



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

Fiber Update Info

as of 3/21/2022

Miles of backbone – 1,777

Services installed to the home – 3,827

CONTACT US

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Office Hours

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

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Email

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Tazewell Office

All Inquiries: 423-626-5204

Jonesville Office

All Inquiries: 276-346-6003

Sneedville Office

All Inquiries: 423-733-2207

General Manager

Brad Coppock

Tazewell Area Supervisor

Ronnie Williams

Jonesville Area Supervisor

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

A Little Room for Safety

Electricity is a significant part of our modern lives. It is all around us, powering everything from cellphones to hospital equipment. Electric power maintains such a presence in our modern society that it's easy to forget that it can also be dangerous.

Our team here at Powell Valley Electric Cooperative works with electricity each day, and familiarity could allow us to get comfortable with risk. That's why we constantly remind our team about the dangers they face when working with electricity. Most of our employees attend safety training events each month, and crew leaders hold tailgate discussions about the dangers of each job. We work hard to make safety an important part of everything we do.

Most likely, you don't have routine safety trainings to remind yourself to be safe around electricity, and that's why we think Electrical Safety Month is important. Celebrated each May, it is a great time to raise awareness of electrical safety.

Should you cross paths with one of our crews — whether they are restoring power following a storm or performing routine maintenance — here are some important things to remember to keep you and our crews safe:

Don't enter the workspace. Even routine work has the potential to be dangerous, and it requires the full attention of our crew and their colleagues. Everyone is responsible for the team's safety, and distractions can have deadly consequences. This is also important for your own safety. Trucks and equipment on the ground could be energized while crews are working above, and contacting that equipment could be disastrous. Plus, you never know when something heavy might fall from above. If you have questions, call our office or speak to the crew leader after the job is finished.



Manager's Message

*Brad Coppock
General Manager*

May is National Electrical Safety Month. Plug into safety.

Keep animals away. If you have a dog, keep it indoors or on a leash while lineworkers are on or near your property. While most dogs are friendly, some are defensive of their territory and can't distinguish between a burglar and a utility worker. Our crews work best without a pet "supervising" the job.

Know who's there. We recognize that for your family's safety, you want to make sure only authorized workers are on or near your property. You will recognize PVEC employees by the service trucks with our name and logo on them. You might also recognize our lineworkers because they live right here in our local community.

Slow down, and move over. In addition to giving lineworkers some space while they are near your property, we also ask that you move over or slow down when approaching a utility vehicle on the side of the road. This extra barrier of safety keeps us all safe.

On page 17, you can read more about ways to keep you and your family safe around electricity. I encourage you to consider these simple tips. They could literally save your life.

Bylaw Article on Nominations

On Saturday, September 17, 2022, Powell Valley Electric Cooperative's annual meeting will be held at Thomas Walker High School in Ewing, Virginia.

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 p.m. on July 20, 2022.



Safety Tips

Jason Stapleton | Jonesville Area Supervisor

It's May, which means it's National Electrical Safety Month! While safety for our Powell Valley Electric Cooperative members is top priority year-round, Electrical Safety Month is a time to acknowledge the importance of safety excellence.

There are many measures you can take to ensure the safety of you and your loved ones. Use these helpful tips from ESFI to safeguard your home.

IN THE KITCHEN

- Vacuum refrigerator coils every three months to eliminate dirt buildup that can reduce efficiency and create fire hazards.
- Ensure all countertop appliances are located away from the sink.
- All appliance cords should be placed away from hot surfaces. Pay particular attention to cords around toasters, ovens and ranges. Cords can be damaged by excess heat.
- The top and the area above the cooking range should be free of combustibles, such as potholders and plastic utensils. Storing these items on or near the range may result in fires or burns.



LIGHT THE WAY TO SAFETY

- The wattage of the bulbs you use in your home should match the wattage indicated on the light fixture. Overheated fixtures can lead to a fire.
- Check lamp cords to make sure they are in good condition — not damaged or cracked. Do not attempt to repair damaged cords yourself. Take any item with a damaged power cord to an authorized repair center.
- Extension cords should not be used to provide power on a long-term or permanent basis. Have additional receptacles installed by a professional to provide power where needed.



BE PREPARED

- Nearly two-thirds of fire deaths result from fires in homes without working smoke alarms. Smoke alarms should be located on every level of your home, inside each bedroom and outside each sleeping area.
- Test smoke alarms every month. Batteries should be replaced at least once a year — or sooner if indicated in the manufacturers' instructions. All smoke alarms should be replaced at least every 10 years.
- Talk to your family about an emergency plan in the event of a fire in your home. If you have small children, include them in planning an emergency escape route — they are more likely to remember the plan if they're involved in creating it. Electrical safety awareness and education can save lives. For more tips and information about electrical safety, visit esfi.org.





