



Holiday Closing Notice

Powell Valley Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 4, in observance of Labor Day.

As always, PVEC dispatchers will be on duty to answer your emergency calls. Have a happy and safe holiday!

Fiber Update Info as of 6/26/2023

Miles of backbone – 1,801
Services installed to the home – 6,997

CONTACT US

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Investing in the Future of Our Communities

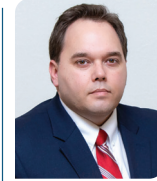
We frequently make long-term investments at Powell Valley Electric Cooperative. Much of the infrastructure we build is designed to last for multiple decades. We construct substations and string power lines before there is load to serve. We connect subdivisions before homes are completed. We energize industrial parks before factories are operating. Often, we put time and resources into projects today, and we don't see the benefit of those investments for months — or, in some cases, years — to come.

It is critical that we make wise decisions today to ensure the future of our communities.

In my opinion, we can make no wiser investment than preparing young people to lead and serve. Soon, today's students will be the leaders of our communities, and we do them — and ourselves — a tremendous disservice if we fail to prepare them for the leadership roles in which they will soon serve.

In June, Powell Valley Electric Cooperative sent four students to Washington, D.C., for the 2023 Washington Youth Tour. Each year, delegates on the trip explore our nation's capital, make lasting friendships and learn about history, public policy and leadership. You can learn more about this experience on page 14.

In addition to Washington Youth Tour, Powell Valley Electric Cooperative supports our local schools because we understand the transformative power of education. By investing in education, we invest in the growth and prosperity of our communities. Education empowers individuals, breaks barriers and opens doors of opportunity. It equips young people with the skills, knowledge and



Manager's Message

Brad Coppock
General Manager

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values they need to become active contributors to society and agents of positive change.

It is important to remember that students will not be the only ones returning to classrooms this month. To the teachers, administrators, home-school parents and others who put in time and effort to serve students, we applaud you. Your work is critical to the future of our entire community.

We owe it to our young people to champion education, bridge the gaps and ensure that everyone has access to quality learning opportunities. Together, we can create a community that thrives on knowledge and innovation.

I hope you'll join Powell Valley Electric Cooperative in supporting our local schools — whether that is participating in a fundraiser, volunteering at an event, or just giving a teacher or administrator a pat on the back.

Let's invest in the next generation of leaders — they hold the key to a brighter future.

PVEC Takes Local Students to Washington, D.C.



Four students from Powell Valley Electric Cooperative's service area spent a week in the nation's capital as delegates of the 2023 Washington Youth Tour. Anna Evans, J. Frank White Academy; Shaileigh Wright, Claiborne High School; Allie Jones, Claiborne High School; and Madison Lyons, Clinch School, joined 124 other students from across Tennessee on the weeklong trip that began on Friday, June 16.

This annual event is sponsored by Powell Valley Electric Cooperative and the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. The students were selected for the trip by writing a short story titled "Co-ops Connect" that explains how co-ops connect communities with energy, education, broadband, economic development and more.

Brad Coppock, general manager of Powell Valley Electric Cooperative, says that Youth Tour delegates are the future leaders of the region. "Through the Youth Tour, these young people are given an extraordinary chance to explore history and public policy in a direct way, cultivate their leadership skills and acquire knowledge that will be valuable for their communities down the road."

"The Washington Youth Tour is more than just a trip," says Todd Blocker, vice president of member relations for the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association and tour director. "It's a transformative experience that ignites a love of history, inspires leadership and empowers young minds to shape the future. By witnessing awe-inspiring monuments, engaging with our nation's leaders and connecting with a community of peers, Youth Tour can cultivate a lifelong passion for active citizenship."

While in Washington, D.C., Tennessee's Youth Tour delegates saw the White House and memorials to past presidents Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, as well as memorials honoring the sacrifices of veterans of World War II and the Vietnam and Korean Wars. During visits to the museums of the Smithsonian Institution, the touring Tennesseans saw and experienced natural, historical and artistic treasures. Other fun stops included historic homes of former presidents — George Washington's Mount Vernon and



From left, PVEC employee Kelsey Bryant, Claiborne High School student Shaileigh Wright, Claiborne High School student Allie Jones, Congressman Tim Burchett, Clinch School student Madison Lyons, J. Frank White Academy student Anna Evans and PVEC employee Gerry Wright.

Jefferson's Monticello — as well as the Washington National Cathedral and a boat cruise down the Potomac River. The group also paid a solemn and sobering visit to Arlington National Cemetery where the delegates laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Delegates were welcomed to the U.S. Capitol by Sens. Marsha Blackburn and Bill Hagerty, as well as other members of the Tennessee congressional delegation. The students had the opportunity to take photos with them and ask questions.

