cve@caneyvalley.com
www.caneyvalley.com
For emergency outages please call 800-310-8911

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Voice

Caney Valley Electric Co-op, Inc.

Board of Trustees

Kenneth Bates
President

Steve Clark
Vice President

Chris Kelly
Secretary/Treasurer

David Evans
Trustee

Dan Hubert
Trustee

Charles McMillan
Trustee

Stephanie Ollenborger
Trustee

Dale Steward
Trustee

Contact Us

401 Lawrence, P.O. Box 308
Cedar Vale, KS 67024
620-758-2262, Fax: 620-758-2926
cve@caneyvalley.com

Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Power Cost Adjustment

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for June is $0.00637/kilowatt-hour. This amounts to an additional $6.37 per 1,000 kilowatt-hours. The PCA was implemented in 2002 to cover only the increase (or decrease) in power costs (over and above 7¢/kWh) charged to us by our wholesale power supplier, Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo) in Topeka. The PCA varies each month depending on the wholesale charges from KEPCo, and is a flow-through on your electric bill.

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Control Your Peak Usage

For the next four months, we are asking you to participate in the "Peak Control" program. This voluntary program can help hold down the wholesale power costs incurred by the cooperative.

The peak demand for electricity recorded in July and August drives a major part of the wholesale power billing process for the eight off-peak months that follow, October through May. The lower the peak demand registered, the lower demand charges will be. Keeping the peak demand low in June and September is also important.

Please take time to review the key parts of Peak Control below. Contact me at 620-758-2261 or 800-310-8911 if you have any questions. Thank you for your participation in this program.

Allen A. Zadorozny,
General Manager

Frequently Asked Questions about Peak Control

What is Peak Control?

Peak control is a voluntary program in which our cooperative members can participate to hold down electricity costs.

What Can Members Do to Participate in Peak Control?

You can participate by voluntarily reducing your use of electric equipment and appliances that require larger amounts of electricity.

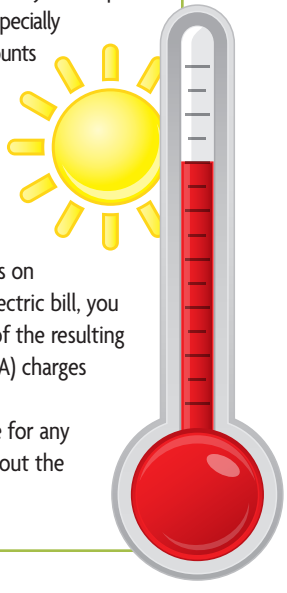
When Do Members Need to Participate in Peak Control?

During the hours of 4 to 8 p.m. every weekday from June 1 through Sept. 30. The actual peak demand for June, July, August and September is the billing demand for each respective month. Special emphasis is placed during July and August, as the peak electricity demand registered by Caney Valley during those two months drives the electricity billings from our wholesale supplier for the following eight months, October through May. Be aware of days that have high temperatures forecast above 90 degrees; these are the type of days when peak demands usually occur. Be especially careful when using large amounts of electricity on warm days.

What are the Benefits of Taking Part in Peak Control?

By helping hold the line for the kW demand charges on Caney Valley's wholesale electric bill, you will also limit the amount of the resulting power cost adjustment (PCA) charges added to your electric bill.

Please contact our office for any questions you may have about the Peak Control program.

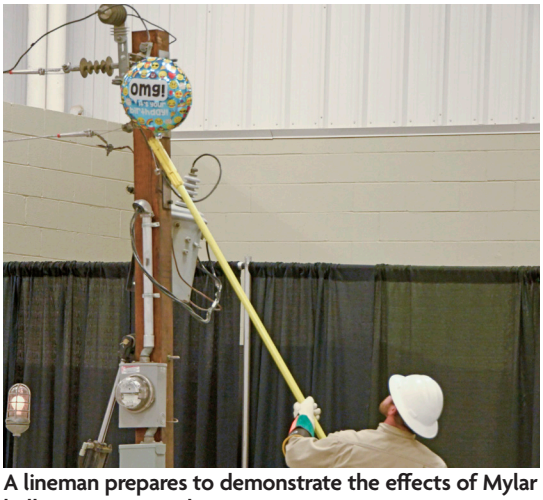


Mylar Balloons and Electricity Don't Mix

Birthday parties, weddings, graduations, grand openings, celebrations of life and more—balloons are used for a variety of festivities. And while we love their aesthetic, balloons, especially Mylar balloons, can pose a great threat and risk to our electricity lines and ecosystem.

