

CHIPPEWA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2002

FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO RIGHT OF WAY CLEARING



Each year Chippewa Valley dedicates substantial resources for clearing right-of-ways under our power lines. For the most part, members understand what we are trying to accomplish. Sometimes we do get questioned on our program and a member becomes very concerned about the number of trees we need to remove.

It is the intent of Chippewa Valley Electric to have a clear right-of-way, twenty feet on either side of our overhead lines. By a clear right-of-way, we mean no trees from the ground to the sky, twenty feet either side of our line. We are now on a six year rotation for clearing the right-of-ways on our entire system. If we do not remove the

trees below our lines, by the time we come back on our normal clearing rotation of six years, the trees will have grown up into our lines.

A tree touching the lines will cause your lights to blink. It could also cause the line to burn down causing an outage for those members on the line. There is also the potential for a tree contact to

cause a fire, which could become a forest fire, and the fire suppression charges would be billed to Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative. Trees near our lines also expose the Cooperative to the potential of a child climbing in the tree, coming in contact with our wires and causing injuries or death. We

"Please look up before planting any trees. If our power line is above, find another place to plant the tree."



have a responsibility to provide reliable electric service to our members with the safety of the public as a primary concern.

Please look up before planting any trees. If our power line is above, find another place to plant the tree. If you have small trees under our line, now is the time to move them, before we return on our clearing cycle and have to remove them.

Overall member acceptance of our right-of-way clearing program has been great. We have seen the benefits of reduced outages and less blinking lights. Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative will continue to strive to improve our system reliability for our members.

Todd Steward

Chippewa Valley Electric
is a member of...

DIGGERS HOTLINE

Toll-free: 1-800-242-8511

Milwaukee area:

(414) 259-1181

TDD for Hearing Impaired:

1-800-542-2289

Chippewa Valley
Electric Cooperative

P.O. Box 575

Cornell, Wisconsin 54732

(715) 239-6800 or 1-800-300-6800

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

TURTLE REPORT

A year and a half ago we began installing the remote meter reading device called the "Turtle" on our meters. Currently we have over 4300 of the devices installed. We have approximately 6400 meters on our entire system, so we are over half completed with the project. Our installations have slowed with the busy summer

season, but we intend to have the remaining meters retrofitted by next spring. So far the "Turtles" have helped us trace out high bill complaints, blinking lights and found an outage before our seasonal member even knew he was out of power.

We are very satisfied with the performance of these devices and will continue to work to finish installations on our system.



Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative is now offering...

Business and Residential long distance phone service



5.9¢

6.9¢

All calls in Wisconsin

All calls out of state

24 hours a day— 7 days a week plus 6 seconds increment billing

- ◆ Free to join
- ◆ No monthly fees
- ◆ No monthly premiums
- ◆ Major carrier
- ◆ 800 number
5.9¢ - 6.9¢ per minute – no fees
- ◆ Free calling cards 13.9¢ per minute (No surcharge)
- ◆ No Codes To Dial

Also available...

Personal 800 number • No fees • Same low rate

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative, through an association with a large consortium of electric cooperatives, is offering long distance telephone service through PowerNet Global Communications. This long distance service is one of the lowest-cost long distance services available. As you can see, you can call anywhere in the State of Wisconsin for a low \$0.059 per minute or anywhere out of state in the continental United States for \$0.069 per minute. In addition, you can have your own personal 800 number to receive calls from family members or acquaintances. Incoming calls on your 800 number are billed at the same

rates noted above. All rates are the same 24 hours a day – 7 days a week. There are no monthly fees, no minimums, or long-term agreements. For additional information or to sign up, call toll-free at 1-800-239-7420.

Billed by PowerNet Global Communications utilizing the Qwest Long Distance Network (The nation's 4th largest carrier)

Payment Methods:

1. Personal Check
2. Automatic Credit Card Debit

For additional information or to enroll by phone call:

1-800-239-7420

Mail Application to:

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative
317 S. 8th Street • P.O. Box 575
Cornell, WI 54732

or fax to: **1-715-239-6160**

Phone Service Application

Name _____ Social Security Number _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Numbers (____) _____ - _____ (____) _____ - _____

Other Services Desired: Toll Free 800 Number Travel Cards - Number of cards requested _____

*If 800 service is desired, enter the telephone number it should ring to (____) _____ - _____

(existing 800 numbers may be transferred to this service - application forms are available upon request.)

I hereby authorize PowerNet Global Communications, or its designator/agent, to transfer my Interlata and Intralata (local toll) long distance service. I agree to financial responsibility for all charges arising from all long distance services provided. The service requested will be provisioned only on the approval of credit for the application. A service charge may be assessed by the local telephone company when they make the carrier change.

Customer Signature _____ Date _____

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative

