

May is Electrical Safety Month:

Do not overlook overhead power lines

It can be easy to overlook things that we see every day, including overhead power lines. However, failure to notice overhead lines can be deadly. If you or an object you are touching contacts or gets too close to a power line, you could be seriously injured or killed.

Overhead power lines require 10 feet of clearance in all directions. This distance rule applies to the power lines draped from pole to pole that line roads (distribution lines), as well as the drop-down lines that service homes or other structures.

Be mindful of overhead power lines when completing the following tasks:

Home maintenance

- Always be aware of the location of power lines, particularly when using long tools, such as ladders, pool skimmers and pruning poles.
- Lower long tools and equipment before moving or transporting them.
- Carry ladders and other long items horizontally whenever possible.
- Be careful when working on or around your roof.
- Never go on a roof in windy or bad weather.

Yard work

- When trimming trees, do not allow yourself or trimmers to come within 10 feet of overhead power lines, including service lines to your home or outbuilding.
- Do not trim trees near power lines; instead, leave this to certified line clearance tree trimmers.
- Do not use water or blower extensions to clean gutters near electric lines.

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LOOK OUT

FOR POWER SOURCES



Do not get within 10 feet (in any direction) of a power line.

Be aware of power lines when working on the roof.



Do not trim branches or limbs near power lines.

Be careful when carrying long or tall objects such as ladders or poles.



Before you dig, call 811 to have underground utilities marked.



Do not dig near padmount transformers or other utility equipment.



Farming

- Review power line locations and other potential electrical hazards with all workers at morning safety meetings.
- Equipment that could get too close or contact a power pole or line includes sprayer tips, tall equipment, dump trucks, augers and other extensions.

At work

- Follow all OSHA distance requirements when operating dump trucks, cranes, concrete pump truck extensions and when working on a roof or in a bucket.

Other reminders

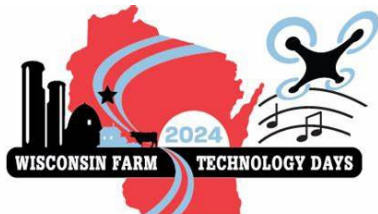
- Do not come within 50 feet of a downed or damaged power line. Warn others to stay away. Call 9-1-1 to report it.
- Never climb trees near power lines. Even if the power lines are not touching the tree, they could come in contact when weight is added to the branch.

Look up and live. Contact can happen in an instant. For additional electrical safety tips, go to SafeElectricity.org.

WI Farm Technology Days

Save the Date: August 13-15, 2024. Hosted at Close Farms and Chippewa Valley Music Fest grounds. CVEC is sponsoring this event and will be there with the Touchstone Energy hot air balloon and our live high voltage safety demonstration. As the largest outdoor agricultural event in the state, WI Farm Technology Days welcomes more than 45,000 attendees, with more than 500 commercial and education vendors. You won't want to miss it!

If you are interested in volunteering for this extraordinary community event, please contact Barb Close closebj5@gmail.com or Cheryl Scheidler cl_petska@yahoo.com.



CHIPPEWA COUNTY
growing to the tune of success

Rate Adjustment

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

Research states that since the start of 2021, food prices have gone up by 33.7%, shelter costs went up by 18.7%, and energy prices increased by 32.8%. As no surprise, wholesale power prices have increased through our supplier, Dairyland Power Cooperative, and a rate increase is necessary.

Thankfully, CVEC is in a strong financial position and your board of directors can hold the rate adjustment at a 3% increase. This increase is for energy only, meaning the facility charge will not change. This is reflected on the enclosed billing statement.

Youth Leadership Conference

The annual Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) will be at UW-Stout on July 16-18, 2024. The YLC is a dynamic three-day event for high school students across Wisconsin to develop their leadership skills while learning about the purpose, operation, and scope of cooperative business. High school sophomores and juniors with family members who belong to CVEC are eligible to request an application. To request an application, please contact CVEC at cvec@cve.coop or call 715.239.6800. Applications are due to CVEC by June 14, 2024.



Take the opportunity to..

- See what makes the cooperative business model different and successful, then apply this knowledge to fun and challenging cooperative activities.
- Identify and learn how to develop your own leadership skills.
- Discuss cooperative careers with industry professionals.
- Be entertained and challenged by highly acclaimed motivational speakers who understand teens and talk about topics that are relevant in your life.

Who should apply?

- 10th and 11th grade high school students with family members who belong to CVEC.
- Students active in their school and community.
- Students who are interested in learning more about the cooperative business model.

What does it cost?

- If selected to attend, all registration costs are covered by the generous support of your local cooperative, CVEC.
- Students can find the application at <https://www.cvecoop.com/youthcongress.php> or contact CVEC at 715.239.6800.