



## Holiday Closing Notice

Powell Valley Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 7, in observance of Labor Day.

As always, cooperative dispatchers will be on duty to answer your emergency calls.

Have a happy and safe holiday!

### 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

### Tazewell Office

Service Requests: 423-626-0707

Billing Inquiries: 423-626-0706

Outages/Trouble/Other Inquiries: 423-626-5204

### Jonesville Office

Service Requests/Billing Inquiries: 276-346-6003

Outages: 276-346-6065

Other Inquiries: 276-346-6016

### Sneedville Office

All Inquiries: 423-733-2207

### General Manager & CEO

Randell Meyers

### Tazewell Area Supervisor

Ronnie Williams

### Jonesville Area Supervisor

Jason Stapleton

### Sneedville Area Supervisor

Joey Southern

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

## Pandemic Causes Changes

A message from your General Manager



Randell Meyers  
General Manager & CEO

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a lot of changes for all of us. Some of them will begin to subside, hopefully, as we begin to carefully “reopen the country” and try to get back to as close to the old normal as possible.

Across the nation, one of the biggest changes has been in how and where we work, as many companies closed their offices but continued to operate as employees worked from home on their personal computers.

Yes, many companies already had telecommuting policies in place before the coronavirus pandemic. But I think everyone would agree that coronavirus has accelerated the practice. In fact, experts agree that this will increasingly be the “new normal” for the foreseeable future.

This reality amplifies the importance of PVECFiber, a partnership between Powell Valley Electric Co-op and Scott County Telephone Cooperative to bring affordable, high-speed internet access to rural areas of East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia.

The lack of access in many areas of rural America has put its residents at a disadvantage for years. Now, with the changes in workplaces across the country, increasing high-speed internet access in our region is more important than ever.

**ONE:** It will provide better access for our schools, our students and our parents. This will be especially critical if we continue with remote learning.

**TWO:** It will allow our best and brightest the option of staying close to friends and family. More and more companies are coming around to the

Increasing high-speed internet access in our region is more important than ever.

idea that they don't need employees to be congregated in big cities in one building. That means there will be more opportunities for good jobs without having to leave home to get them.

**THREE:** Our quality of life will prove a powerful magnet to those wanting to escape congestion, the high cost of living and other headaches associated with city living.

**FOUR:** Expanding access to high-speed internet can also attract new businesses to our area. Many businesses might be interested in starting up or relocating to our region if they have that access, which affects everything from the ability to download documents to easily processing credit card payments.

All of us here at Powell Valley Electric Co-op are proud of the role we are playing in bringing high-speed internet access to more people. It is one of many important examples of doing more than just providing affordable electricity to our members.

We take seriously our responsibility to help our region grow economically and to improve our overall quality of life. It is a key part of our mission, and we are working hard on that every day.



## Support Local Businesses During the Pandemic

**A**s restrictions on retailers and restaurants ease up a bit, make an effort to patronize local businesses so they'll have a shot at a full recovery. Here are five ways to support neighborhood tradespeople, according to MarketWatch.

- 1. Order take-out or delivery.** If you're not ready to take a seat in or outside of your favorite restaurant, buy food and take it home as often as you can afford it.
- 2. Buy gift cards.** That's an immediate sale for a local business, which sorely needs the cash. But don't spend the gift card now. Save it until the store or café is back on its financial feet. In the meantime, keep spending cash there.
- 3. Buy online — but locally.** If you want to shop online, shop at local stores that are taking online orders.
- 4. Tip everyone.** Tip waiters, delivery drivers and baristas — even if you don't usually tip. They're probably working fewer hours than normal and serving fewer customers, so they're collecting less tip money.
- 5. Keep paying your housekeeper.** Your housekeeper might not be able to come to your house anymore, but — along with your trainer, your kids' piano teacher and other individuals who rely on the income they make by providing you with personalized service — needs the money. If you can afford to, continue to pay them, at least something.



## Your Cooperative Membership

Since our annual meeting is just a few weeks away, 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 that either spouse could register, we can process a valid request to do so at no charge. Of course, that would mean that 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!

## What's a-Cooking?

John Hoyle shares his recipe for garlic ginger sriracha shrimp. John has worked in the Tazewell area since 2019.

