

# HELP CONTROL SUMMER ENERGY COSTS

## Do the Summer Shift: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays

You may wonder, “Is my electric cooperative asking me to reduce my consumption?”

We aren’t asking you to reduce your consumption; rather, we request that if you have any electricity needs that can be moved to earlier or later in the day on summer weekdays, that you “Do the Summer Shift” and change the time of day or week that you do those things.

We’re actually looking out for you by trying to limit cost increases because Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative is different from other utilities—we are a cooperative, owned by the members. We strive to provide affordable, reliable access to all the electricity you and your family need as well as to help you use it most wisely to help manage our costs today and in the future.

Using electricity wisely this summer, as you’ve probably heard on the radio and read in our newsletters, includes that you shift electricity use to before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m. weekdays. There are no premium prices in the summer for weekends, holidays, or overnight use. Early mornings and later evenings are perfect timing for some household chores and entertainment activities.

Let’s take a look at a specific example of Summer Shift activity. Consider that many homes and businesses use air conditioners, dehumidifiers, and heat pumps to keep their home temperatures comfortably cool in the summer months. We also use our dishwashers, washers, and dryers.

By changing the time of day you do just these three small things in your home, you help us save:

1. Turning your air conditioner thermostat up just four degrees,
2. Starting your dishwasher early or late,



3. Shifting the time you wash and dry your laundry.

As a matter of fact, by shifting these activities on summer weekdays before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m., you can help the cooperative avoid premium wholesale charges of about \$7.74 for the summer months.

With that research under our belts—and here’s the part that really brings the point home—if all 6,884 residential accounts of Chippewa Valley Electric turned their air conditioner thermostats up just four degrees and shifted their laundry and dishwashing during Summer Shift hours weekdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., we would avoid approximately \$53,282 in additional wholesale costs to our cooperative.

Can you believe that we could experience \$53,282 in summer cost savings just from these three small adjustments by our members between 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m. summer weekdays? From this you can see how easily you

can make a difference. Your participation helps keep electric rates affordable for everyone!

We’re confident that our members’ combined efforts to move electricity use outside the hours of 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. summer weekdays will be able to prevent these incremental summer charges, so we encourage you to help if you can.

For our part, we’ll continue to share more specific suggestions for how you can participate in the Summer Shift by moving part of your electricity use outside of these more costly hours. For now, if you would like to read further, take a look at this link for energy efficiency suggestions from the U.S. Department of Energy: <http://energy.gov/articles/resolve-save-energy-year>. Give us a call at Chippewa Valley Electric, 715.239.6800, with any questions you have.

Thank you for your participation in this valuable effort. Do the Summer Shift!



## CHIPPEWA VALLEY ELECTRIC HOLDS MEMBER APPRECIATION PICNIC & OPEN HOUSE

It was a beautiful day on May 25 for members to enjoy the 26th Member Appreciation Picnic and wander through the new Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC) headquarters. Just like in past years, our traditional picnic lunch of grilled brats, hot dogs, CVEC's famous baked beans, and other fixings were served by the CVEC line crew. The directors were also at their usual post, happily serving hand-dipped scoops of ice cream. Jeff Springer, manager of energy efficiency and technical services from Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC), attended by driving one of DPC's electric cars to the event. The Ford C-MAX Energi Plug-In Hybrid was on display in CVEC's shop for members to explore.

Thank you to all the members who joined us for our Member Appreciation Picnic and Open House!



## CHIPPEWA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE RECEIVES AWARD

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative was recently honored at the Chippewa County Economic Development Corporation Annual Meeting with a Business of the Year Award for Quadrant 2. The award presentation was held May 20 at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport, with Governor Scott Walker in attendance as the event's keynote speaker.

The award is given to a Chippewa County business for its impact in the community in regard to job opportunities, expansion, continued education, and workforce training.

The Chippewa County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) is an organization established to serve as a catalyst for economic development in Chippewa County and foster a strong economic environment that supports businesses and nurtures growth and new investment in the region. Chippewa

Valley Electric Cooperative was surprised and honored to be selected for this award by the CCEDC.

Shown below accepting the award for CVEC is Dean Ortmann and Rod

Patten (second and third from left) with Governor Scott Walker and State Senator Terry Moulton (right) and Elizabeth McCormick (left, former U.S. Army Black Hawk pilot).



## DPC PRESIDENT/CEO MEETS WITH CVEC BOARD

At the May meeting of the Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC) Board of Directors, Barb Nick, president/CEO of Dairyland Power Cooperative, met with the CVEC directors for a question-and-answer session focusing on items affecting Chippewa Valley Electric's wholesale power rates and delivery.

Topics discussed included renewable energy, fuel contracts for generation of electricity, fuel delivery, and the financial integrity of Dairyland Power Cooperative. Dairyland Power Cooperative is Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative's wholesale power provider. Chippewa Valley has an all requirements contract with Dairyland to exclusively provide the electricity that Chippewa Valley requires.



**Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative's office will be closed Monday, July 4, for Independence Day. Have a safe and happy holiday!**





# Benjamin Franklin's Electric Breakthroughs STILL KEEP HOMES SAFE

Benjamin Franklin is remembered as a writer, politician, scientist, and inventor. His discoveries related to electricity are still important to this day, and fortunately we have a better understanding of how to safely use electricity. The Energy Education Council encourages you to learn from Benjamin Franklin and practice safety around electricity.

Benjamin Franklin was fascinated by the power and mystery of electricity. He and some of his contemporaries had a theory that lightning was electricity. This led Franklin and his companions to conduct a famous experiment involving a kite and a key. During a storm, Franklin flew a kite with a key attached to the bottom. Lightning struck the kite and transferred from the kite to the key. The experiment proved that lightning was electricity.

However, Franklin's experiment was very risky and shows us just how dangerous it is to be outside during a storm. No matter how curious you are,

it is never safe to go outside in severe weather, and it is especially dangerous to fly a kite in such weather. Franklin was very fortunate that he was not killed or seriously injured during his famous experiment.

It is important to pay attention to weather reports so you know when storms are approaching and can make

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plans to be inside. Lightning can strike up to 10 miles from the area in which it is raining, even if you do not see clouds. This means that if you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance. After a storm, wait until 30 minutes has passed

without lightning or thunder before you go outside.

Franklin did have safety in mind when he invented the lightning rod. It was created to protect homes from fires started by lightning. Lightning rods are placed on the top of buildings, where they attract lightning. The rod is attached to a wire that leads to the ground, which is designed to safely dissipate lightning's power into the ground without causing fires or house damage.

Franklin's curiosity in electricity was spurred on by the lightning experiment. He continued to contribute to electrical discoveries over the course of his life. He coined phrases such as positive, negative, charge, and discharge that are still used to describe electricity. He helped pave the way for future electrical discoveries and inventions.

Franklin passed away in 1790 at the age of 84, but he lives on through his writings, terminology, and inventions.

To learn more about electricity, the safe way, visit [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).

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*CVEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*