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# NEWSLETTER

**Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative**

**May 2012**

## LOAD MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative's electricity supplier, Dairyland Power, has made changes to control times for Load Management to coincide with MISO's peak.

MISO (Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator) is an independent, non-profit regional transmission organization responsible for maintaining reliable transmission of power in 11 U.S. states and the Canadian province of Manitoba. Dairyland Power joined MISO in June 2010.

In the past controlled loads were typically controlled starting at 4:00PM. MISO's peak hours are between the hours of 1:00PM and 5:00PM. Water Heaters, Air Conditioners, and Electric Heat will now be controlled starting at 1:00PM during Load Management events.

During Summer Full Load Control days, all controlled loads will be controlled between the hours of 1:00PM and 5:00PM.

Central air conditioners are still controlled in a cycled manner. The

outside unit (compressor) will be cycled in 15 minute increments (15 min on/15 min off).

Current Load Management Status is available on Chippewa Valley Electric's web site at [www.cvcoop.com](http://www.cvcoop.com), then click on "Residential Accounts" or "Commercial Accounts" under "Load Control Information". If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Russ at Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative's Member Services Department.

## POLICY CHANGE

Beginning June 1, 2012 Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative has changed their policy regarding late payments. The delinquent bill calendar year has been changed to begin June through May instead of January through December. A member is allowed to pay late two months out of twelve without a late fee charged to the account. Previous policy stated that the first two payments of the calendar year (January and February) would not be assessed a penalty charge for the receipt of late payments. This began in January of the calendar year. Now, with the policy change, the calendar year will begin with June.

## 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, 2012, and their air conditioner cannot be connected to a dual fuel meter.

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](http://www.cvcoop.com/forms/ACAgreement.pdf)

# EXPLORE YOUR LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL AT THE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS

**A**ttention High School Sophomores: The Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA) Division of Cooperative Network offers the opportunity to participate in the 49th 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 11-13, 2012, on the UW-River Falls campus.

The YLC is a fun, educational and unique event that is planned

by and for teens. Through a mix of workshop sessions, hands-on activities, and team-building experiences, participants will be exposed to a variety of real-life issues and will be given the opportunity to identify and explore their leadership potential. Top-notch professional speakers, teen peers, and exceptional cooperative employees will provide participants with information and tools to deal with the weighty issues high school students face every day.

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 2011-2012 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 see your High School Guidance Counselor, go online to [cvecoop.com](http://cvecoop.com) or call CVEC at 715-239-6800 for more information.**

## Office Closed for Memorial Day

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative's office will be closed on Monday, May 28, 2012 in observance of Memorial Day.

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## SOLVING STRAY VOLTAGE PROBLEMS

**S**tray 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 Cooperative stands ready to investigate that possibility. We have the equipment and trained personnel to offer assistance and advice pertaining to stray voltage.

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