



Powell Valley Electric Cooperative News

General Manager's Message



What's in the mix?

Randell W. Meyers
General Manager
& CEO

POWELL VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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

Office Hours: M-F 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Tazewell Office:

Service Requests: (423) 626-0707
Billing Inquiries: (423) 626-0706
Outages/Trouble: (423) 626-5204
Other Inquiries: (423) 626-5204

Jonesville Office:

Service Requests: (276) 346-6003
Billing Inquiries: (276) 346-6003
Outages: (276) 346-6065
Other Inquiries: (276) 346-6016

Sneedville Office:

All Inquiries: (423) 733-2207

Calls to all PVEC locations will be answered by emergency operators after office hours, on weekends & holidays.

Visit us at www.pve.coop

You may also contact us at info@pve.coop

Randell Meyers
General Manager & CEO

Ronnie Williams
Tazewell Area Supervisor

Jason Stapleton
Jonesville Area Supervisor

Joey Southern
Sneedville Area Supervisor

Powell Valley Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

While they are still fairly unusual here, electric vehicles are rapidly growing in popularity. Sales of electric vehicles jumped by 40 percent in 2017, and there are more electric vehicles on the road today than ever before. Early electric vehicles had a very distinct appearance, but today's electric vehicles look much like traditional cars.

It is entirely possible that you could sit at a traffic light and not know what powers the vehicles around you.

The same could be said of the homes along your street.

Powell Valley Electric Cooperative purchases the energy that we deliver to your home or business from the Tennessee Valley Authority, and that's a lot of power. Last year we purchased more than 560 billion kilowatt-hours of energy from TVA — more than \$44 million worth.

The original mission of TVA was to improve flood control and navigation along the Tennessee River system. In the 1930s and '40s, the dams constructed by TVA revitalized the region and provided the first reliable and affordable energy to the area. Because of the impact that TVA's hydroelectric dams had on our state, some believe that most of our power still comes from TVA dams. The reality is far more complex.

TVA maintains 73 generation sites that utilize several technologies and fuel sources to generate the power we depend on. Today, 40 percent of the energy they generate comes from nuclear, 26 percent coal, 20 percent gas, 10 percent hydro, 3 percent wind and solar and 1 percent from other sources.

Significant investments have been made in recent years to move away from traditional coal-based energy toward cleaner forms of power generation. Today the power you receive is 54 percent carbon-free. This is quite a change from just a decade ago, and TVA plans to reduce carbon generation even further.

The next time you flip a switch or plug in a device, the energy you use could be coming from one of a number of sources, or most likely, a combination of generation plants using various fuel sources. Weather, demand, price and regulations are just some of the factors that determine what resources are used at any given time.

One day, you may decide to bring home an electric vehicle of your own. If someone asks you "Gas or diesel?" you can reply, "Nope. This baby is nuclear, coal, gas, hydro, wind and solar."

— Randell W. Meyers



Holiday Closing Notice

Powell Valley Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Wednesday, July 4th, in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Have a safe and fun-filled holiday!

Local students earn electric co-op college scholarships

Sydney Barrett of Blackwater, Virginia, and **Chelsey Bays** of Harrogate, Tennessee, have each earned \$1,000 college scholarships awarded by the Education Scholarship Foundation of the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives (VMDAEC).

Sydney, a senior at Lee High School, is the son of Droxanne and Steven Barrett. Chelsey, a senior at Cumberland Gap High School, is the daughter of Kathleen and Samuel Bays. Both were eligible for consideration because their parents are consumer-members of Powell Valley Electric Cooperative (PVEC).

Recipients are chosen based on a competitive screening process that considers both financial need and academic achievement as well as personal statements from the applicants. Applicants must provide evidence of their acceptance in a post-high-school educational institution or program.

This year, the VMDAEC Education Scholarship Foundation is awarding 54 \$1,000 Worth Hudson scholarships to students who live in areas served by electric cooperatives in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and portions of Tennessee and West Virginia. These

grants can be used to pay for tuition, fees and books.

The scholarships are named in honor of Worth Hudson, the first chairman of the VMDAEC Education Scholarship Foundation and former chairman of the board of directors of Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative in Chase City, Virginia. Since its inception in 2000, the Foundation has awarded 683 scholarships totaling \$582,500.

The Foundation is funded through tax-deductible donations and bequests from individuals, proceeds from benefit fundraising events and CoBank's Sharing Success Program.

Founded in 1944, VMDAEC is the trade association for Powell Valley Electric Cooperative and 14 other electric co-ops that serve Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, and portions of Tennessee and West Virginia. It is based in Glen Allen, Virginia, and provides safety and employee training, governmental relations, communications, including the publication of *Cooperative Living* magazine, and other services to its member cooperatives. For more information on VMDAEC and the scholarship program, visit www.vmdaec.com or www.co-opliving.com.

The Billing Corner A Matter of Convenience

We are always looking for ways to make things more accommodating for our customers. One method of bill payment offered by the cooperative that has become more and more popular with our customers is payment of electric bills by bank draft.