Gary Pinkall, a science teacher at Great Bend Middle School and member of Wheatland Electric, attended a teachers' conference that encouraged attendees to gain a geographic perspective on place and how the world is interconnected. Pinkall knew many of the projects currently taught in classrooms focus on environmental effects and the ocean. Being from the middle of the U.S., Pinkall decided to create a project that would have direct implications on his students' every day environment. That is when he discovered the dangers of balloon releases on electrical systems and the environment.

During his research Pinkall learned Mylar balloons conduct electricity due to their makeup. As they float into power lines, they become entangled and can easily cause outages or other electrical problems for cooperative lines. For wildlife, they are easily mistaken for food or can become wrapped around their bodies. Deflated balloons can be ingested and cause choking, while the strings of the balloons entrap wildlife causing mobility issues.



A lineman prepares to demonstrate the effects of Mylar balloons on power lines.

"With Cheyenne Bottoms just north of town here, it is a national area of importance for wildlife," Pinkall said. "It's one of the most important wetlands in the Western Hemisphere, as many as 90 percent of the entire species of shore birds pass through Cheyenne Bottoms during migration."

Pinkall's students are researching additional information to formalize presentations they will be making. For example, Alex Omenski, one of Pinkall's students, uncovered an incident involving a Mylar balloon and electricity.

"At a Los Angeles Dodgers game they had a half-hour delay due to a Mylar balloon getting stuck in a power line that supplies power to the baseball field," Omenski said.

As the students learn about the harmful effects of balloon releases, many have researched alternatives to these celebrations and are preparing how they can share the message with their communities.

"I researched planting gardens or planting trees, and those last a really long time and then other people can enjoy them rather than just a 10-minute celebration where you release a balloon and watch it float away." Samantha Meyers, another student of Pinkall's, said.

Many electric cooperatives provide safety and educational training demonstrations illustrating the powerful effects Mylar balloons have on power lines and the dangers of electricity. Check with your electric cooperative for safety training they may offer.

Entangled in the demonstration power line, the Mylar balloon catches fire and causes sparks on the line.

Don't Just Pack Your Bags; Prepare Your Home for Vacation Too

Your bags are packed and you're ready to leave your routine for a much-needed vacation. As you pack for your destination, remember your home needs a little prep, too.

Along with the usual tasks such as having your mail and newspaper stopped, there are other steps you can take to help deter burglars and even save you a little green. With the money you save, you might have a little extra for umbrella-garnished drinks or destination T-shirts.

Before you leave, here are some ways to save money on your energy bill:

- Adjust your water heater. For a natural gas water heater, turn it to low or vacation mode. For an electric version, turn it down or off at the circuit breaker panel.
- Set or program your thermostat to a temperature that mimics the outside temperature (about 80 to 85 degrees). This still protects your wood floors and furniture, and if you have pets they will remain comfortable while you still save on energy costs.
- Do not completely turn off your air conditioning during vacation so the air will continue to circulate.
- Unplug small appliances and electronic devices including gaming systems so they don't draw power while not in use.
- Do not leave chargers plugged into an outlet. (This tip is important when you're home as well. Unplug charging devices after electronics are fully charged and do not leave chargers plugged in when they're not in use since they can overheat.)
- Make sure your sump pump is working.

Take these electrical and plumbing precautions:

- Turn off water valves to the dishwasher, washing machine and all sinks.
- Consider shutting off the main water valve, which cuts off water to the house but still allows a water supply to an outdoor sprinkler system.

Make your home look lived in to keep potential burglars at bay:

- If you have a smart home, it's easy to regulate lights in your home remotely. Turn various lights on and off intermittently.
- If you do not have smart lighting, use timers on light fixtures throughout the house.
- Ask a trusted neighbor to park in your driveway occasionally while you are gone.
- Use motion detectors on outside lights.
- Before you leave, check all windows and doors to make sure they are locked.

And finally, remember to clean out your fridge before leaving so you don't return to moldy leftovers.

For more information about electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.

Right-of-Way Clearing


Craig Lampson

As part of the cooperative's ongoing program to control harmful vegetation near our power lines, we have contracted with Poor Boy Tree Service Inc. of Fairplay, Missouri, to apply herbicide along our rights-of-way in 2019. The lines in the **SEDAN, PERU, CHAUTAUQUA, ELGIN AND NIOTAZE AREAS IN CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY** are scheduled to be covered over the next few months.

Poor Boy's two-man crew will be applying high-volume foliar spray herbicide directly to small trees, saplings and harmful regrowth that has occurred since the lines were cleared by tree cutting. They will be using the minimum amount of herbicide judged to be effective and will be targeting specific plants that pose a hazard to the electric system. You should expect to see their pickup and/or ATV with spray equipment working along the rights-of-way under Caney Valley's electric lines.

