



Right-of-Way Spring Program Notice

Powell Valley Electric Cooperative's right-of-way spraying program is scheduled to get under way on the following approximate dates:

- Tazewell Area: June 6 – June 30**
- Sneedville Area: July 1 – July 22**
- Jonesville Area: July 22 – August 12**

Affected members should have received notice of spraying with their bills at the time of this publication. If you have questions, call us at your local area office:

- Jonesville: 276-346-6003;
- Sneedville: 423-733-2207; or
- Tazewell: 423-626-5204.

Fiber Update Info as of 4/25/2022

Miles of backbone – 1,787
Services installed to the home – 3,656

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

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

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Jason Stapleton

Sneedville Area Supervisor

Joey Southern

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New Ways to Use Electricity

If you listen carefully, you can hear a quiet transformation happening. Electric appliances and equipment are becoming more popular than ever among consumers. Advancements in technology and battery power, coupled with decreasing costs, are winning over consumers looking for comparable utility and versatility. A bonus is that use of electric equipment is quieter and better for the environment.

Inside the home, consumers and homebuilders alike are turning to electric appliances to increase energy efficiency and savings. Whether a traditional electric stove or an induction stove top, both are significantly more efficient than a gas oven. That's because conventional residential cooking tops typically use gas or resistance heating elements to transfer energy with efficiencies of approximately 32% and 75% respectively (according to Energy Star). Electric induction stoves, which cook food without any flame, will reduce indoor air pollution and can bring water to a boil about twice as fast as a gas stove. Robotic vacuums are also gaining in popularity. Fortune Business Insights attributes the growth and popularity of robotic vacuums like Roomba to a larger market trend of smart home technology and automation (think about Alexa directing a Roomba to vacuum).

More tools and equipment with small gas-powered motors are being replaced with electric models that include plug-in batteries. In the past few years, technology in battery storage has advanced significantly. Handheld tools with plug-in batteries can hold a charge longer and offer the user the same versatility and similar functionality as gas-powered tools. For DIYers and those in the building trades, national brands such as Makita, Ryobi and Milwaukee offer electric versions of their most popular products like drills, saws, sanders and



Manager's Message

Brad Coppock
General Manager

other tools. In addition to standard offerings, consumers can now purchase a wider array of specialty tools that plug in such as power inverters, air inflators and battery chargers.

With advancements in batteries and other technologies, an electric replacement is available for almost anything that burns gasoline or diesel. A case in point is the increased use of electric-powered tools and equipment, with more national brands offering a wider selection including lawn mowers, leaf blowers, string trimmers and snow blowers. The quality of zero- or low-emissions lawn equipment is also improving.

Electric equipment also requires less maintenance, and often the biggest task is keeping them charged. In addition, electric equipment is quieter, so if you want to listen to music or your favorite podcast while performing outdoor work, you can. On the horizon, autonomous lawn mowers (similar to the robotic vacuum cleaners) will be seen dotting outdoor spaces.

Another benefit of using electric appliances or equipment is that by virtue of being plugged in to the grid, the environmental performance of electric devices improves over time. In essence, electricity is becoming cleaner through increases in renewable energy generation, so equipment that uses electricity will have a diminishing environmental impact over time. Quite a hat trick — improving efficiency, quality of life and helping the environment.

Don't Make Your A/C Work So Hard

Summertime seems to be getting hotter every year. This season, prepare your home in advance so relying more and more on your air conditioning won't show up so much on your electric bill.

Here are five ways to give your A/C a break this summer:

1. Call an HVAC tech. A professional can examine your system and let you know what needs repairing or replacing, which can prevent a mid-summer breakdown.

2. Change or clean air filters. When filters do their job properly, they trap dirt, pet hair and anything else that's floating in the air from recirculating into your home when the air conditioner is blowing. But dirty filters can prevent air from flowing, too, which makes the A/C work harder to cool your home. The solution: Change or clean your filters once a month during the summer.

3. Run ceiling fans. When the A/C is running at the same time as a ceiling fan, the room where the fan is located will feel cool enough that you can raise the thermostat by about 4 degrees. A fan doesn't cool the air, but it creates a breeze that makes anyone in the room feel cooler.

4. Install a dehumidifier. Another great partner for the A/C is an energy-efficient dehumidifier. Lowering the humidity in your home helps the air conditioner work more efficiently because it doesn't have to waste energy removing moisture from the air and can concentrate on simply cooling it.

5. Don't create heat. On days when it's warm enough to turn on the air conditioner, turn off your oven, clothes dryer, lamps and other appliances that create heat. Wait until after dark, when the day cools off a bit before running heat-producing appliances.

Update Windows to Save Energy

As inflation and energy prices continue to rise around the world, one of the best ways to save money at home is to make your windows more efficient.

Because energy-inefficient windows allow heat to get into your home in the summer and slip out of it in the winter, they are responsible for up to 30% of heating and cooling bills.

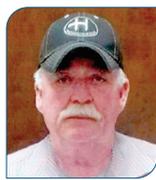
If your windows are old or single-pane, you may want to consider replacing them. But if they're in good shape, try updating them to make them more energy-efficient.

A great springtime do-it-yourself project is to inspect your windows for



air leaks, caulk around them and install weather stripping.

You can make your windows even more energy-efficient by adding storm windows, applying a solar-blocking film on the glass or adding awnings, overhangs or outdoor blinds.



Safety Tips

Joey Southern | Sneedville Area Supervisor

We pack a suitcase when we're headed out on vacation, of course. We pack a bag when we know ahead of time that we'll be hospitalized for a surgical procedure. Soon-to-be empty-nesters watch anxiously as their college-age kid packs all that's necessary to furnish a dorm room. And as that delivery date approaches, every expectant mother has a bag packed and ready for when "it's time."

But there's another kind of packed bag that can come in handy: the one you stock to be prepared in the event of a prolonged power outage.

We hope our members never need to rely on those kinds of supplies. But we'd sure prefer that they have it and not need it instead of the other way around.

Depending on the time of year and your family's needs, here's a list of some common items that will prove useful if electricity is unavailable for an extended period of time:

- Flashlights/batteries
- Long-burning candles and lighter or matches
- Water (1 gallon per person per day)
- Nonperishable food/pantry items and a manual can opener
- First-aid kit
- Wet wipes/hand sanitizer
- Weather radio
- Portable phone charger
- Headlamps, portable battery-operated fan

Powell Valley Electric cannot stress enough the need to check your power outage bag periodically, even if the need to use it hasn't arisen. Be sure that expiration dates haven't passed and that batteries are still good. And there's one last critical piece of advice: Make sure everyone in your family knows the location of this bag, box or tote. It can't help you if you've forgotten where you put it!

Safety Tips for Before, During and After the Storm

by Abby Berry

Storm season is in full swing. Many summer storms have the potential to produce tornadoes — they can happen anytime, anywhere, and can bring winds over 200 miles per hour.

In April, a video of NBC Washington chief meteorologist Doug Kammerer went viral. During a live broadcast, Kammerer called his teenage son to warn him of a tornado that was headed straight for their home. Knowing the kids were likely playing video games and not paying attention to the weather, he told them to head straight to the basement. Kammerer debated if he should call his family on-air, but he knew it was the right thing to do. Luckily, the kids made it safely through the storm.

As adults, we understand the importance of storm safety, but younger children and teens may not realize the dangers storms pose. That's why it's so important to talk to your family and have a storm plan in place. Here are several tips you can share with your loved ones.

BEFORE THE STORM

- Talk to your family about what to do in the event of a severe storm or tornado. Point out the safest location to shelter, like a small, interior, windowless room on the lowest level of your home. Discuss the dangers of severe thunderstorms; lightning can strike 10 miles outside of a storm. Remember: when you hear thunder roar, head indoors.

- Make a storm kit. It doesn't have to be elaborate — having a few items on hand is better than nothing at all. Try to include items like water, non-perishable foods, a manual can opener, a first-aid kit, flashlights and extra batteries, prescriptions, baby supplies and pet supplies. Keep all the items in one place for easy access if the power goes out.

DURING THE STORM

- Pay attention to local weather alerts — either on the TV, your smartphone or weather radio — and understand the types of alerts. A thunderstorm or tornado watch means these events are possible and you should be prepared; a warning means a thunderstorm or tornado has been spotted in your area and it's time to take action.
- If you find yourself in the path of a tornado, head to your safe place to shelter, and protect yourself by covering your

head with your arms or materials like blankets and pillows.

