



## Closing Notice

On this Memorial Day, let us pause with reverence to remember those Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice for all of us, for our freedom and for our country's values. In observance of Memorial Day, Powell Valley Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Monday, May 29.

As always, cooperative dispatchers will be on duty to take your emergency calls. Have a happy and safe holiday.

## Fiber Update Info as of 3/20/2023

Miles of backbone – 1,801

Services installed to the home – 6,167

### CONTACT US

420 Straight Creek Road, P.O. Box 1528  
New Tazewell, TN 37824

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Web

pve.coop



### Email

info@pve.coop

### Jonesville Office

All Inquiries: 276-346-6003

### Sneedville Office

All Inquiries: 423-733-2207

### Tazewell Office

All Inquiries: 423-626-5204

### General Manager

Brad Coppock

### Director of Operations

Travis Tolliver

### Jonesville Area Supervisor

Jason Stapleton

### Sneedville Area Supervisor

Joey Southern

### Tazewell Area Supervisor

Tyler DeBusk

*Powell Valley Electric Cooperative is an  
Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

## Vegetation Management

**S**harpen your blades — it's grass-growing time in Virginia! By the end of the summer, I'll be over it, but at this point in the year, I still get excited about getting out and cutting the grass. I appreciate the immediate gratification for a job well done.

Grass isn't the only thing that starts growing at this time of year. Trees, brush and other vegetation also have growth spurts, and that can have a big impact on the power grid. Trimming trees and other vegetation is an important part of our work to provide you with safe, reliable and affordable energy.

Here's why maintaining a clear right-of-way is so important.

### SAFETY

We care about our member-owners and put their safety and that of our lineworkers above all else. If trees are touching power lines in our members' yards, they can pose serious danger to families. If children were to climb those trees, they could potentially come into contact with power lines. A proactive approach also diminishes the chances of severe weather events bringing down branches or trees, making it more complicated and dangerous for lineworkers to restore power.

### RELIABILITY

Of course, one of the biggest benefits of a smart vegetation management program is reliability. Strategic tree trimming reduces the frequency of downed lines causing



## Manager's Message

*Brad Coppock*  
General Manager

power outages. Generally speaking, healthy trees don't fall on power lines, and clear lines don't cause problems. Proactive trimming and pruning keep lines clear to promote reliability.

### AFFORDABILITY

Maintaining our right-of-way is expensive. Each year, Powell Valley Electric Cooperative invests a significant amount of money keeping trees and other vegetation away from power lines. While these efforts are costly, not trimming trees would cost even more. When trees grow too close to power lines, the potential for expensive repairs increases significantly. Effective tree trimming and other vegetation management efforts keep costs down for everyone.

Our team works hard to minimize the impact we have on property owners while also keeping vegetation away from our infrastructure. Our community is a special place. We appreciate the beauty trees afford, but we also know that you depend on us to provide reliable energy. Through vegetation management, we are better able to keep the power lines clear, prepare for future weather events and secure the reliability of the grid.



## Cooperation Among Cooperatives

### *PVEC lineworkers provide mutual aid*

In early March, Powell Valley Electric Cooperative sent 16 lineworkers to help two sister cooperatives after storms producing hurricane-force winds left many without power.

Crews left on March 4 to assist Plateau Electric Cooperative. They worked long hours in difficult conditions to aid the co-op in its restoration efforts. These lineworkers returned on the night of March 5 and left out again in the early morning hours of March 6 to assist Jackson Energy Cooperative in Kentucky.

We are proud of our employees and the example they set of Cooperative Principle No. 6: Cooperation Among Cooperatives. It is an honor to be a part of a network of cooperatives that provides aid in a crisis.

## PVEC Bylaws: Nominations

On Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023, Powell Valley Electric Cooperative's annual meeting will be held at Claiborne High School in New Tazewell, Tennessee.

An important part of your annual meeting is the election of directors. Below is an excerpt from the cooperative's bylaws regarding nominations.

### **Article IV. Directors, Section 4, Nominations.**

*It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to appoint, not more than one hundred twenty (120) days before the date of a meeting of the members at which directors are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than eleven (11) members who shall be selected so as to give equitable representation on the committee to the different districts delineated as director districts. No officer or member of the board of directors shall be appointed a member of such committee. The committee shall prepare and post at all the offices of the Cooperative, at least ninety (90) days before the meeting, a list of nominations for directors.*

*Any fifteen (15) or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signatures. Such nominations in writing are required to be in a cooperative office by 5:00 p.m. not less than sixty (60) days prior to the meeting.*

*The Secretary shall cause the said petition to be posted at the same places where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. The Secretary shall cause to be mailed with the notice of the meeting a statement of the number of directors to be elected, showing separately the nominations made by petition, if any. Nominations to fill vacancies on the board of directors, and the election of the respective directors, shall be for the particular district or districts where the vacancy or vacancies exist or the term or terms thereof is expiring.*

This means that any nominations by petition are to be in a Powell Valley Electric Cooperative office not less than 60 days prior to the Cooperative's annual meeting. Nominations by petition, therefore, must be in one of Powell Valley Electric Cooperative's offices by 5:00 p.m. on July 19, 2023.