"Investing in these young people not only nurtures their potential, but is an investment in the future of rural and suburban Tennessee," says Mike Knotts, CEO of the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. "It is exciting to consider the impact that these talented young people will have on their communities, and electric cooperatives are honored to support their academic journeys."

The Washington Youth Tour was inspired by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1957 when he encouraged electric cooperatives to send young people to the nation's capital. Since then, more than 6,000 young Tennesseans have participated in the Washington Youth Tour as delegates.



Your Cooperative Membership

PVEC's annual meeting is just a few weeks away, so we wanted to remind you that in order for an individual to register at the annual meeting, that person must have a membership with the cooperative. For a married couple, if only one spouse's name is on the membership, only that individual would be permitted to register. If the couple would like to have both of their names listed on that membership so either spouse could register, we can process a valid request to do so at no charge. Of course, that would mean only one registration would be allowed between the couple, since it would still be one membership.

If a membership is in the name of a deceased individual, no surviving family member may register at the annual meeting. In the case of a surviving spouse, we will process a valid request to change a membership to the surviving spouse's name free of charge.

Any valid change that is made on a membership to permit an individual to register at our annual meeting would need to be made prior to the meeting date.

If you have questions about your membership, please give us a call!

PVECFiber Options	
100/100 Mbps.....	\$59.95/month
500/500 Mbps.....	\$79.95/month
700/700 Mbps.....	\$89.95/month
1 Gig/1 Gig.....	\$99.95/month

Unlimited phone service is also available for \$24.99 per month.



IMAGE COURTESY VECTEEZY

Safety Tips

Jason Stapleton
Jonesville Area Supervisor



A new school year brings new opportunities to exercise electrical safety! Be sure to take this opportunity to teach your children about electrical safety. Here are some bases to cover:

- Stay away from power lines and transformers at school or along the way. The same goes for electrical equipment on school property.
- Don't stick pens, pencils or other objects into electrical outlets. The Electrical Safety Foundation International reports that almost seven children a day are treated in hospitals for burns or electrical shocks because they tampered with wall outlets.
- Warn teens who are driving to slow down when they see utility crews working on the road.
- If an electrical power line is on the street, assume it is live and stay away from it.
- Don't plug too many electric devices into an electrical outlet or a power strip. Especially in an older dorm, the wiring isn't equipped for an overload.
- Extension cords are intended for temporary use only; don't plug one in and leave it there for the whole school year.



Become a Fan of Fans

Running indoor fans on hot summer days can help your family stay cool and your energy bills remain manageable. Here are a few tips:

- Running a fan is cheaper than running the air conditioner. If August presents you with a comfortable, breezy day, turn the AC off and run floor fans instead.
- If you have ceiling fans, run them while the AC is on. Fans don't cool a room, per se. Instead, they move air around to create a breeze that feels cool on the skin of anyone in the room. For summer, the fan will push air downward if you

switch the blades to move counter-clockwise. You might even be able to turn the thermostat up a few degrees while ceiling fans are running.

- Turn off all fans if you're not in the same room as the fans. The fan isn't cooling the room; it's cooling the people in it. So, if a room is empty, a running fan is a waste of electricity.
- If your fans are mounted in windows, don't use them on days when the outdoor air is hotter than the indoor air. Window fans — and your window-mounted air conditioner's fan setting — pull outdoor air into the house.

Make Your Home Mold-Unfriendly

It's the season ugly mold and mildew love best: summertime. Make mold unwelcome in your home this summer by following a few simple mold-prevention steps:

- 1.** Resist the urge to turn off your air-conditioning system — or to crank it up to 85 degrees — as you leave for vacation. A hot, humid house is a breeding ground for mold, and you won't be around to nip it in the bud. Leave your AC no higher than 78 degrees, whether you're home or away.
- 2.** Invest in an indoor humidity monitor to check that the air inside your home does not creep higher than 60% relative humidity (50% is better). If you have a humidity problem, it's time to install a dehumidifier. You can find portable room dehumidifiers for less than \$200 or cover the whole house for

less than \$2,000 (depending how big your house is, of course).

- 3.** Close the windows while your AC is running. Open windows and doors not only let cool air escape, they invite humidity indoors.
- 4.** Clean up puddles. Standing water in your basement, around your refrigerator or freezer, and under basement windows and doors can raise humidity levels in your home. Also check for foundation leaks.
- 5.** Run your washer, dryer and dishwasher after dark. Among the biggest culprits of high indoor humidity are appliances that generate heat. Waiting until after dark when the outdoor humidity is lower will help you keep your indoor humidity levels in check.