

hippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC), along with Dairyland Power Cooperative and neighboring cooperatives, kicked off Co-op Month by volunteering at Our Nawakwa on October 1. Our Nawakwa is a youth camp located on CVEC's electric lines with a goal of connecting more youth to nature.

"I am so proud of the way our team showed up for this event and the strong partnership we have with Dairyland Power and other neighboring cooperatives," stated Russ Falkenberg, President and CEO. "At CVEC we are committed to empowering our members and building stronger communities. Cooperatives are more than just businesses—they are community-driven organizations that put people first."

The 40 volunteers (pictured above) from CVEC, Dairyland, Jump River Electric Cooperative, Taylor Electric Cooperative, and Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association spent the day brushing, splitting wood, painting, installing a new camp sign, doing winterization projects, and completing other needed tasks at the camp.

"It was an impressive display of People, Power and Productivity," shared Nancy (Baters) Felix, Volunteer Coordinator for Our Nawakwa. "Chippewa Valley Electric's team came ready to attack some big tasks. They get things done and have fun doing it."

Co-ops were built to meet community needs, and that purpose extends well beyond delivering electricity. The Cooperative Day of Service highlights the Cooperative Principles of Concern for Community and Cooperation Amongst Cooperatives.

To learn more about Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative and other community support programs they support visit: www.cvecoop.com.







NEW TO YOUR BILLING ST

What is a Demand Reading?

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative measures demand in kilowatts (kW) in 15-minute intervals. This means the 15-minutes your equipment is consuming or "demanding" the most electricity establishes your demand reading.

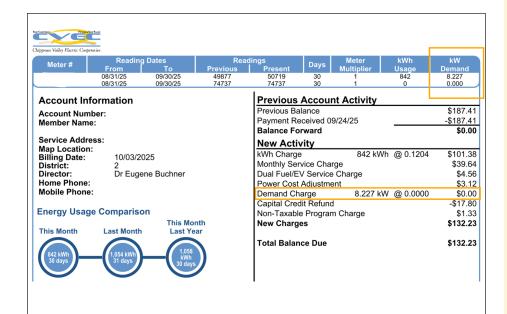
Imagine electricity like water in your home's plumbing system:

- **Energy (kWh)** is the total water you use over time—like filling up 50 gallons for showers, dishes, and laundry all day. It's about the bucket's worth, not how fast it flows.
- **Demand (kW)** is the speed of the flow at its peak—like cranking the faucet wide open for a quick garden hose blast. It's the max rush in any moment, even if it's just for 15-30 minutes.

Here's the catch: If you blast all your faucets at once (say, shower + dishwasher + sprinklers), your water pressure spikes that's high demand, and it costs more, even if you didn't use more water overall. Same with electricity: Firing up your space heater, oven, and dryer together creates a "power rush" that impacts cost of power for utilities.

Electric utilities use demand as a billing determinant because it reflects the size of the wires, transformers, and generators that are needed to serve the load. Equipment must be sized to safely serve the maximum demand placed on it, much in the same way that the wiring and circuit breakers in your home are sized to serve your own loads.





Interested in Helping the Co-op Stabilize Demand?

Plus get a kick-back on your bill

Dual Fuel

Looking to save money on heating & cooling your home?

The Dual Fuel Program is designed to allow you to take advantage of lower cost electricity for home heating and cooling.

- Electric must be the primary source of heat, and you must have a nonelectric back-up.
- During peak demand, Dual Fuel participants allow CVEC to curtail electric heating or cooling loads. During these times you rely on your back up heat source.
- CVEC's Air Conditioner Program runs during periods of peak demand. CVEC will cycle your AC compressor (outdoor unit) in 15 minute intervals. The furnace blower fan will continue to run. You will receive a \$6 credit in June. July and August.

*If you participate in the Dual Fuel Program, and also have central air conditioning controlled, you will receive a reduced electric rate for air conditioning in place of the \$6 credit.

ATEMENT: DEMAND READING

Demand charges are the utility's way of passing a fair share of those fixed costs to users who create the peaks, rather than spreading it all over total usage (which hits steady, low-peak users unfairly). For CVEC and most utilities, residential electric accounts bundle total energy usage and demand because their demand is less variable. Commercial Operations typically cause larger spikes in their demand (e.g., factory startup) which can stress the whole local grid.