- If you're driving during a severe storm or tornado, do not try to outrun it. Pull over and cover your body with a coat or blanket if possible.

AFTER THE STORM

- If the power is out, conserve your phone battery as much as possible, limiting calls and texts to let others know you are safe or for emergencies only.

- Stay off the roads if trees, power lines or utility poles are down. Lines and equipment could still be energized, posing life-threatening risks to anyone who gets too close.

- Wear appropriate gear if you're cleaning up storm debris on your property. Thick-soled shoes, long pants and work gloves will help protect you from sharp or dangerous debris left behind.

Practice Storm Safety

Have a plan in place and make a storm kit.

Listen to local alerts and know where to shelter.

Stay off the roads if trees and power lines are down.



Summer is a time for many fun-filled activities, but the season can also bring severe, dangerous weather. Talk to your loved ones about storm safety so that everyone is prepared and knows exactly what to do when a storm strikes.

Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing electric cooperatives in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, and across the country.

2022 Electric Cooperative Creative Writing Competition

Each year, Powell Valley Electric Cooperative takes four high school Juniors to Washington, D.C., as part of the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to learn about history, government and leadership. The 2022 trip will be the first since 2019 due to the pandemic.



Students from across the co-op's service area could enter the contest by writing a creative short story about the various ways Powell Valley Electric is investing in a brighter future for the communities it serves. The short stories are judged by an outside source and scored based on originality, appropriate treatment of theme, knowledge of the subject, grammar and composition.

Cheyenne Mayes, J. Frank White Academy student, was the top winner. Her story will also compete with the top stories throughout Tennessee for \$3,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 college scholarships sponsored by the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. Other top winners were Anna Hopkins, Hancock County High School, second place; Carlie Napier, Cumberland Gap High School, third; and Hannah Daniels, J. Frank White Academy, fourth.

Whether it be through the Youth Tour program or scholarships, supporting the future of these students and the communities they represent is an investment that will create a brighter future for us all. We are excited to see them grow their talents and knowledge. The entire team at Powell Valley Electric Cooperative is rooting for their success, and we are confident they will each find ways to impact our communities in the future.



Gift Practical Kitchen Appliances

Don't know what to get the bride and groom whose wedding is right around the corner? Good Housekeeping says these five small kitchen appliances will change your favorite couple's life.

1. Multicooker. A pressure cooker that steams everything from fish to eggs to pasta, especially if it's paired with an air fryer lid, can make one-pot dinners quicker than the oven or stovetop and takes up a lot less space. The magazine's recommendations: Insta Pot Duo Nova; Breville's Fast Slow Pro Slow Cooker; and the Ninja Food Deluxe XL Pressure Cooker.

2. Immersion blender. The magazine calls this slim, handheld mixer "life-changing." Dip the portable appliance's stock directly into the food to blend, chop, puree or whisk without a bulky food processor or stand mixer. Good Housekeeping gave a shout out to the Breville Control Grip Immersion Blender; Braun's Household MultiQuick 7 blender; and the All-Clad Cordless Rechargeable Hand Blender.

3. Toaster oven air Fryer. This appliance could displace a toaster, microwave and air fryer. Use it to quickly defrost, heat, reheat, roast or crisp everything from leftovers to veggies to meat. The editors like the Cuisinart Digital Convention Toaster Oven Air Fryer; Hamilton Beach's Sure Crisp Air Fryer Toaster Oven; and Cosori's 12-in-1 Air Fryer Toaster Oven Combo.

4. Indoor grill. Even when it's cold outside, you can use an electric indoor mini-grill to warm, cook or sear food. Favorites are Cuisinart's Electric Griddle; Hamilton Beach's Steak Lover's Indoor Grill; and George Foreman's Rapid Grill Series 5-Serving Indoor Grill.

5. Electric kettle. These handy gadgets boil water faster than a stovetop teapot or microwave so there's no wait for warming bottles, heating water for pasta or making coffee. The magazine featured Cuisinart's CPK-17 PerfecTemp Kettle; SMEG's '50s Retro Style Aesthetic Electric Kettle; and OXO Brew's Adjustable Temperature Electric Pour-Over Kettle.