

The background of the flyer features a stylized American flag with a blue field of white stars in the upper left and red and white stripes curving across the bottom. On the right side, several balloons in red, white, and blue are floating. The text is centered in the white space.

MEMBER APPRECIATION PICNIC and OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, May 25, 2016
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative invites you to come and join your friends and neighbors for an old-fashioned cookout and see our new headquarters! Enjoy brats, hot dogs, and all the trimmings, including our famous baked beans, with ice cream for dessert!

No carryouts, please!



Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative

317 South 8th Street
(corner of Hwy. 27/64 and South 8th Street)
Cornell, WI
715-239-6800

MY CO-OP



Explore Your Leadership Potential

Youth Leadership Congress set for July 13–15

Attention high school sophomores: The Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA) Division of Cooperative Network offers the opportunity to participate in the 53rd annual Youth Leadership Congress (YLC) to high school students throughout the state.

The conference, co-sponsored by Wisconsin's electric cooperatives and the University of Wisconsin–River Falls, is scheduled for July 13–15, 2016, on the UW–River Falls campus. The annual WECA Youth Leadership Congress is a dynamic three-day event for youth leaders across Wisconsin to develop their leadership skills while learning about the purpose, operation, and scope of cooperative businesses.

Student participants will get 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.

This is a by-teens, for-teens cooperative leadership conference that is planned and developed by a youth board elected at the previous year's event.

All registration costs are covered by the generous support of Wisconsin electric cooperatives, including Chippewa Valley Electric, and the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation. Students are sponsored by the electric cooperative serving their area, which means there is no cost to the student.

To qualify as a delegate, you must be a student of sophomore standing in the 2015–2016 school year and live with a parent or guardian who is a member of CVEC.

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative is accepting applications from students who are interested in attending this exciting conference. Please go online to cvecoop.com or call CVEC at 715.239.6800 for more information.

All applications must be received by CVEC no later than June 1, 2016.

DANGER DOESN'T TAKE A VACATION:

Tips for Electrical Safety Near and Far

With many schools wrapping up the spring semester, the summer months are a popular time to take a vacation. As May is National Electrical Safety Month, Safe Electricity is sharing tips on how to prepare your home for electrical safety while you are away and prepare yourself to be safe by learning about the differences in electrical systems you may find while traveling.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, in the United States there are around 31,000 fires and 200 deaths resulting from electrical accidents each year.

Molly Hall, executive director of the Safe Electricity program, advises, "Before you leave, protect appliances from a possible power surge. Walk through each room to make sure appliances that will not be used in your absence, such as TVs and computers, are unplugged."

Many of these appliances use power while plugged in, even if they are turned off. So this will help cut down on energy costs while also keeping your home safer.

If traveling abroad for vacation, it is a good idea to first familiarize yourself with the differences in electrical systems outside of our borders. There is no universal standard for electrical voltage, with variations between 110 to 240 volts and 50 to 60 hertz common around the world.

Because U.S. systems produce 120-volt and 60-hertz electricity, our appliances are formatted to work with this level of power. To protect your devices from burning out in areas with higher levels of electricity, a converter will be needed to step down the voltage from these outlets to a usable level. Converters can change 220 volts to 110, making it usable for American devices. Before plugging in your device, check that both the voltage and wattage are compatible. Remember that converters are for temporary use and should be unplugged when the electricity is not needed.

You can check the small print on your devices and chargers to see if they support the voltage that will be available while you are traveling. If you see something similar to "100-240 V 50-60 Hz," it will be usable with other electrical systems. Although many electronic chargers, such as those for laptops and cameras, are often compatible with all voltage standards, you should always more closely examine the product labeling before using the device abroad. Most lower-cost appliances such as curling irons and hairdryers will not have a built-in adapter.

In the United States, most modern outlets are designed for three-pronged devices, but this is not the case in many other countries. Currently, 15 types of outlet styles are used, so in order to use your three-pronged devices with outlets that are designed differently, you will need to buy an adapter. Adapters are available at most hardware stores for a low cost.

