



CVEC Operations Department

Nic Alberson – Operations Manager –
 Years of Service: 13 years
Kevin Scheidler – Line Superintendent –
 22 years
Keith Zimmerman – Lineman – 34 years
Dan Ferris – Lineman – 31 years
Chris Larson – Lineman – 8 years
Ed Rosseter – Lineman – 4 years
Tyler Jones – Lineman – 3 years
Ben Modl – Lineman – 3 years
Greg Olmstead – Lineman – 3 years
Zach Sonnentag – Lineman – 2 years
Trevin Jensen – Lineman – 1.5 years
Quentin Muska – Lineman – 1 year

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative is thankful for the many years of dedicated service their crew has provided to the co-op. A big THANK YOU goes out to the CVEC linemen for working in all types of weather conditions to keep our members' power on. In doing so, they are often sacrificing time away from their families. Take a moment to thank them, and any other lineworkers you know, for safely working to keep the lights on.

THE POWER BEHIND YOUR POWER

Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 11

By Dean Ortmann, President/CEO



You've likely noticed Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative's (CVEC) crews out and about, working on power lines and other electrical equipment in our community. It's no secret that a lineworker's job is tough—but it's a job that's essential and must be done, often in challenging conditions. This month, as we celebrate Lineworker

Appreciation Day on April 11, I thought I'd share some interesting facts about electric lineworkers with you.

The work can be heavy, in more ways than one. Did you know the equipment and tools that a lineworker carries while climbing a utility pole can weigh up to 50 pounds? That's the same as carrying six gallons of water. Speaking of utility poles, CVEC lineworkers are required to climb poles ranging anywhere from 30 to 60 feet tall. Needless to say, if you have a fear of heights, this likely isn't the career path for you.

Being a lineworker is listed in the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the United States.

Lineworkers must be committed to their career—because it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle. The long hours and ever-present danger can truly take a toll. In fact, being a lineworker is listed in the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the United States.

Lineworkers often work non-traditional hours, outdoors in difficult conditions. While the job does not require a college degree, it does require technical skills, years of training and hands-on learning. Did you know that becoming a journeyman lineworker can take more than 7,000 hours of training (or about four years)? That's because working with high-voltage equipment requires specialized skills, experience, and an ongoing mental toughness. Shortcuts are not an option, and there is no room for error in this line of work.

Despite the many challenges, CVEC's lineworkers are committed to powering our local community. During severe weather events that bring major power outages, lineworkers are among the first ones called. They must be ready to leave the comfort of their homes and families unexpectedly, and they don't return until the job is done, often days later. That's why the lineworker's family is also dedicated to service. They understand the importance of the job to the community.

Nationwide, there are approximately 120,000 electric lineworkers. CVEC has 12 lineworkers who are responsible for keeping power flowing 24/7, 365 days a year. To do this, they maintain 1,253 miles of power lines across 5 counties and 700 square miles. In addition to the

Continued on following page

highly visible tasks lineworkers perform, their job today goes far beyond climbing utility poles to repair a wire. Today’s lineworkers are information experts who can pinpoint power outages from miles away. Line crews now use laptops, tablets, drones, and other technologies to map outages, survey damage, and troubleshoot problems.

Being a lineworker may not seem like a glamorous job, but it is absolutely essential to the life of our community. Without the exceptional dedication and commitment of these hardworking men and women, we simply would not have the reliable electricity that we need for everyday life.
So, the next time you see a

lineworker, please thank them for the work they do to keep power flowing, regardless of the time of day or weather conditions. Afterall, lineworkers are the power behind your power. Please join us as we recognize them on April 11, and follow “#ThankALineworker” on social media to see how others are recognizing lineworkers.

CVEC Linemen



B	Z	J	M	D	R	B	T	Q	M	U	F	J	Q	Q
E	M	A	B	E	E	K	U	R	Z	T	R	S	L	D
N	K	S	L	M	L	E	C	X	E	D	K	N	I	C
E	Z	Y	S	K	N	H	I	T	A	V	B	I	T	O
L	T	R	V	T	Q	D	R	P	Y	G	I	Z	J	R
Z	I	K	I	B	Q	G	T	P	T	E	Y	N	C	G
Q	M	N	J	S	B	Z	C	K	V	R	L	Z	G	B
V	R	K	E	J	Y	K	E	E	O	G	Y	L	V	S
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W	M	G	F	C	K	N	B	H	V	U	B	V	G	E
F	D	D	E	T	A	I	C	E	R	P	P	A	I	O
P	A	C	O	O	P	E	R	A	T	I	V	E	L	N
N	X	N	J	X	V	A	W	E	P	P	I	H	C	M
P	G	Z	A	C	H	Z	C	K	F	B	N	A	T	O

Find the word in the puzzle.
Words can go in any direction.
Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|----------|
| Appreciate | Ben | Chippewa |
| Chris | Cooperative | Dan |
| Ed | Electric | Greg |
| Keith | Kevin | Linemen |
| Nic | Quentin | Trevin |
| Tyler | Valley | Zach |

Our crew is great and we can’t thank them enough for the work they do.



COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AT CVEC

For the program period January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022, our utility offered the following Commitment to Community Programs:

Low-Income Program

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative collects Commitment to Community funds in accordance with current regulations and then sends funds quarterly to the Wisconsin Department of Administration.

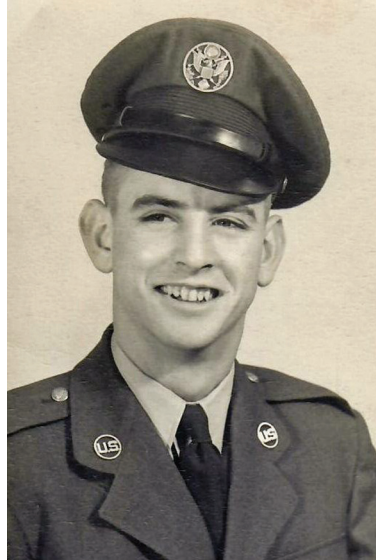
Energy Efficiency Programs

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative collects Commitment to Community funds in accordance with current regulations and offsets the cost of the following energy programs:

1. Dual Fuel Heating & Cooling Incentive Program
2. Water Heater Load Control Program
3. Lighting Incentive Program
4. Appliance Incentive & Customized Large Farm/Business Programs
5. Electric Vehicle Charging Station Incentive
6. Home or Farm Audit with Recommended Improvements Incentive
7. Energy Efficient Home Program Incentive

Details on the different programs, possible savings, rebates, and credits are available online (cvcoop.com) or at the office. Audited reports of revenues and expenditures are available for member review at the cooperative office.

Procedure to review: Written request with member number, no longer than a three-day wait, and proper identification at time of review.



IN MEMORY

Clyde Shipman • 1933–2022

It is with profound sadness that we share the news of the passing of Clyde Shipman on February 9, 2022.

Clyde Shipman was a longtime District 3 director of the Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative board, serving for nearly 26 years including many years as secretary-treasurer. Clyde was dedicated to the cooperative, always showing up early for meetings and consistently asking thoughtful questions. His laugh was a welcome sound throughout CVEC. He is remembered as a strong supporter of the co-op, Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA), and his community as a whole and will be greatly missed by those who knew him.

Born in New Auburn, Shipman served in the Air Force for 20 years, retiring as a Master Sergeant. He was a farmer for 20 years and also worked for several agriculture-based businesses.

In addition to the co-op board, Shipman served as president of the New Auburn School board, was a member of WEAC, president of St. John Lutheran Church Council, past master of Bloomer Masonic Lodge #281, commander of Rice Lake Disabled American Veterans Chapter #52, commander of Bloomer VFW, past worthy patron of Bloomer Eastern Star, and member of Tripoli Shrine.

Clyde was preceded in death by his wife of 63 years, Marian, and son Bryce. He is survived by five sons: Jeffrey, Thomas, Scott, Michael, and John; 19 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and many other family members and friends.

The funeral will be held on Friday, April 22, 2022, at 10 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church in Bloomer with a visitation on Thursday, April 21, 2022, from 4–7 p.m. with a Masonic Service to follow at the Olson Funeral Home in Bloomer. Graveside services and military honors at the Northern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Spooner at 2 p.m. on April 22.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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SAFETY FIRST!

Dairy Farm Rewiring Loan & Grant Program



The Safety First! Farm Rewiring program represents part of our commitment to dairy farmers and state policy makers to help mitigate stray voltage and safety risks. This commitment is as important today as it was in 2002 and is why all electric cooperatives that serve dairy farms in Wisconsin agreed to support and participate in this program.

Requirements

- Dairy farms only (including cows, goats, and sheep that are kept for the production of milk)
- Existing farmstead
- Pre-program inspection
- Electrician's estimate
- Service agreement for length of loan
- Credit eligibility requirements

Loans and Grants

- A loan/grant combination is available up to \$30,000
- Grants are available for 20 percent or up to \$6,000 from the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association
- Loans are available for 80 percent or up to \$24,000 from your electric cooperative
- Take up to five years to repay the loan
- 3-percent interest applies to the loan

For more information on this program, please contact the CVEC Operations Department at 715.239.6800.



Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative

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Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30–4 p.m.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Board of Directors

- District 1 – Dan Liske
- District 2 – Steve Johnson
- District 3 – Vacant
- District 4 – Kevin Meistad
- District 5 – Deone Goettl
- District 6 – Steve Wall
- District 7 – John Petska

Dean Ortmann, President/CEO

Nicole Whipp Sime, Editor

