



Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative

317 S. 8th Street, P.O. Box 575

Cornell, WI 54732

715.239.6800

WINTER STORM PREPARATION

Extreme winter weather can immobilize an entire region—even for us Wisconsinites. Winter storms can result in difficult road conditions, power outages, and flooding. Take action now to ensure the safety and comfort of your family in the event of extreme winter weather.

Before a Storm

- Have snow removal equipment on hand or a snow removal service arranged.
- Locate your main water supply and valves; make sure you know how to shut them off in case a pipe bursts.
- Repair roof leaks and keep gutters clear. Trim any tree branches that could fall during a storm. If you have tree branches near CVEC's electrical lines, please contact us. One of our crew members will safely cut the branch or tree for you. We do require members to clean up the cut branch or tree afterwards.
- Winterize your home by caulking and weatherstripping doors and windows, sealing the attic area, and installing storm windows. This will help to keep your family safe and comfortable during a storm and help with the cost of your electric bill throughout the winter.

During a Storm

- Listen to your radio or television for weather reports and emergency information.
- To conserve fuel, keep your home cooler than normal. Consider temporarily closing off heat to some rooms.
- Stay dry. Change wet clothing frequently to prevent the loss of body heat.
- Watch for signs of frostbite; these include loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in extremities such as fingers and toes. If symptoms are detected, get medical help immediately.
- Drive only when necessary. If you must drive, travel on main roads during daylight hours. Keep others informed of your whereabouts.

After a Storm

- Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow. Overexertion can bring on a heart attack, a major cause of death in the winter.
- If you are able, help out neighbors who may require assistance, including the elderly, people with disabilities, and people with infants or small children.
- Follow forecasts and be prepared when needing to travel outside. Major winter storms are often followed by extremely cold conditions.

A little forethought and attention to detail will help to ensure that you and your family will stay warm and safe this winter, no matter what the weather is outside.

—Source: Touchstone Energy

THERE'S STILL TIME!



Consider Representing Your Cooperative as a Director

Director Elections for Districts 2, 4 and 7 will be held at the CVEC Annual Meeting.

Paperwork Deadline: February 10

This is a reminder that if your primary residence is in District 2, District 4, or District 7, and you're interested in being a candidate for the upcoming director election at CVEC's 88th Annual Meeting of Members to be held Thursday, March 27, the deadline for submitting your completed application is February 10, 2025.

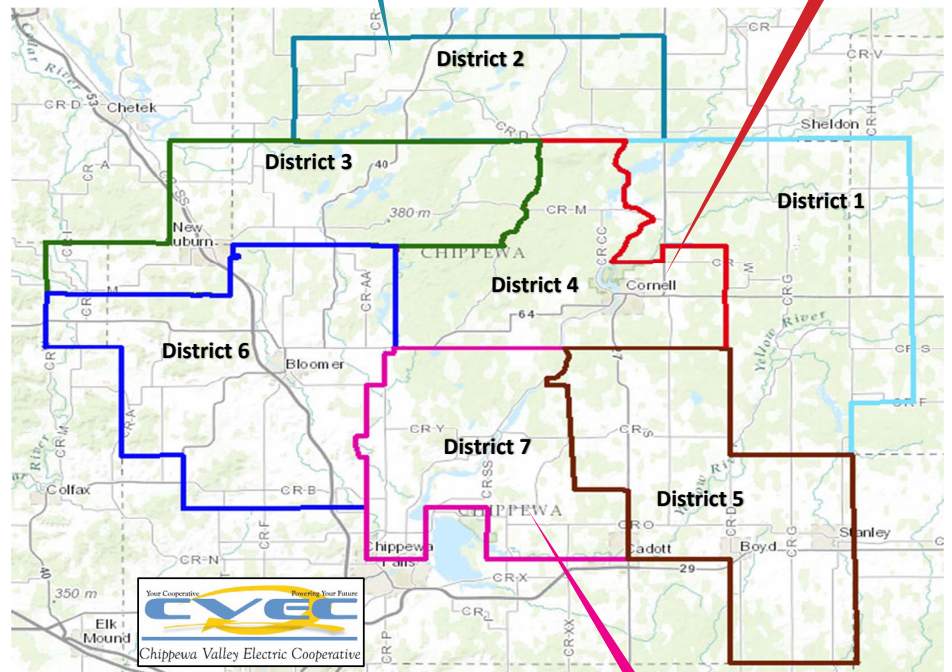
The following board members are currently serving and have the option to campaign again for these positions:

District 2 – Steve Johnson 3-Year Term

Townships of Rusk, Big Bend, Washington, and Willard of Rusk County; and those members of Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative whose service extensions lie within said townships.

District 4 – Kevin Meistad 3-Year Term

Townships of Cleveland and Estella, and the portion of the Township of Birch Creek located east of County Highway E, Chippewa County; and those members of Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative whose service extensions lie within said townships or portions of townships.



District 7 – John Petska 3-Year Term

Townships of Eagle Point and Anson, and the portion of the Township of Goetz located west of State Highway 27, Chippewa County; and those members of Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative whose service extensions lie within said townships or portions of townships.

For applications or more details about board elections, contact Rebecca at rpehlke@cve.coop or call 715.239.6800. The deadline for completed director candidate paperwork is February 10, 2025.

RATE ADJUSTMENT PLANNED FOR JANUARY 1

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC) is committed to providing dependable and reliable electric power to its members while at the same time using members' resources as wisely as possible. The continued goal of your cooperative's board of directors and management team is to keep rates low.

The last few years have been anything but easy as inflation continues to impact every sector, and the energy industry is no exception. A slight increase in rates is needed in 2025 to help our not-for-profit cooperative maintain a strong financial position and

continue to provide the reliable service our members have come to expect.

As members of a small, rural cooperative, you should remember that fixed costs and time-sensitive costs in the wholesale rate affect CVEC differently than they do large electric companies. The infrastructure that delivers power to our homes and businesses demands constant maintenance and occasional upgrades to meet evolving technology and safety standards. It's crucial to recognize the pivotal role facility upgrades and maintenance play in sustaining low outage times for our members and safe work

environments for our crews. Investing in improvements and maintenance of our electrical system ensures our community receives consistent, high-quality electrical services.

The 4% increase is a measured response to counteract inflating costs. Moreover, the rate adjustment aligns with the cooperative principles of democratic member control and financial responsibility. As a member-owned entity, the cooperative always operates with the best interests of its members in mind. Members will see the change on their February billing statement for January 1–31 usage.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

This spring, Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC) will be awarding several scholarships to graduating high school seniors of member families through our Federated Youth Foundation Scholarship Program. The scholarship program is funded entirely from unclaimed patronage capital issued by the cooperative and from members who wish to donate their capital credits' earnings to the scholarship program. Please contact CVEC if you wish to do so.

Applications can be obtained from CVEC's website (cvecoop.com) or by contacting the cooperative office.

CVEC's scholarship program began in 1998, and since its inception has provided more than \$203,000 in scholarships to area students. An independent scholarship committee composed of retired educators scores the applications based upon merit.

The completed scholarship application must be returned to the cooperative office by April 1. Scholarships will be awarded to the students at an honors ceremony or at graduation.

If you have any questions about the scholarship program, please contact Rebecca at CVEC 715.239.6800 or rpehlke@cve.coop.

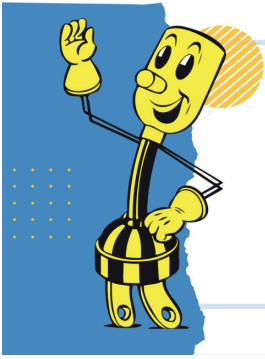


WINTER MORATORIUM DEPOSIT

Thank you to all of our members who regularly pay their electric bill on time.

In an effort to keep rates as stable as possible for all members of CVEC, the Board of Directors has revised the policy addressing Consumer Deposits to include a winter moratorium deposit. Members who are current with their payments will not be impacted.

More information will be shared about the impact the consumer deposit will have on past due accounts during the winter months with those who are affected.



Your Cooperative **CVVEC** Powering Your Future *Sparks*
CO-OP NEWS
CELEBRATING OUR CO-OP COMMUNITY!

CVVEC Annual Meeting: Thursday, March 27

CVVEC’s 88th Annual Meeting of Members will be on Thursday evening, March 27, at the cooperative’s headquarters in Cornell. It’s a good opportunity to learn about your cooperative while enjoying a dinner served by CVVEC staff. Plus, there will be prizes! We invite you to come out and see your friends and neighbors, our cooperative community. Stay tuned for more details.



Director Candidate Paperwork Due Monday, February 10

Is now the time for you to represent? District 2, District 4, and District 7 elections will be held at CVVEC’s Annual Meeting in March. Members whose primary residence is within District 2, District 4, or District 7, are eligible to run for candidacy. Please contact the cooperative if you are interested, and we’ll get you the information you need to get your name on the ballot. The deadline to return all required documents is Monday, February 10.

2025 Incentives Program Launches

The new year brings a new energy efficiency incentives program. You may be eligible for an incentive on a recent investment in energy efficiency. Check out all of Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative’s rebate offerings at cvecoop.com or call the office at 715.239.6800 for more details. Requirements state you must submit your incentive documents within three months of your purchase date. You don’t want to miss out!

Spirit of Christmas Success

We had Christmas gifts galore for Chippewa County children. Thank you to all the CVVEC employees, directors, and community members who participated in the annual gift collection for Chippewa County youth. Giving really is better than receiving.



317 S. 8th St., P.O. Box 575
 Cornell, WI 54732
 715.239.6800 • 1.800.300.6800
www.cvecoop.com • email: cvec@cve.coop
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Board of Directors

- District 1 – Sue Frei
- District 2 – Steve Johnson
- District 3 – Frank Draxler
- District 4 – Kevin Meistad
- District 5 – Joe Melville
- District 6 – Steve Wall
- District 7 – John Petska

Russ Falkenberg, President/CEO



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Office Hours: Monday, 7:30–4 p.m.
 Friday, 7:30 a.m.–12 p.m.
Rebecca Pehlke, Editor