

CHIPPEWA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2004

FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO CHIPPEWA VALLEY SATELLITE CORPORATION NEWS



On July 1st, 2004 our satellite corporation relinquished its exclusive rights for selling DirecTV programming services in Chippewa and Rusk County. Those exclusive rights were released when our national telecommunications organization, NRTC, made an agreement with DirecTV, where DirecTV would purchase back those rights, but would allow our satellite corporation to have the opportunity to continue to sell and service DirecTV equipment and programming services.

What this means, is that Chippewa Valley Satellite Corporation will still be here to offer professional installation of DirecTV satellite equipment. They will also be available to activate satellite systems, change programming packages and answer billing questions for their customers. However the prices of the programming packages and the programming packages will now be set nationally by DirecTV. DirecTV has bought out all of the rural electric cooperatives that were offering their programming services. They will now be able to advertise nationally for all of their installation promotions and programming packages.

Chippewa Valley Satellite will continue to operate and provide support and installation of DirecTV equipment. For doing so, DirecTV will pay them a commission based on the number of new units installed and a commission for providing programming and billing support for Chippewa Valley Satellite's DirecTV customers.

This change took effect July 1st and we are still working our way through a number of transition problems. As we work our way through this change, we will continue to strive to maintain the high level of service our DirecTV customers have received in the past.

If you are interested in receiving quality DirecTV satellite service, please call our office and ask for Mike or Della.

Todd Steward

BRUSHING REPORT

Our brushing crew is still working in the area around Holcombe. We currently are about one-year behind our planned brushing rotation schedule. We are planning to bring another brushing crew in for two months during the fall to help get back on schedule.

It was our intent to have the area north of Holcombe and east of Holcombe to the Taylor county line completed by years end. It appears that work will not be completed. After the additional brushing crew is released, we will continue to work one brushing crew throughout the winter months and evaluate our progress in the spring.

The clearing specifications we are using is that our lines will be completely cleared of all brush, limbs and trees 15 feet either side of the pole line. In front yard situations, trees will be trimmed a minimum of 10 feet below and around any of the lines. When clearing right of way in an area, we will attempt to make contact with affected members to let them know what we are doing.

The brushing program has been our best program for keeping your lights on. We have noticed a reduction in outages and blinking light calls in the areas where we have recently cleared our lines.

OCTOBER
IS
CO-OP
MONTH

COOP MONTH

SEE OTHER SIDE
FOR CO-OP MONTH
ACTIVITIES!

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

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH!

OPEN HOUSE – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2004

\$290,000 In Capital Credits to be Refunded to Members during Open House

We invite all past and current members to stop in for your Capital Credit check, a cup of coffee and snacks and to visit. Capital Credit checks will be available for members to pick up at the Co-op's headquarters in Cornell on Friday, October 1st. As in prior years, anyone who is unable to come in and pick up their Capital Credit checks will receive them in the mail later in the month of October.

Capital Credits are members' share of Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative's profits and represent your ownership of the cooperative. Profits are allocated to every member who purchases electricity during the year. Your share is based on how much electricity you purchased during the year. The more electricity you purchased, the greater your share of the year's profits. The \$290,000 that will be returned to the members represents profit/margins from 1985 and a portion of the profit/margins from 1986 and 2002. If you were a member of Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative during any of those years, you may have a check coming.

For the past 17 years, Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative has hosted a health fair

for members of the cooperative and the surrounding community. The health fair has always been held in conjunction with our open house/Capital Credit Days the first week in October. This year however, we won't be holding a full-blown health fair but will hold a Flu Shot Clinic on October 26th.

The pharmaceutical companies are suggesting people get their flu shots later in the fall anyway because the vaccine is only effective for approximately 5 months. So if you get vaccinated too early in the fall, you may not



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be protected through the entire flu season.

On October 26, 2004 Chippewa Valley Electric will hold a Flu Shot Clinic. The

clinic will be open to the public. Besides the flu vaccine, pneumonia and tetanus shots will also be available for a minimal charge. We expect to have prices available before the next newsletter which will come with your October electric bill.

Come help us celebrate National Co-op Month on Friday, October 1st.

SUMMER IS NEARLY OVER AND THE KIDS ARE HEADING BACK TO SCHOOL!

IT'S TIME TO REMIND EVERYONE TO WATCH FOR OUR CHILDREN.



Many motorists disobey the laws regulating flashing school-bus lights and stop arms, whether it is intentional or unintentional. Consequently, many children are injured each year and some deaths result from the failure to obey the following laws:

- ▼ Stop when meeting or overtaking a stopped school bus with red lights flashing. Failure to stop at least 20 feet from the bus and remain stopped until the red lights are turned off or the bus resumes motion, can bring a fine of \$30 to \$300.
- ▼ Honor the 15-mph speed limit when entering a school zone. Stop when the school patrol or crossing guard instructs you to do so.
- ▼ Yield the right of way to pedestrians in marked or unmarked crosswalks. Before driving across a sidewalk, yield to pedestrians.
- ▼ Watch for bicyclists. Maintain a minimum distance of three feet when passing a cyclist.



Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative

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