

Spring into action

Why we support Beautify the Bluegrass

Welcome to April, a month that brings promise and hope.

This first full month of spring is full of life. It's an important time for planting, from backyard gardens to major crops. Many of us find April the perfect time for spring cleaning, and the chorus of *Hallelujah* will be heard at Easter services all across our area.

This is also the perfect month to join Fleming-Mason Energy in planning a beautification project in our community. Electric cooperatives all across Kentucky are partnering with the governor's office again this year on Beautify the Bluegrass, an initiative that recognizes Kentuckians who identify a public space that could use some attention and work to improve it.

Last year Fleming-Mason Energy worked on Blue Licks Battlefield State Park. Over 30 co-op employees, directors and family members cleaned equipment and placed mulch on the playgrounds. In addition, park visitors can now watch butterflies on a couple of new benches we added near the Monarch waystation. We are already planning another Beautify the Bluegrass project this spring.

In 2018, projects by electric cooperatives included landscaping butterfly gardens, building picnic grounds,

repairing park entrances and litter pick-up. No project is too big or too small. With the help of *Kentucky Living*, we hope to spread the word about how when lots of small projects are accomplished across the state, they can make a big difference in Kentucky.

For ideas and information on how to participate, go to KentuckyLiving.com/Beautify. Entries are due no later than June 28. Winners in three categories will be announced on August 22 at *Kentucky Living's* Best in Kentucky awards at the Kentucky State Fair.

The winner of the Governor's Award receives a barbecue meal for up to 200 people with Gov. Matt Bevin and Lt. Gov. Jenean Hampton.

What does this have to do with Fleming-Mason Energy? Improving communities we serve and improving the quality of life for the people we serve is what we're all about. The fact that these are homegrown



JONI HAZELRIGG

projects is also consistent with who we are. Fleming-Mason Energy was built by, belongs to and is operated by people in this community.

Living here, we know that there are already beautification projects underway before we even asked about it. We encourage anyone who is working on such a project to add it to the roster of Beautify the Bluegrass to encourage others, both in our community and across Kentucky, to "spring into action."

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



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Contact us:

In Fleming County:
(606) 845.2661

Other Counties:
(800) 464.3144

Hours:
7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Editor

Lori Ulrich

President & CEO

Joni Hazelrigg

Board of Directors

Lonnie Vice
CHAIRMAN

J.E. Smith Jr.
VICE CHAIRMAN

Dina Gooding
SECRETARY TREASURER

Other Directors

Timothy S. Eldridge

Rick Hord

John M. Roe

Tom Saunders

Attorneys

Marvin Suit

Earl Rogers III

Follow us on:



PATRONAGE CAPITAL CREDITS

Fleming-Mason Energy is a business owned by its members and operated for them on a non-profit basis.

Money paid by members that is not spent on the actual operation of Fleming-Mason Energy is held in members' capital credits accounts. This money, called **capital credits**, is presently being *refunded to the estates of deceased members*.

To apply for the **capital credits** of a deceased member of Fleming-Mason Energy, please contact us by calling:

1-800-464-3144

Monday through Friday

7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

1449 Elizaville Rd, P.O. Box 328,
Flemingsburg, KY 41041 (606) 845-2661

Turn out lights without making a move

One of the simplest ways to save energy around your home is to turn off the lights when you leave your room—just like your mother told you.

If only your children would do it!

The solution that will save you from sounding like a broken record every time you remind the kids to turn the lights out? Install motion-activated light switches, and you'll never have to tell them again.

Using a tiny motion sensor, the switches detect when someone enters a room, and they flip the lights on. When motion stops, they switch the lights off.

The switches are easy to install on your own.

First, shut off the electricity at the breaker before installing the switch.

Remove the existing switch and face plate. Some of these switches have short wires for connection, while others have screws for connection. It's often helpful to take a photo of the connections before disconnecting them.

Reconnect the wires or screws to the motion-activated switch, screw it back into the wall and reattach the face plates.

These switches range from inexpensive to fancy, depending on features and how far away they detect motion.



CREATIVE COMPOUND

For rooms that you use most often during the day, install a motion-sensor switch that also detects daylight. It will switch the light on only when there is motion and the room is too dark.

WORK ZONE SAFETY AWARENESS

This year, National Work Zone Awareness Week is April 8-12.

Your electric co-op reminds you to be mindful of line crews on the job.

Pay attention to warning signs and flaggers. Be alert when you approach and enter a work zone. Don't speed or tailgate in and around work zones. Avoid distractions such as talking or texting on the phone, changing your radio station, eating or drinking when approaching or in work zones. Keep your attention on the road, not on what the workers are doing. Turn your headlights on to make your vehicle more visible to workers and other drivers. Watch for brake lights or slow moving vehicles.



WHITNEY DUVAL

Safety Matters

Call 811 before you dig

If you are planning a project that involves digging this spring, call 811.

It is the law to call before digging to prevent injuries and avoid hitting utility lines that could disrupt services to your neighbors. Calling 811 might also keep you from going to the hospital.

That's what happened to a Utah man who experienced temporary paralysis when he nicked a low-voltage line with a crowbar while removing fence posts in his back yard. His injuries resulted in weak muscles and an overnight stay in the hospital.

In reality, he was blessed to be alive.

After you call 811, a utility professional will visit and mark where underground lines are buried on your property. The technician will place flags on the surface to show where the utilities are located so that you can avoid danger. The flag colors used for each utility type include:

- **Red**—Electrical
- **Yellow**—Gas
- **Blue**—Water
- **Orange**—Fiber optic/Phone/Cable
- **Green**—Sewer

In many newer subdivisions, electric lines are buried. Also, fiber optic cables are often located close to the surface.



SHUTTERSTOCK

It is especially important to call 811 when using a bulldozer or backhoe for major projects on your property, such as a swimming pool or adding a new room. If using a contractor, make sure the company has located lines before digging.

Even when you plant flowers, bushes and trees, or dig holes for a mailbox or fence posts, it's important to call 811 to be safe.

Fleming-Mason Energy cares about your safety. Be proactive. Call 811 before you dig.

Kentucky Living
Best in Kentucky
2019

\$100 PRIZE DRAWN WEEKLY!

VOTE FOR YOUR COMMUNITY FAVORITES NOW!

Make sure our area is represented in *Kentucky Living's* Best in Kentucky Awards—see page 58.

Vote April 1-30 at KentuckyLiving.com/BestInKentucky