

*Your energy provider yesterday, today and tomorrow."*

# NEWSLETTER

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative

January 2012

## BYLAW CHANGE TO BE PRESENTED AT ANNUAL MEETING

Chippewa Valley Electric's Annual Meeting is set for February 25, 2012 at the Cornell High School Auditorium. One item of business for this year's Annual Meeting is a proposed Bylaw change. The change is to allow Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative to have first interest in capital credits in instances of bankruptcy. The full wording follows this article.

The reason the proposed Bylaw change is being presented is it to protect the interest of Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative. The Cooperative has had requests for service from large mining operations. The capital credits generated by those types of business can become very large and this Bylaw change would allow Chippewa Valley to get first claim to those capital credits should the organization go out of business and leave the Cooperative with a large unpaid bill.

Your Board of Directors and the Cooperative Attorney have reviewed the Bylaw change and are recommending it's approval. Any Bylaw change requires approval by the members and an official notice of the proposed change along with a ballot will be sent with the Annual Meeting notice in the February 2012 Wisconsin Energy Cooperative Magazine. The voting will then be tabulated at the February 25, 2012 Annual Meeting.

If you have questions regarding the proposal, please feel free to contact our office.

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CVEC BYLAWS, ARTICLE VIII

#### [New Section 6]

**Section 6. Security Interest in Patronage Capital.** The Cooperative shall have a continuing, first priority security interest in the patronage capital allocated and credited to any patron to secure the payment of any and all obligations owed by such patron to the Cooperative and the performance of the patron's obligations to the Cooperative. The patron shall execute such documents as the Cooperative may request to confirm and perfect this security interest. The patron further authorizes the Cooperative to file appropriate financing statements to perfect that security interest. The rights of the Cooperative under the security interest hereby granted may be exercised in the event of the default in payment by the patron of the patron's obligations or in the event of the bankruptcy or insolvency of the patron. Such indebtedness of the patron shall be subtracted from the capital allocated and credited to the patron in any retirement thereof made to said patron or to his estate, heirs or surviving joint member. The Board of Directors shall determine when confirmation and perfection of the security interest shall be required.

### FEE INCREASE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2012

A Collection Fee of \$35.00 will be charged to a member when a crew is dispatched to a location for collection of overdue energy billings.

During regular working hours a Reconnection Fee of \$50.00 will be paid for reconnecting any account that has been disconnected. The after hours reconnection of electricity to any disconnected account will require a fee of \$125.00.

# ELECTRICAL SAFETY CALENDAR

USE THIS HANDY CALENDAR TO KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE. FOR MORE TIPS, VISIT [ESFI.ORG](http://ESFI.ORG).

## January

- Check and replace furnace filters

## February

- Vacuum refrigerator coils

## March

- Replace smoke and carbon monoxide alarm batteries if not done in the last 12 months

## April

- Check and replace furnace filters

## May

- Clean air conditioners or schedule annual inspection
- Vacuum refrigerator coils

## June

- Dust light fixtures/lamps
- Schedule annual inspection of gas-powered dryer

## July

- Check and replace air conditioning filters

## August

- Vacuum refrigerator coils

## September

- Schedule annual furnace cleaning and inspection

## October

- Check and replace furnace filters

## November

- Vacuum refrigerator coils

## December

- Dust light fixtures/lamps

## ESFI RECOMMENDS HIRING A LICENSED, QUALIFIED HOME ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR IF:

Your home is more than 40 years old; your home had a major addition or renovation or major new appliance added in the last 10 years; and/or you are the new owner of a previously owned home.

## Have You Made the Switch?

If you recently changed your phone service from a land line to a cellular phone, or if your address has recently changed, we need to know! Please notify our office of any new phone numbers or addresses so we can update our records.

(715) 239-6800  
1-800-300-6800



## EVERY MONTH YOU SHOULD:

**1. Inspect all electrical and appliance cords for damage**

**2. Test GFCIs & AFCIs**

Whether you have a receptacle-type or circuit breaker-type ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI), pushing the TEST button should turn off power to the circuit. To restore power, press the RESET button. To test arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs) push the TEST button. The breaker handle should go to the middle or off position. To reset, move the breaker handle to the OFF position and then to the ON position.

**3. Test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms**

Push the TEST button or use other procedures recommended by the manufacturer. Smoke alarm batteries should be changed at least once a year. If an alarm "chirps" or "beeps" to indicate low batteries, change them right away. Replace all smoke alarms at least every 10 years.

## CHIPPEWA VALLEY SATELLITE

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715-239-3862  wildblue.

## Chippewa Valley

### Electric Cooperative

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