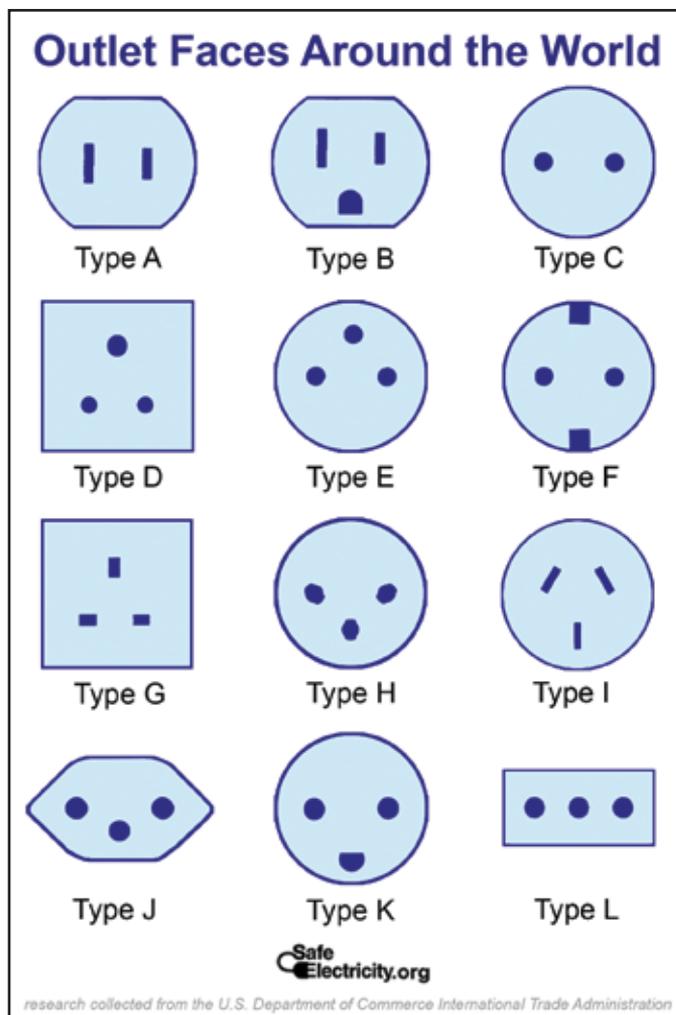
If your adapter does not fit into sockets easily, do not use

it. Remember that adapters do not convert the electricity, but only the plug style. Like converters, they are designed for temporary use.

To be prepared while traveling internationally, do the research before you leave home. Make sure you know the voltage and outlet size in use at your vacation destination. Keep in mind that some hotels provide adapters or converters, as well as appliances such as hairdryers and irons, which are suited for that location's electrical system, but it is best to check before you travel.

Also keep in mind that if you purchase an appliance in another country, you should not plan on using it when back in the United States. It would require the use of a converter and adapter, and both are designed for temporary use.

For more information on electrical safety, please visit SafeElectricity.org.



