

CHIPPEWA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2003

FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

TURTLE INSTALLATIONS NEARING COMPLETION

By the time this newsletter reaches you, our project of installing the Turtle automatic meter reading device on all of our single phase meters should be completed. We started this project in December of 2000 and have been working steadily since then. When completed, we will have installed the Turtle on nearly 7,250 meters.

Many of you have already noticed, you no longer have a meter reader reading your meter each month. That is because the Turtle reads the meter for us. We receive a reading every 27 hours from the Turtle. In addition to the meter reading, we receive the high demand at the account during the 27 hour cycle and the turtle also keeps track of blinks that have occurred at the account. We have also been able to use the Turtle to find and restore power outages on several seasonal accounts before the member knew they even had an outage.

Chippewa Valley will continue to employ one meter reader. This meter reader will verify the Turtle meter reading annually and check meter seals and look for other visible meter problems.

SUMMER UNDERGROUND PROJECTS UNDERWAY

When the road bans went off this spring the weather was pretty

cooperative, letting us jump right into installing new underground services. Each year, throughout the winter, people are preparing for new home projects that we are unable to do because of the frozen ground. By the time spring arrives, we have a large number of new service requests waiting. Then the road bans are put on and we cannot get our equipment to the job sites. Many years when the road bans go off the weather does not cooperate by raining continuous, so again we cannot install the underground wires. This year has started out nicely; both of our crews are busy installing underground services. We still have quite a backlog, but we are making progress and working ten-hour days to provide service on a timely basis to those that are waiting.

We have also started working with our underground contractor on larger projects that our crews would not be able to do. Those projects are replacement of cross country overhead lines and replacement of old underground cable.

Looks to be another busy summer.



★ WANTED ★

STUDENTS FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS

JULY 23 - 25, 2003, UW-RIVER FALLS

The Youth Leadership Congress is a great place for teens to challenge themselves with intriguing seminars, thought-provoking speakers, and hands-on workshops aimed at developing leadership skills. Cooperation, team skills, and leadership are incorporated into every activity. Learn about different energy cooperatives involved with the Youth Leadership Congress while experiencing college campus life. Here's a chance for area youth to meet new people and make lasting memories.

MUST APPLY BY JULY 9TH!

If you will be a high school sophomore or junior in the 2003-2004 school year and want to find out how you can obtain a full scholarship to attend the Youth Leadership Congress, contact:

Cathy Moussette

Member Services Director
Chippewa Valley Electric Co-op
715-239-6800 or 1-800-300-6800
cmoussette@cvecoop.com

The Youth Leadership Congress offers opportunities for fun and learning.

SIGN UP FOR THE AUTOMATIC PAYMENT PLAN

ACH (Automated Clearing House) allows transfer of funds from your checking or savings account, directly to Chippewa Valley Electric's account to cover your electric bill. A direct charge would be made on the 22nd of each month

for the amount of your bill.

If you are interested in participating in this convenient plan, please fill out the form below and return it to our office with the required information.

**BE HASSLE-FREE,
AND SAVE TIME
TOO...**

I want to participate in the Automatic Payment Plan

Name(s) on CVEC bill _____ CVEC Account Number _____

Billing address _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Your Financial Institution _____ Account Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If your payment is to be deducted from a checking account, enclose a blank check. Write VOID across it and DO NOT SIGN IT. If your payment is to be deducted from a savings account, enclose a deposit slip that includes your account number.

CVEC has the right to cancel my use of the Automatic Payment Plan. I will write to CVEC if I decide to cancel my use of the Automatic Payment Plan.

Account Holder(s) _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

NOTE: If the account is in two names, both account holders must sign above. Mail this form with your current payment or mail it separately to Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 575, 317 S. 8th St., Cornell, WI 54732. For more information, call 715-239-6800 or 1-800-300-6800.

15th Annual Picnic Member Appreciation Day

**Friday, July 11th, 2003
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

Join your neighbors and friends for an old-fashioned cookout!

Enjoy brats, hot dogs, and all the trimmings, including our famous baked beans!

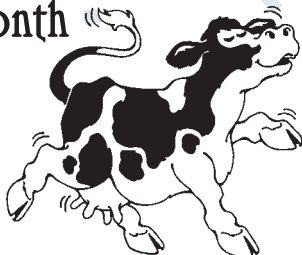
Prize Drawing All Day!

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative
On Highway 27/64 and South 8th Street, Cornell, WI

**Grand
Prize:
Electric
Grill**



Celebrate
June Dairy
Month



**Chippewa Valley
Electric Cooperative**

P.O. Box 575
Cornell, Wisconsin 54732
(715) 239-6800 or 1-800-300-6800

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

**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**