

We are energizing education

Summer is winding down and the return to school is just days away for students living in Fleming-Mason Energy's service area. As the school-day routine resumes, so does our commitment to energizing education in local classrooms.

Fleming-Mason Energy was established to provide access to reliable, affordable electricity, making life better for the people along our lines. Though access to electricity is no longer the key challenge, we remain focused on improving this area's quality of life. It's why we head back to school right along with your children.

IN THE CLASSROOM

Because safety is a priority for us, we provide programming that reminds students to use electricity carefully. Cooperative employees visit area schools to teach children how to play it safe around electric power lines and in their homes. Older students learn about high-voltage electricity through demonstrations using a 14-foot trailer equipped with a real power line, meter and transformer.

Co-op employees speak to science classes on topics ranging from renewable energy to the environment. You'll also find us talking with

students at career days.

Our involvement with education doesn't end with the last bell, either. Your co-op also supports students through extracurricular activities like 4-H and FFA, otherwise known as Future Farmers of America. Each year we support area 4-H and FFA youth and reward their hard work at the Germantown Fair Livestock Auction.

SUPPORTING STEM

Your co-op is also helping students prepare for a future that is increasingly demanding proficiencies in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math). Along with other Kentucky Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, we are equipping educators to better teach STEM curriculum. In turn, they are

stimulating student thinking with high-quality, project-based learning in areas such as computer science, engineering and biomedical science.

I'm proud that Fleming-Mason Energy is energizing education in the communities we serve. By empowering our teachers and students, we're ensuring a better quality of life for us all.



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:
(606) 845.2661

Other Counties:
(800) 464.3144

Hours:
7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

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The best place for Fido this summer: indoors

Your dog loves riding in the car with you and playing in the grass on warm, sunny days. But when it gets really hot, keep Fido indoors where the air-conditioning can keep your best friend cool.

Like people, pets can suffer from all kinds of heat-related problems, like heat stroke, dehydration

and respiratory distress. Some days, the safest thing for them is a lazy day inside your home.

Here are five ways to keep Fluffy and Fido safe and cool this summer:

- Put out extra bowls of water indoors and outdoors so your pets can drink as much as they need. Panting is your pet's way of cooling down by evaporating fluids from the respiratory tract. But those fluids need replacing. Look in the pet store for water alternatives that replace electrolytes. And drop a couple of ice cubes into Fido's water dish so the water is nice and cool.
- Water isn't just for drinking in the summer: Letting your pets stand in it or play in it will help keep them cool on hot days.
- If you're outdoors with your pet, stay in the shade under a big tree or an awning. Too much sun can disorient your pet and even cause heat-stroke. Short-haired pets can even get sunburned if they're in the sun for too long.
- If you're leaving the house without your pets, leave them indoors and leave the air-conditioning on. If you're taking them with you, don't leave them unattended in a hot car, even with the windows cracked. It doesn't take long for a dog to become overheated or dehydrated enough to get sick—or even die.
- Exercise your pets early in the morning or late in the evening when the sun is not so hot. And keep them on the lawn and away from asphalt; hot pavement can burn a pet's paws.



ARENA CREATIVE

Congratulations to our 2018 Annual Meeting Scholarship Winners



Lexie Craig
Bath County High School



Nathan Terrell
Rowan County Senior High School



Katlyn Jett
Fleming County High School



Katlynn Butler
Lewis County High School



Abigail Pick
Lewis County High School



Madelyn Spencer
Lewis County High School



Kennedy Wellman
Lewis County High School



Jaycee Evans
Lewis County High School



Jaclyn Poe
Mason County High School



Brian Carter
Rowan County Senior High School

Stay cooler while saving energy

Your use of indoor energy can soar with the rising temperatures. Here are four ways to take control:

■ **Cover the windows.** Half of all of the heat that enters your home during the summer comes in through the windows. Invest in a thick shade or window film to block out the summer sun. Save up to 15 percent on your cooling bill by shading west-facing windows, which absorb the most afternoon sun. For the hottest parts of your house, consider installing an awning or planting trees in front of the window to shade the house.

■ **Change A/C filters.** A filter for your air-conditioning system costs only dollars (about \$5 for a high-quality, pleated model), but can save you much more if you change it every month during the summer. Dirty air-conditioning filters prevent air flow and make the air-conditioning system work harder. That means a higher bill.

■ **Turn the thermostat up.** For every degree you turn your thermostat up during air-conditioning season, you'll save up to 2 percent on your cooling costs. Try setting



your thermostat at 78 degrees, and turn on a ceiling fan to help circulate the air.

■ **Use your ceiling fans.** Fans don't cool the air, but they make the air feel cooler by moving it around the room and against your skin, which creates a sort of "wind chill" effect. When the fan is running, you can move your thermostat three to four degrees higher without noticing a difference in your comfort level.

Check cords and conditions before using power tools

Summer is the perfect time to work on that growing do-it-yourself list: repair the fence, replace the deck or build a shed.

Whatever work is on your list, electric power tools make jobs much easier to complete.

But before beginning any job that requires power tools, think about the electricity that is required and the safety needed to avoid injuries or fatalities.

The primary hazard, of course, is electric shock. Power tool injuries account for over 400,000 emergency room visits each year with many of those related to electrical shock. It

only takes one-tenth of an amp passing through the body for two seconds to cause heart failure, a burn or death.

That's why it is essential to inspect the electrical cord for fraying and prong integrity before any work begins.

If you have begun a job, a tingle in your fingers while using an electric power tool is a warning sign that should never be ignored. If that happens, stop immediately and find the cause.



SHUTTERSTOCK

To prevent shock, never work with an electric cord laying in damp or wet conditions.

Heavy-duty extension cords provide the safest electric power. When working outside, always use outdoor-rated cords.

Fleming-Mason Energy hopes you will think about electrical safety when using power tools. Stay alert while working safely.

Teach your kids electrical safety

You might not be able to keep your eyes on your children every minute this summer while they're roaming around the neighborhood having fun. So teach them how to keep themselves safe, especially around electricity.

■ The most important lesson about outdoor electrical safety is: NEVER touch a power line. A downed line might seem like its "dead," but chances are good that it's still energized. Touching it with a hand, a toy or a stick could electrocute someone.

■ If a kite, balloon or another toy gets caught in an overhead power line, do not try to dislodge it by throwing shoes or other items at it. Call your

electric cooperative if you must retrieve the toy.

■ Stay far away from overhead power lines while flying kites or using large toys so they don't come into contact with energized lines.

■ Do not climb utility poles or trees that are close to power lines.

■ Don't post signs, balloons, ribbons or anything else on utility poles or electrical equipment.

■ Stay out of electrical substations and away from ground transformers—even to rescue a pet. Substations



BESJUNIOR

house high-voltage equipment that can electrocute someone.

■ Don't touch electrical toys that are standing in a puddle or floating in a pool.