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 lb. of shrimp
- ¼ cup low-sodium soy sauce
- 1 ½ teaspoons minced garlic
- 1 ½ teaspoons ginger
- 1 teaspoon sriracha sauce
- Jasmine or basmati rice (optional)

### PREPARATION

In a skillet, add 2 tablespoons of olive oil. Add shrimp to skillet and cook three minutes on medium heat. In a separate bowl, mix together soy sauce, minced garlic, ginger, and sriracha sauce. Add sauce to skillet and toss. Cook an additional four minutes. Serve with jasmine or basmati rice.





## Save Energy While Binge-Watching TV

It seems like everyone is binge-watching movies and TV shows while they're spending more time at home. Constant use of the TV can push up the family energy bill.

Here are five ways to conserve energy while watching TV:

- 1. Consolidate.** If three or four family members are watching different TVs in different rooms, you're using three times more energy than if the whole gang agreed on a show and watched it together in the same room.
- 2. Record.** Watching a recorded show via VCR, DVR or TiVo can save energy in two ways. First, it allows your family to view their favorites any time, so you can choose to watch during off-peak hours — early in the day or late at night when fewer people are using electric appliances all at once. Second, it lets you fast forward through the commercials, which means you'll spend less time watching TV — and, therefore, less time with the TV turned on and burning energy.
- 3. Dim.** The lower the contrast and brightness of your TV screen, the less energy the device uses. Factory-set levels are usually higher than necessary.
- 4. Listen.** Lowering the volume by as little as 2% saves some energy, even if you only do it during commercials.
- 5. Leave.** Instead of watching shows on TV, view them on a laptop, desktop, tablet or phone.



## Safety Tips

Jason Stapleton  
Jonesville Area Supervisor

**B**eing in an automobile accident is scary, especially if you look out the car window and see a downed utility pole or power lines. In the aftermath of an accident, your instinct may be to get out of the car in order to distance yourself from further potential harm, to seek help or to check on others involved in the accident. But if there is a downed pole or lines, you need to resist that urge. The safest place is actually inside the car until utility and rescue crews arrive and ensure you can exit the vehicle safely.

Damaged power lines may still be electrified, even if you can't see visible signs like arcing or sparks. Always assume that power lines are energized.

Even if the lines are not touching your vehicle, you could be putting your life in danger by stepping out. Despite surviving the accident, the moment your foot hits the ground, you can become the path for a lethal flow of electricity.

If you find yourself in a situation where you or someone else has hit a power pole and lines are down, the best thing to do is stay in your vehicle and call 911. If you see well-meaning people who aren't first responders or utility workers approaching the vehicle, tell them to stay away and that you've called for help.

Despite what you see in TV car accidents, fires following crashes are rare, but they sometimes occur. If the

vehicle is on fire, you will need to exit quickly — and safely. In these situations, experts recommend jumping clear of the vehicle while making certain you don't touch it and the ground at the same time. To help prevent accidental contact with the vehicle after you leave it, remove any loose clothing before opening the door. Open the door by the handle without touching the door itself. Stand with your feet together on the frame, tuck your hands and elbows in close to your chest and stomach, then hop off to a spot free of power lines. To prevent falling back against the vehicle or onto downed lines, know your limitations and don't try to jump too far at once.

Once you are on the ground, continue to hop away keeping your feet together or shuffle your feet in slow, short strides. This sounds odd, but it minimizes the risk of a voltage difference between your feet that could be dangerous under the right circumstances. Continue doing this until you are at least 20 to 30 feet away from the burning vehicle.

Electricity provides us with safety, convenience and connection, but it can also be dangerous. Our crews are trained to be "everyday safe" and make smart choices around energy, and we want to help your family do the same. Visit [everydaysafe.org](http://everydaysafe.org) for more electrical safety tips.

# Sample Electric Bill from PVEC

Shown here is an example of a Powell Valley Electric Cooperative monthly bill. We have explained some important sections on your bill, and, as always, if you have any questions concerning your bill contact your local PVEC office.

**1. Account Number:** To help identify your account.

**2. Service Address:** The 911 address for this location.

**3. Meter Reading Dates:** These are the days of service for which your bill is calculated. The current bill due is based on the previous month's energy use.

**4. Energy Use Comparison:** This table compares the current bill with the previous month's bill and the same billing period last year. Key information includes days of service and average kilowatts used per day.