This Mother's Day, Clean Her House

This Mother's Day, give Mom a gift that she'll really appreciate. Clean her house.

Don't stop at wiping down the surfaces and running the vacuum cleaner over the rug. Give Mom a real break and clean even those hard-to-reach places. Look up and look underneath, and you'll find plenty of built-up dirt, dust and grime.

Take your mop and sponges to these neglected areas of the home:

Ceilings. Use a step ladder to get as close to the ceiling as possible and check every corner and crevice for cobwebs. If you have a long enough vacuum cleaner attachment, use it to suck the dust and cobwebs away.

Ceiling fan blades. The dust up there is probably thick enough to write your name in with your finger. Vacuum the blades with a brush attachment on an extended arm. Don't use water; fans are electric.

Cabinet tops. Nobody sees the tops of Mom's cabinets or the surface of her highest shelves — and so nobody remembers to clean them. Stand on a stool or step ladder and peer downward. You'll see plenty of dust.

Moulding. Mom probably dusts the chair rails because they're at a height that makes them easy to see. But the moulding

around the top of the walls or over the doorways collects dust that rarely gets removed. Stand on a stool and dust them off for her.

Behind the toilet. Everyone scrubs the bowl and the seat, but help Mom get on her hands and knees to clean the back of the base and the floor behind it. Use a stiff broom to sweep behind the toilet and then wipe it down with an antibacterial cleaner.

Under the couch. If you can, recruit someone to help you move the couch so you can vacuum under and behind it. If you're on your own, use a broom handle to fish out anything that's hiding under there and then reach your longest vacuum cleaner attachment underneath to pull away the dust.

Around wires and cables. That tangled mess behind Mom's entertainment center or computer desk is a dust magnet. Unplug everything and clean the cords with a dry dusting cloth every couple of weeks. Use the same cloth to wipe down the computers, stereos and TV sets while you're at it.

Under the kitchen sink. That's probably where Mom keeps her cleaning supplies. Help Mom with the pesky task of cleaning it! Take it all out, wipe it down with a damp sponge and put everything back.

Energy-Efficiency Tip of the Month



Attic Insulation

Even in summer months, adding insulation to your attic can keep your home more comfortable and save energy used by your cooling system. If your attic insulation is level with or below your floor joists (meaning you can easily see your joists), you should add more. If you can't see any of the floor joists because the insulation is well above them, you likely have enough insulation.

Attic insulation should be evenly distributed with no low spots. Make sure the areas along the eaves are adequately covered.

Source: energystar.gov

A QUICK GUIDE TO GENERATORS

With proper use and maintenance, generators provide great convenience during a power outage. Before you purchase a generator, determine your backup power needs to select the right size. Make a list of essential appliances and devices you'll want to power during an outage, then total the required wattage.



RECOMMENDED IF YOU...

... **rarely** lose power.

Recreational Inverter

Up to 2,000 watts

Lightweight, about 60 pounds

Quiet, easy to store

Power: fridge and a few smaller items (i.e. lamp, phone charger and home security system)

Midsized Inverter

Up to 3,500 watts

Weights up to 150 pounds

Power: fridge, laptop, five to 10 lights, phone charger, home security system and 10K BTU air conditioner

... **occasionally** lose power.
Transfer switch required.

Portable Generators and Large Inverters

Up to 7,500 watts

Weights about 300 pounds

Power: fridge, gas furnace, 10K BTU air conditioner, dishwasher, multiple lights, TV, laptop and more

Ability to connect to home's breaker panel

... **frequently** lose power.
Transfer switch required.

Home Standby

Up to 20,000 watts

Must be permanently installed; starts automatically during outage

Power: nearly all home appliances and electronics (simultaneously)

Can run indefinitely on natural gas or propane

Recommended if you frequently lose power.

SAFETY FIRST!

- Let us know if you purchase a generator that you plan to connect to an electric panel.
- Improperly installed generators can create back feed, which is dangerous to our crews and the community.
Before using the generator, disconnect the normal source of power coming into your home/business.
- Never operate a generator indoors or in an enclosed space.

Disclaimer: Please note safety requirements may differ based on the type of generator you purchase. Thoroughly read the operator's manual and know how to shut off the generator quickly.

Source: *Consumer Reports*