Why Include a Demand Reading on All Bills?

No matter the type of account, demand for energy across our system impacts our entire membership because it impacts the wholesale rate of purchased power for the Cooperative. Cost of power is our greatest expense at CVEC, so the more we can reduce our demand, especially during peak times of usage, the better for our entire membership.

Our team also references demand often to our membership in communication through the magazine, Facebook, and at the Annual Meeting, having it printed on every bill gives members a chance to monitor their demand and think through their energy usage.

Residential/seasonal accounts:

Pay for total energy bundled with demand—no specific charge to your bill related to your home's specific demand.

Commercial/large power accounts:

Demand charges are added for those peak bursts (measured in kW over short windows) to your total energy consumption payment.

Water Heater Credits

Looking for another way to save?

CVEC will pay for service calls and/ or parts for your electric water heater, up to \$150. In addition, when you use over 500 kWh/ month you receive a \$3 credit on your electric bill. In exchange for these benefits, you allow CVEC to curtail your water heater during peak demand.

Sign-up for Dual Fuel or Water Heater Credits by contacting us at: 715-239-6800 or cvec@cve.coop.



WISCONSIN SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR ELECTRICITY

Under current law, electricity and natural gas sold during the months of November, December, January, February, March, and April for residential use is exempt from Wisconsin sales and use tax.

A recent law change in 2025, Wis. Act 15, provides that the exemption for electricity and natural gas sold for residential use is exempt from Wisconsin sales and use tax for the entire year. The exemption applies to electricity and natural gas sold on or after October 1, 2025. For purposes of this exemption, electricity or natural gas is considered sold at the time of billing. If the billing is by mail, the time of billing is the day on which the billing is mailed. As a result of this law change, utility providers must turn off tax on their October 2025 billings rather than the normal shut off that occurred in November to April billings. Beginning

with the October billing, residential CVEC members will not have Wisconsin sales and use tax on their bill.

Note: "Residential use" means use in a structure or portion of a structure which is a person's permanent residence, but does not include use in transient accommodations, motor homes, travel trailers, or other recreational vehicles.

If you have any questions about this exemption, contact the department by one of the following:

Telephone: (608) 266-2776

Email: DORSalesandUse@wisconsin.gov Write: Wisconsin Department of Revenue

Customer Service Bureau

P.O. Box 8949

Madison, WI 53708-8949





CELEBRATING OUR CO-OP COMMUNITY!



Dual Fuel Heating Systems to Be Tested November 19

For members who participate in the dual fuel or off-peak heating program, CVEC will be testing this on Wednesday, November 19, from 7-11 a.m. Electric heat will be shut off at this time for members enrolled in the program with back-up heating systems. If you experience a problem during the test, contact your heating contractor. If there is an issue with your load management receiver or if you have questions, contact CVEC at 715-239-6800.

Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 27 & Friday, November 28

Come See the CVEC Spirit of Christmas Tree

Beginning November 5, you can find Spirit of Christmas tags hanging from the CVEC Lobby Christmas Tree. Want to bring joy to a child this holiday season? Stop in and select a tag from the tree, shop for suggested items, and simply return the unwrapped gifts to CVEC by November 30. It is a great cause that helps local children and families.



Honoring our Heros

On November 11, we honor the men and women who have served this country to protect our freedoms by remembering Veterans Day. Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative would like to thank all military veterans, especially the following cooperative family members who are near and dear to us. We are grateful for your service and bravery.



Left: Joe Melville, CVEC District 5 Director: 3 years U.S. Army, WI Army National Guard, First Sergeant—Years of Service: 22 (1986-2008). Right: John Petska, CVEC District 7 Director: 28 years U.S. Army Reserve—Years of Service: 6 (1964-1970).



Terry Kent, husband of CVEC accountant Della Kent. Wisconsin Army National Guard (Cook/Light Wheel Mechanic)— Years of service: 10 (1982 – 1992).



Tyler Scheidler, son of Kevin, CVEC line superintendent, and Tonya Scheidler. U.S. Navy— Years of Service: 8 (2016-2024).



Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative

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Follow us on Facebook **f** Monday — Thursday: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Friday: 7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Rebecca Pehlke, Editor