**5. Additional Information: TO BE PAID BY DRAFT** – your account will be automatically drafted on the due date. Other messages that may appear on this line are: **FINAL BILL** – Account is inactive; **CR BALANCE DO NOT PAY** – Credit balance exists and no payment is required as of the billing date; **LEVELIZED** – Account is on average balance program.

**6. Late Payment Charge:** The account will be charged a 1.5% late payment penalty if payment is made after the due date.

**7. Disconnect Date:** The account will be charged a \$10 processing fee and is subject to disconnection if payment is made after 4 p.m. on this date. No further notices will be mailed.

**8. Please notify us if your address or telephone number has changed.**

**9. Due Date:** A payment made after this date will negatively affect your credit with Powell Valley Electric.

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## Powell Valley Electric Cooperative

**Jonesville Office**  
P.O. Box 308  
Jonesville, VA 24263  
(276) 346-6003

**Sneedville Office**  
P.O. Box 193  
Sneedville, TN 37869  
(423) 733-2207

**Tazewell Office**  
P.O. Box 1528  
New Tazewell, TN 37824  
(423) 626-5204

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:00 to 5:00

ACCOUNT NUMBER	NAME	SERVICE ADDRESS	RATE	CYCLE	LOCATION #	METER #
12345001	DOE JOHN	123 MAIN STREET	22	156	12345	7123456

SERVICE	FROM	TO	# DAYS	BILL TYPE	READING		MULTIPLIER	KWH USAGE	CHARGES
					PREVIOUS	PRESENT			
	11/24/20	12/23/20	29	0	17545	17641	20	1920	190.23

	DAYS SERVICE	TOTAL KWH	AVG. KWH/DAY	COST PER DAY
CURRENT BILLING PERIOD	29	1920	66	6.56
PREVIOUS BILLING PERIOD	29	1460	50	5.13
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR	31	2420	78	7.53

**Your Electricity Use Over The Last 13 Months**

**Bill Type**

- 0 Regular
- 1 Estimated
- 2 Minimum and Est
- 3 Minimum
- 4 Final
- 5 Pro-rated
- 6 Min Pro-rated
- 7 Levelized
- 8 TAN Loan

CURRENT CHARGES	\$	190.23
PREVIOUS BALANCE	\$	148.81
PAYMENT PREVIOUS BALANCE	\$	-148.81
<b>AMOUNT DUE</b>	\$	<b>190.23</b>
<b>DUE DATE</b>	01/13/21	1 1/2 % LATE PAYMENT CHARGE WILL BE ADDED IF NOT PAID BY THE DUE DATE

**\*\*\*DISCONNECT DATE IS 4:00 P.M. ON JANUARY 19, 2021\*\***

**PLEASE PAY BEFORE THEN TO AVOID A \$10.00 CHARGE AND POSSIBLE DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE. NO MORE NOTICES WILL BE MAILED**

**ASK ABOUT THESE MEMBER SERVICES**

- Bill Payment by Bank Draft
- Energy Efficient Home Program
- Levelized Billing
- Energy Audits

RETAIN THIS COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION WITH PAYMENT

**Powell Valley Electric Cooperative**  
P.O. Box 308 Jonesville, VA 24263

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

\*\*\*AUTO UTO\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 37807

DOE JOHN  
123 MAIN ST  
NEW TAZEWELL TN 37825-1234

1187 5

ACCOUNT #	BILL DATE	DUE DATE
12345001	12/24/20	01/13/21
156	CURRENT CHARGES	\$190.23
	PREVIOUS BALANCE	\$0.00
	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</b>	<b>\$190.23</b>
(423) 626-5204	ENTER AMOUNT PAID	

**POWELL VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**  
PO BOX 308  
JONESVILLE VA 24263-0308

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Never leave a fire unattended, and make sure you completely extinguish the fire when you're done. Drench the fire with water, and stir the ashes until cold.

When burning yard waste, follow local ordinances. Avoid burning in windy conditions, and keep a shovel, water and fire retardant nearby to keep fires in check.

## Tips to Prevent Wildfires

Play it safe when using fueled lanterns, heaters and stoves. Lighting and heating devices should be cool before refueling. Keep flammable liquids and fuel away from appliances.

Never discard cigarettes, matches and smoking materials from moving vehicles or anywhere on park grounds. Completely extinguish cigarettes before disposing of them.

Source: National Geographic