## Member Appreciation Days

At Powell Valley Electric Cooperative, we are proud of our members and the communities we serve. To show our appreciation and gratitude, we invite all members to join us at each office location for food and fellowship.

**May 9**  
Sneedville Office  
11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
340 Jail Street  
Sneedville, TN 37869

**May 12**  
Jonesville Office  
11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
331 Church Street  
Jonesville, VA 24263

**May 16**  
New Tazewell  
11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
420 Straight Creek Road  
New Tazewell, TN 37825





# Safety Tips



Jason Stapleton  
Jonesville Area Supervisor

It's never too early to teach your children about the potential dangers of electricity and how to live and play safely around it indoors and outdoors.

Here's a suggested list of non-negotiable rules to share with your little ones:

- Keep fingers and other objects out of wall outlets.
- Dry your hands before touching or plugging in anything electrical.
- Plug only one device into each socket in an electrical outlet.
- Remove plugs from outlets by gripping the plug, not the cord.
- Don't touch or climb on any outdoor electrical equipment in your own yard or elsewhere.
- Fly kites and drones far away from power lines.
- Stay away from trees that have electrical lines running through or near them.
- Never touch a power line that has fallen to the ground.
- Ask for help understanding safety instructions when playing with new electrical toys or using new electronics.

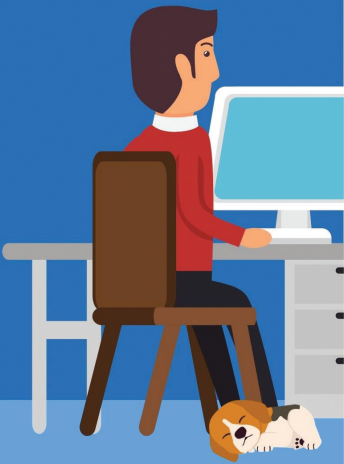
**W**armer temperatures outside often bring warmer temperatures inside. Here are some ways to keep your home cool and comfortable.

1. Keep heat and sunlight out of indoor rooms during the day by closing windows and window coverings.
2. Open those same windows overnight to let cool, nighttime air into your house.
3. If some windows are naturally shaded by trees or shadows, open them during the day. Opening more than one can create a cross-breeze that will quickly cool off the house.
4. Switch the direction of ceiling fan blades. In the summer, blades should spin counterclockwise to push cool air down into the room. Turn the fans off when nobody is in the room.
5. Add an energy-efficient portable dehumidifier to a room that tends to be too warm. Humidity can make a hot room feel even hotter. Removing the humidity makes the room feel cooler.
6. Use the microwave or outdoor grill to cook dinner. Heat-producing indoor appliances like the stove, dishwasher and clothes dryer lose a lot of heat to the air in the room. Wait until after dark when it's cooler outdoors to turn on appliances.

## PVECFiber Options

LOCAL - NO DATA CAPS - FASTER SPEEDS - NO CONTRACTS

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



## Heat Pump Financing Available

The Tennessee Valley continues to offer residential heat pump financing for Powell Valley Electric Cooperative members who qualify through the EnergyRight program. The current interest rate of 8% is good through Sept. 30.

Call your local Powell Valley Electric Cooperative office for details on this residential heat pump loan program.



## Youth Leadership Summit

**H**ancock County High School student McKynzie Roberts and Claiborne High School student Joshua Bolton were in Nashville March 13-15 for the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association's annual Youth Leadership Summit. The juniors were chosen by their guidance counselors and sponsored by Powell Valley Electric Cooperative.

While in Nashville, delegates visited the State Capitol Building where they were welcomed by Secretary of State Tre Hargett and members of the Tennessee General Assembly. Summit attendees held a mock legislative session in the Senate Chambers, debating and voting on a bill they developed. Afterward, delegates from Powell Valley Electric Cooperative met with state representatives Dennis Powers and Gary Hicks. Rep. Hicks invited PVEC delegates to attend a committee meeting where he recognized them.

In addition to lawmakers, students heard from leaders like Miss Tennessee's Outstanding Teen, Jane Marie Franks, and trooper Shane Moore with the Tennessee Executive Protection Detail.

The Youth Leadership Summit also included a day of leadership training at the Joe C. Davis YMCA Outdoor

Center and a behind-the-scenes tour of Bridgestone Arena prior to a Nashville Predators game.

Delegates to the Youth Leadership Summit are encouraged to be leaders in their hometowns and use their talents to improve rural Tennessee. "The Youth Leadership Summit gives the brightest students in rural and suburban Tennessee the opportunity to expand their leadership skills," says Todd Blocker, Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association vice president of member relations and director of the Youth Leadership Summit. "These young people will be the next generation of leaders in rural Tennessee, and I commend electric co-ops for supporting this effort to prepare young people for the future."

"These students will soon be our community leaders — and electric cooperative member-owners," says Brad Coppock, Powell Valley Electric Cooperative general manager. "We want them to share our passion for their communities, so it is an honor for Powell Valley Electric Cooperative to help prepare them for the opportunities that are ahead. The future of our rural communities depends on a new generation of strong leaders like these."