The main advantage is convenience because through automatic bank draft, you'll have one less bill to worry about each month. And, you'll have the security of knowing your electric bill will always be paid on time.

Another big advantage is savings. You won't have to pay for postage, the cost of the check itself, or gas for a trip to pay the bill.

What happens after you sign up?

After your request has been processed, you will still receive a bill showing the amount due and the due date with a notation that your bill will be paid by automatic bank draft. The amount of your bill will then be deducted from your bank account on the due date. Your bill still will show the kilowatt-hours used, the beginning and ending dates of the billing period and all the other information a normal bill would show.

How can you be sure the bill has actually been paid?

The payment will appear as a debit on your bank statement, just like a check. Your bank statement will show the payment as it would for an automatic teller machine transaction, a direct deposit, or any other automatic payment such as a car loan or insurance premium.

What happens if there isn't enough money in your bank account?

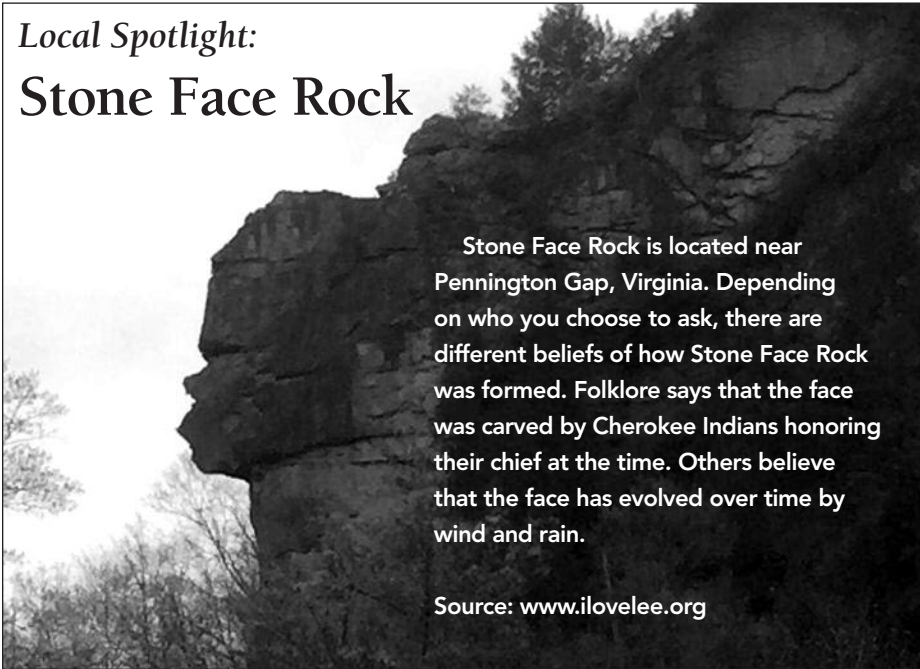
If funds are insufficient, your bank will notify us in writing. We will handle it like any other "insufficient funds" check.

Sign up!

If you are interested in this hassle-free method of paying your bills, just complete the automatic payment service request form located at www.pve.coop, attach a voided check or deposit slip and mail to the office at P.O. Box 308, Jonesville, VA 24263. And, if you'd like additional details, just give us a call!

Local Spotlight:

Stone Face Rock



Stone Face Rock is located near Pennington Gap, Virginia. Depending on who you choose to ask, there are different beliefs of how Stone Face Rock was formed. Folklore says that the face was carved by Cherokee Indians honoring their chief at the time. Others believe that the face has evolved over time by wind and rain.

Source: www.ilovelee.org

DO NOT TAMPER WITH YOUR ELECTRIC METER

Meter tampering can result in electric shock, is illegal and increases electricity rates for other co-op members.



- ⊗ Never break a meter seal.
- ⊗ Never open a meter base.
- ⊗ Never remove a meter or alter an entrance cable in any manner.

If you know or suspect that someone has tampered with their meter, please contact us immediately.



Young leaders learn about co-ops, agriculture at conference

Cody Thompson was sponsored by Powell Valley Electric Cooperative to join more than 300 young people from across the state gathered at the 2018 Young Leaders Conference Feb. 23 and 24 at the Drury Plaza Hotel in Franklin, Tennessee. The annual conference brings couples and individuals together from rural communities to learn about cooperatives, share their views about agriculture and discuss current issues facing rural Americans.

The Tennessee Council of Cooperatives (TCC) co-sponsors the annual conference with Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmers and Ranchers organization. Powell Valley Electric Cooperative is a member of TCC, an organization made up of a variety of cooperatives across the state, including electric, dairy, farm supply, telephone and tobacco co-ops as well as farm credit banks.

