (bank safe deposit box, etc.).
- 6. Prepare the generator.** Stock up on fuel for a portable generator. Use the owner’s manual to test a standby generator’s functions.
- 7. Stash some cash.** Electronic card readers and cash machines may not work during a power outage.

Annual Meeting Scholarship Essay deadline is April 4

Fleming-Mason Energy is proud to sponsor its 2025 Annual Meeting Scholarship Essay contest. This program was designed to enhance the education and resulting careers of deserving students by offering 10 scholarships of \$1,000 each. Some of the participation requirements are:

- Candidates must be from the Fleming-Mason Energy service area and their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must be a resident of the said area AND a member of Fleming-Mason Energy. Applicant's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must have a residential or business account with Fleming-Mason Energy and the account must be registered in one or both names.

- The candidate must be a graduating high school senior in good standing.
- The applicant must be enrolled or planning to enroll in an educational or training institution.
- Candidates must agree to appear in person at the Fleming-Mason Energy Annual Meeting to be held on June 19. All applications must be received and/or postmarked on or before April 4.

To apply, ask your high school guidance counselor for an application and complete qualifications, call Fleming-Mason Energy at (800) 464-3144 or visit www.fme.coop and click on the "Our Community" tab.

Enter drawing for scholarship opportunity

Application deadline is May 23; winners drawn at annual meeting

For the third year, Fleming-Mason Energy will award two additional \$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors whose parents and/or guardians are members of FME. The scholarships will be awarded based on a random drawing during our annual meeting on Thursday, June 19, conducted during the business meeting. All eligible students must check in at the assigned drawing area before the meeting and must be present to win. In addition, applications must be submitted with proof of eligibility by close of business on May 23 to be eligible for the drawing. Those selected for an Annual Meeting Essay Scholarship WILL NOT be eligible for the drawing. Some of the

participation requirements are:

- Candidate must be from the Fleming-Mason Energy service area, attend a school in our service region, and reside with a parent or guardian who is a Fleming-Mason Energy member. The account must be registered in one or both names.
- Applicant must be enrolled or planning to enroll in an accredited educational or training institution.
- All candidates must agree to allow their image to be used for promotion on Fleming-Mason Energy's website and/or social media accounts.
- The applicant cannot be a member of the immediate family or

reside in same household of an employee or director of Fleming-Mason Energy, its subsidiary, or its power supplier, East Kentucky Power Cooperative.

- Incomplete applications, applications received after the deadline and/or applications submitted on prior years' application forms WILL NOT BE considered.
- Applications for the Annual Meeting Scholarship Drawing must be received by May 23.

You may obtain a complete list of qualifications and applications for both by visiting www.fme.coop and clicking on the "Our Community" tab or calling Fleming-Mason Energy at (800) 464-3144.

Draft detective

Simple ways to find air leaks in your home

Your home could be leaking money. Okay, it's not leaking not actual money, but when heated or cooled air leaves your home, that costs you money.

Air leakage is responsible for up to 40% of the energy loss in American homes, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Detecting drafts—and sealing them—can help lower heating and cooling costs.

Air leaks are commonly found around door and window frames, electrical outlets, switch plates, recessed lights, attic hatches, wall or window-mounted air conditioners, fireplaces and any opening where pipes or cables enter the home.

Use one of these simple do-it-yourself methods to look for leaks inside your home:

1. **Visual inspection:** If you can see any daylight around exterior door frames or windows rattle easily, you likely have air leaks.
2. **Feel for drafts:** When it's cold outside, close and turn off sources of moving air. Gently hold a dampened hand around the edges



of potential leak sites. Any drafts will feel cool to your hand.

3. **Dollar bill test:** Test each window and door by closing it on a dollar bill, then try to pull the money out. If the bill easily slips out, it's a sign that there's a significant gap and air leakage is likely.
4. **Smoke test:** On a cool, windy day, turn off appliances that cause wind disturbances and shut windows, doors and fireplace flues. Carefully pass a lit incense stick around the edges of common leak sites. Wherever the smoke wavers or is sucked out of or blown into the room, there's a draft.

Find directions for simple projects to seal detected leaks at togetherwesaveky.com/energy-tips.



Take the chill out of your bill

When the weather outside is extreme, your power bill can be extreme, too. But opening your monthly Fleming-Mason Energy bill doesn't have to be a chilling experience.

When you sign up for leveled billing, you can expect to pay about the same amount each month. This makes it easier to budget your monthly electrical expenses.

How it works: We calculate your monthly payment based on your latest 12 months of history. This shifts some of the cost of higher months to lower months. So, a higher bill triggered by bitterly cold weather in February, for example, is somewhat offset by milder weather (with lower bills) in the fall and spring. Leveled billing removes the extreme peaks of summertime power bills, too.

Guard against unexpectedly high bills. Make your monthly bill predictable year-round by signing up for Fleming-Mason Energy's leveled billing. Contact us toll-free, (800) 464-3144 or (606) 845-2661. Leveled billing is available for residential members only.

SET YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD ON 3/9.

Daylight Saving Time Begins