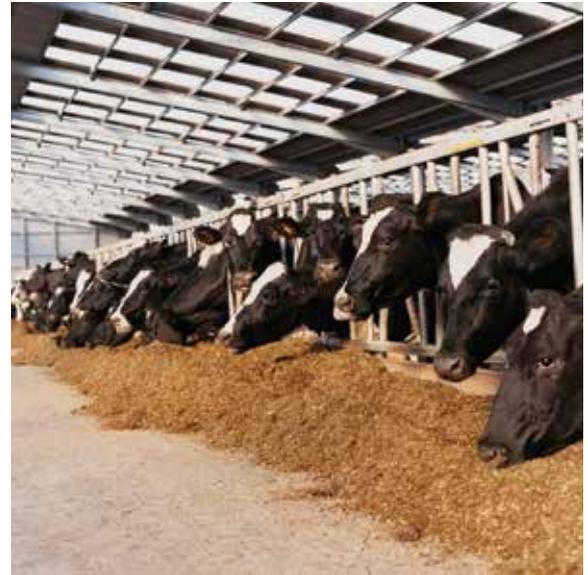


SOLVING STRAY VOLTAGE PROBLEMS

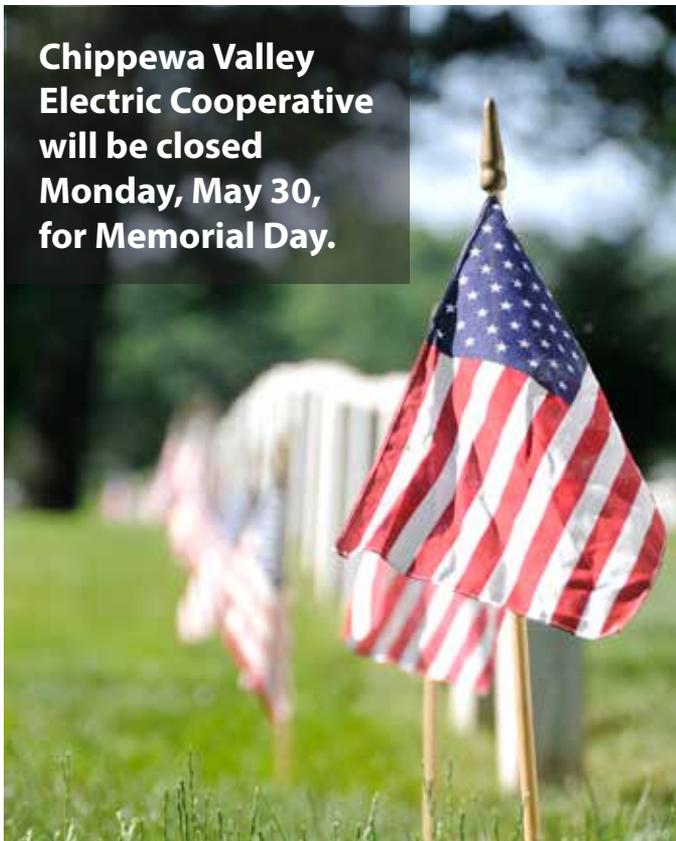
Stray voltage is the common term used to describe neutral-to-earth voltage in a cow or livestock contact area, usually in the barn. When a cow makes contact between two points with a difference in voltage, such as a watering cup and the concrete floor, an electric current may flow through the cow, which the cow may feel. Such situations can be caused by a variety of electrical problems both on farm and off farm.

Neutral-to-earth voltage may never be completely eliminated because it is present on all grounded electrical distribution systems. However, much can be done to resolve stray voltage concerns. There are fairly simple electrical tests that can be performed by qualified individuals to determine whether stray voltage is present at unacceptable levels on your farm.

If you believe you may have stray voltage, Chippewa Valley Electric stands ready to investigate that possibility. We have the equipment and trained personnel to offer assistance and advice pertaining to stray voltage.



**Chippewa Valley
Electric Cooperative
will be closed
Monday, May 30,
for Memorial Day.**



IS YOUR CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING CONTROLLED?

Chippewa Valley Electric is offering a \$25 rebate to new participants in our Central Air Conditioning Load Management Program. In order to qualify for the rebate, the member must sign up for the control **before June 1, 2016**.

In addition to the \$25 rebate, the member will receive a \$6 per month credit during June, July, and August. Central air conditioning has a special control strategy that cycles only the compressor, rather than shutting down the entire system for extended periods. When we need to control central air conditioning systems, the compressor is cycled in 15-minute increments during the control period. The blower is not interrupted, as there is generally enough residual cold in the ductwork for the control to go unnoticed.

If you would like to receive the rebate and the AC credit, please contact our office for a rebate form, or the rebate form can be downloaded from our webpage at www.cvcoop.com/forms/ACagreement.pdf.



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Nicole Whipp Sime, Editor



Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative

CVEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.