This year's Young Leaders Conference began with a guided tour of Nashville's sprawling Music City Center and continued at the hotel with a keynote address from Tennessee State Parks Chief Ranger Shane Petty and entertainment by Brandon Maddox. Breakout sessions on Saturday covered a variety of subjects aimed at educating leaders about cooperatives and agricultural issues and strengthening their leadership skills. That evening, State Sen. Mark Green of Clarksville addressed the conference, and retired Department of Agriculture Commissioner Julius Johnson was recognized as TCC's 2018 Outstanding Advocate.

Sneedville Area Supervisor Joey Southern shares safety tips



Powell Valley Electric Cooperative encourages you to practice safety with these reminders to ensure that you are safe during and after summer storms.

Avoid wires and water — When lightning strikes a home during a storm, the electrical charge can surge through pipes and utility wires. That means you can get zapped if you're touching water or any device that's plugged in, whether it's a landline phone or toaster.

Skip the makeshift shelter — During a storm, it's tempting to take cover under a picnic gazebo or golf cart, but in open-sided structures with no conductors to channel strikes, a bolt's path of least resistance to the ground could be you. On top of that, these structures raise your risk of a lightning strike because of their height. Keep moving toward suitable shelter.

Portable generators — Take special care with portable generators, which can provide a good source of power, but if improperly installed or operated, can become deadly. Do not connect generators directly to household wiring. Power from generators can back-feed along power lines and electrocute anyone coming in contact with them, including co-op lineworkers making repairs.

Flooded areas — Stay away from downed power lines and avoid walking through flooded areas. Power lines could be submerged and still live with electricity. Report any downed power lines to your local Powell Valley Electric office — Jonesville: 276-346-6003; Sneedville: 423-733-2207; or Tazewell: 423-626-5204.

Electrical equipment — Never use electrical equipment that is wet — especially outdoor electrical equipment, which could be a potential danger after a summer storm. Water can damage electrical equipment and parts, posing a shock or fire hazard.

What's a-Cooking?

Hoy Watson shares his wife Sandy's recipe for banana pudding. Hoy has worked in the Tazewell area since 2000.



Ingredients:

- 1 cup sugar
- 3 egg yolks
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 2 cups milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 box vanilla wafers
- 2 large ripe bananas (sliced)

Directions:

Mix together sugar, eggs, flour, and milk in a saucepan over medium heat until boiling. Remove and stir in vanilla.

In glass dish layer wafers and bananas. Pour half the pudding over and repeat another layer. Crush 10 wafers and sprinkle on top.

Refrigerate for an hour.

Going the Extra Mile

Did you know electric cooperatives maintain more miles of power lines per consumer and acquire less revenue than other types of electric utilities?

Even though they serve fewer consumers and acquire less revenue (per mile of line), electric co-ops always go the extra mile, maintaining a tried-and-true record of delivering safe, reliable electric service to the members they serve.

Electric Cooperatives

Number of consumers served: 8

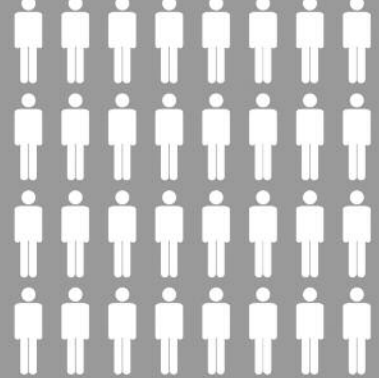


Revenue:

\$19,000

Other Electric Utilities

Number of consumers served: 32



Revenue:

\$79,000

Sources: EIA, 2016 data.
Includes revenue and consumer averages per mile of line.

MAKE THE MOST OF CEILING FANS BY TURNING ON THE FAN, YOU CAN TURN UP THE SAVINGS!

If you are like most Americans, you have at least one ceiling fan in your home. Ceiling fans help our indoor life feel more comfortable. They are a decorative addition to our homes and, if used properly, can help lower energy costs.



TIPS FOR MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR CEILING FANS.

- 1. FLIP THE SWITCH** - Most ceiling fans have a switch near the blades. In warm months, flip the switch so that the blades operate in a *counter clockwise* direction, effectively producing a "wind chill" effect. Fans make the air near them feel cooler than it actually is. In winter, move the switch so the fan blades rotate *clockwise*, creating a gentle updraft. This pushes warm air down from the ceiling into occupied areas of the room. Regardless of the season, try operating the fan on its lowest setting.
- 2. ADJUST YOUR THERMOSTAT** - In the summer, when using a fan in conjunction with an air conditioner, or instead of it, you can turn your thermostat up three to five degrees without any reduction in comfort. This saves money since a fan is less costly to run than an air conditioner. In the winter, lower your thermostat's set point by the same amount. Ceiling fans push the warm air from the ceiling back down toward the living space, which means the furnace won't turn on as frequently.
- 3. CHOOSE THE RIGHT SIZE** - Make sure your ceiling fan is the right size for the room. A fan that is 36-44 inches in diameter will cool rooms up to 225 square feet. A fan that is 52 inches or more should be used to cool a larger space.
- 4. TURN IT OFF** - When the room is unoccupied, turn the fan off. Fans are intended to cool people - not rooms.