Trees continue to pose the greatest physical obstacle to providing economical and reliable electric power to the consumers on Caney Valley's system. The problems caused by trees and the costs of controlling them are born by all of our members collectively. We appreciate your support of the cooperative's efforts to reduce tree-related problems in a fair and cost-effective manner. If you have any questions about our spraying or line clearing activities, please call us at 800-310-8911 or 620-758-2262.

Craig Lampson,
Line Superintendent

In Memoriam

Coral Ann Magnus

CORAL ANN MAGNUS, Caney Valley Trustee, died on May 13. She was first elected to the board in May 2008, and had served as Secretary/Treasurer since May 2011. She had earned the Credentialed Cooperative Director and Board Leadership certificates, and the Director Gold credential.

Services were held at the Cedar Vale Baptist Church on Saturday, May 18.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wauneta United Methodist Church or the National Breast Cancer Foundation, C/O Shelley Funeral Home, 906 W. Kansas, Arkansas City, KS 67005.

Unplug to be More Connected

In today's device-driven, multitasking world, keeping up with work, family and school activities or the latest trends on social media compels most of us to constantly check our devices. "Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you." Author Anne Lamott cleverly captures the benefits of unplugging.

Summer is a great time to take a family vacation, unplugging from regular day-to-day activities and devices and enjoying times outside with family and friends. Research has shown that we all need downtime after a busy day to recharge—even though we may resist it. Take a moment to slow down and enjoy some peaceful hours away from technology.

While you're unplugging from your devices, take a look around your home to identify electronics that consume energy even when they are not in use, known as "vampire" energy loss. TVs, gaming consoles, phone chargers and computers are some of the biggest culprits.

If your summer plans include a staycation, take time to recharge your relationships and be more present with those you love. Enjoy our beautiful surroundings with your family and friends.

Speaking of spending time outdoors, you can also enjoy energy savings by incorporating LED products and fixtures for outdoor use, such as pathway, step and porch lights. Many include features like automatic daylight shut-off and motion sensors. You can also find solar-powered lighting for outdoor spaces.

Save energy by keeping warm summer air outside where it belongs. Add caulk or weather stripping to seal air leaks around doors and windows. Employ a programmable thermostat to adjust the settings a few degrees higher when no one is home.

In our connected world, we have forgotten how to slow down. We multitask and text. We check email, then voicemail, then Facebook. Do yourself and your family a favor, and put down the device and smell the fresh air.

While we can't help you recharge your relationships, we can help you save money and energy by connecting you with our energy-saving programs and services. When you do plug back in, we're just a call or click away.

Caney Valley's Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	Mar. 2019	Mar. 2018
Meters Billed	5,298	5,379
kWh Purchased	5,334,331	4,914,856
Cost per kWh	0.07209	0.07578
kWh Sold	5,037,766	5,008,515
Total Revenue	$ 752,525	$ 761,331
Purchased Power	$ 384,815	$ 372,758
Operating Expenses	$ 248,120	$ 245,617
Depreciation Expenses	$ 67,631	$ 65,805
Interest Expenses	$ 47,124	$ 42,906
Other Expenses	$ 140	$ 225
Operating Margins	$ 4,695	$ 34,020
Non-Operating Margins	$ 30,046	$ 50,818
Total Margins	$ 34,741	$ 84,838
Margins Year-to-Date	$ 4,144	$ 84,905

Outages for April 2019

Occasionally, a part or parts of the delivery system fail and an outage occurs. Following are the larger outages that occurred in April.

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
4/2	North of Dexter	24	2 hr 10 min	2 poles burned off-pasture fire
4/2	North of Cedar Vale	33	1 hr 30 min	Broken jumper on transformer
4/5	Northwest of Sedan	45	1 hr	Bad arrestor
4/6	West of Sedan	45	2 hr 15 min	Bad arrestor on transformer
4/23	Longton substation	360	2 hrs 50 min	Westar-bad insulator on 23 kV line
4/24	North edge of Peru	53	2 hrs	Scheduled-replace pole
4/27	Phillips substation	164	1 hr 30 min	Westar-lost 69 kV feed
4/27	Grenola, Longton, Sedan subs	2340	2 hr 30 min	Westar-poles burned down
4/27	Cedar Vale substation	762	1 hr	Westar-lost 69 kV feed
4/30	Longton substation	360	2 hr 45 min	Westar-poles down
4/30	Chautauqua, Elgin areas	112	50 min	Lightning-replace pole
4/30	Maple City area	25	1 hr 15 min	Lightning-fuse out