

## *May Safety Matters*

### **Pool safety: keep your family safe in the water**

A California man died after jumping into a pool to save his daughter who was suffering electric shock in the water. She survived but sustained major injuries that were likely caused by faulty wiring.

With pool season about to begin, it is vital to stay safe and prevent tragedies like this.

If you own a pool, have the wiring and lighting inspected to ensure safe operation.

Pool lighting poses the greatest risk of electrical shock. Upgrade older pool lighting to modern safety standards. The older the lighting, the greater the chance of electric shock.

Make sure you hire a licensed electrician. That one step may save a life or prevent serious injury.

Know what you will do if your pool does become electrified. Identify where and how to shut off power to the pool immediately. The switch you need to flip may be an amp sub-panel close to the pool pump and filter.

In a pool emergency involving electricity, swimmers should exit the water without touching any metal on rails or ladders, and bystanders should call 911. Never jump into the water to rescue someone who is being shocked.

Some pool accidents are caused by having electric drills, radios, hair dryers and other devices too close to the water.



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*If you own a pool, keep your loved ones safe by having the electrical wiring inspected regularly.*

Anything that plugs in should be kept well away from water.

From an early age, we've been taught that water and electricity do not mix. Without proper precaution, the two can be deadly.

Fleming-Mason Energy cares about your safety. Enjoy your pool by staying safe at all times.

### **At your service, 24/7**

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



**Joni Hazelrigg**  
PRESIDENT & CEO

## Contact us:

In Fleming County:  
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Other Counties:  
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Hours:  
7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

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# Safety after a storm

When a storm has passed, learn the safety precautions to take once it's gone.

After a storm, many think the danger left with the high winds, heavy rain and lightning strikes; but sometimes danger can come during the storm recovery period. Keep your distance from downed power lines, and follow these safety tips for cleaning up after a storm:



■ **Wear proper safety material:** As you are cleaning up, make sure you are wearing proper protection to prevent injury. Work gloves, safety glasses, heavy-duty work shirt with long sleeves, work pants and steel-toe work boots are a good idea if you are working on clearing large amounts of broken, splintered or sharp debris.

■ **Stay away from power lines:** Always assume a downed power line is live. Downed power lines pose a particularly dangerous threat in areas where there are lots of people trying to clear fallen trees and branches from roads and lawns. Let the professionals handle this job. It's not worth the risk. If you see a downed power line that is sparking or on fire, call your local power company immediately.

■ **Use flashlights, not candles:** When checking for damage to a home, never use matches, candles, lighters or kerosene lanterns as a light source. Igniting a flame while near damaged gas lines can cause an explosion.

■ **Stay away from damaged buildings or structures:** If a building has been subjected to rushing flood waters or has been submerged under water, it may not be structurally safe. It's best to stay away from these types of structures until professionals can assess the extent of the damage.

■ **Never operate gasoline-powered equipment indoors or a partially-enclosed area:** Gas engines emit carbon monoxide—an odorless, colorless and poisonous gas you should never breathe. Do not operate within 15 feet of openings such as windows, doors or vents.

# Fleming-Mason takes students on Frankfort Youth Tour

Eight area high school students were recently selected by Fleming-Mason Energy as semifinalists for the Washington D.C. Rural Electric Youth Tour. The eight juniors from Bath, Fleming and Lewis counties, toured Frankfort on March 27. Among the sites visited were the Governor's Mansion, Kentucky State Capitol, Thomas D. Clark Center for

Kentucky History and the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The group also had the chance to listen to presentations from Secretary of the Kentucky Labor Cabinet Derrick Ramsey and Kentucky House Majority Floor Leader Jonathan Shell.

Four finalists will represent Fleming-Mason Energy on an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 8-15,

2018. These students will travel with other Kentucky co-op sponsored youth and co-op employed chaperones to see our nation's capital and other sites such as Monticello, Capitol Hill, Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, Washington Cathedral, National Holocaust Museum, Library of Congress, U.S. Capitol Building and the White House.



*Back row from left, Jake Porter, Gabby Thayer, Maddy Flannigan and Rachel Henderson; front row, Hannah Fyffe, Mollee Flannigan, Evangelina Clark and Payton Moore, toured Frankfort sites in March as part of the Frankfort Youth Tour. Photo: Tim Webb*



## Anniversary celebration

Fleming-Mason Energy recently celebrated 80 years of serving our members. To mark our "Oak" anniversary, we gave out seedlings to members beginning March 12, 2018. We gave away 800 seedlings during that week! Members were provided information on the proper placement of trees in relation to utility lines. In addition, information was available on the Call Before You Dig initiative. Thank you to all of our members who stopped by to pick up their seedling. And a special thank you to the Kentucky Division of Forestry for their help. Pictured are Right of Way Supervisor Jackie Pollitt and Fleming-Mason Energy employee Sierra Blevins.

# The Most Dangerous Activities



Incidents involving transportation remain the most common cause of workplace fatalities, accounting for 40 percent of the total.

## Workplace Fatalities by Major Event

Transportation Incidents	40%
Violence/injuries by people or animals	17%
Slips, trips and falls	16%
Contact with objects or equipment	15%
Exposure to harmful substances	10%
Fires and explosions	2%

Source: 2016 National Census of Fatal Injuries, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



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## Safety Matters

### Can you dig it? Call 811 first!

Have you ever come home to find painted lines or little colored flags near your property?

Various colored flags identify what lies beneath the ground, and if you see flags it's possible your neighbor has called 811 to have underground utilities identified. If the flags are red, that means electricity lines are buried underneath.

There are all types of lines and pipes buried beneath the surface of the earth, and the flags on the surface indicate service lines for water, electricity and natural gas. So when you start planning to dig anywhere on your property, call 811 a few days before you break ground. Utility professionals will be dispatched to your home or business to determine the location of underground lines.

When you make the free call to 811 before you dig, you'll help prevent unintended consequences such as injury to you or your family, damage to your property, utility service outages to the entire neighborhood and potential fines and repair costs.

Picking up the phone and calling 811 before you dig is the easy part. The hard part is getting the shovel out and going to work after your underground line inspection is complete.

Fleming-Mason Energy is concerned for your safety. This spring, call 811 before you dig and be safe.

**May is National Electrical Safety Month**

This month, we encourage all members to take extra time to plug into safety.

**#ElectricalSafetyMonth**

AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES