

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

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

TheVoice



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Office Hours

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

Power Cost Adjustment

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for July is \$0.00843/kilowatt-hour. This amounts to an additional \$8.43 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

Volunteer to Make a Difference

Sometimes we all need to pause for a moment and remember to appreciate the simple things, like people helping people and how getting involved often makes a lasting difference in our lives.

Think about all the things that nurture and strengthen our local communities. They begin with family, follow through to faith and forge the bonds that foster civility and create wholesome and healthy societies.

Even when so many of us are preoccupied with vacations, hobbies and all the summer activities that break up our regular routine, that commitment to community involvement can be part of nearly everything we do.

Coaches and referees keep summer youth sports leagues running. Some of us take a week or so of our vacations to chaperone a youth outing, help out at scout camp or support a church group outreach mission. Others answer the call when help is needed for storm response or community cleanups.

Many of us know at least one person who is so committed to a particular cause that they find ways to make an impact throughout the stages of their lives.

Think about that volunteer firefighter who for decades after active roster years, still turns out to help “fill the boot,” dispatch calls or drive the canteen truck, ready to help parched first responders and victims recover at the scene.

Caney Valley Electric employees con-

sistently live up to the seventh cooperative principle—concern for community, with employees donating their time and talents throughout the communities we serve. Our linemen routinely leave their families to help other co-ops in Kansas and surrounding states affected by storms and widespread outages.

Then of course, there are those who will take a half-hour or so to donate a pint of blood.

All of these things are fine ideas that lead to great actions and produce lasting results. What makes them really special is they cost little more than our personal decisions to look around, see what's needed and jump in to get involved.

You really don't have to look far. It seems like every fair or community festival includes booths filled with enthusiastic volunteers more than happy to get you involved in some terrific cause. At fun runs, parades and other events, it's often the volunteers who've done the planning, organizing and marching that bring us all together.

With technology cutting back on our personal connections to people, maybe we need to look for ways to touch the lives of those close by, and volunteering is a great way to start. If you think about it, we all can choose to give a bit of ourselves to help make things better. Volunteer to serve, and see for yourself.

Allen A. Zadorozny, General Manager

Pick 'Em and Eat 'Em

Imagine it. Walking through rows and rows of trees and bushes, smelling the freshly ripened fruit, picking just the right one for the perfect bite of summer, or maybe picking a few for the flawless sweet ending to a warm summer evening. Throughout Kansas you can gather that experience from you-pick farms and orchards.

While many fruits cease to grow in the extra warm conditions of a Kansas July, some fruits thrive on the summer sun. Around this time of year, many you-pick orchards host the end of blueberries and blackberries and await the growth of peaches in early August and apples as fall draws near.

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Association member Dave Chadick and his family own and operate Chautauqua Hills Farms in Chetopa. Both of Dave's sons enjoy science so for the family, growing their crops organically has proven to be a yearly science experiment.

"I like the science and growing the berries too," Dave said. "When we first experienced people coming and picking for themselves, it was the icing on the cake, so to speak, to have people come out and pick 'em and eat 'em and just talk about something that we raise is fun—we enjoy it."

Much like the Chadick family, Ken and Cathy Hamilton, FreeState Electric Cooperative members for more than 50 years, find joy in welcoming families to their orchard. The couple opened their you-pick orchard after retiring and searching for a way to stay busy.

The 86th Street Orchard north of Topeka features about a hundred fruit trees and includes apples, blackberries, peaches, honey bees and more. For the duo, the orchard is their



Nothing says summer like the sweet taste of fresh picked strawberries. Take a family outing this summer to pick the many fruits and vegetables available locally.

passion—a simple operation and that's the way they intend to keep it.

"We try to work at the convenience of the public," Ken said. "In the summer, when it's hot, we tell them, 'I get up somewhere between five and six in the morning and if you want to come early, I'll share a coffee with ya when you show up.'" Ken said families also like to visit in the evenings when it's starting to get dark.

Orchards across the state welcome visitors to experience their operations for fun and education. Kids and adults alike can learn about the process of growing fruit and where their meals come from. For more information on orchards and you-pick farms located near you, visit www.pickyourown.org/KS.htm, but be sure to do your research beforehand as many farms have special rules or ask you reserve your picking time.

How Caney Valley Electric Employs 'Outage Detectives'

Ever wonder what goes into restoring your power after an outage? The ordeal of losing electricity can be frustrating, but Caney Valley Electric is always looking for ways to get the power back on as soon and safely as possible.

Whether it's severe summer weather like a tornado, straight-line winds, or a fallen tree, as soon as an outage is detected, our cooperative crews are working to correct the problem. Thanks to new and more advanced technologies, we can restore power outages faster than ever.

Powering up after an outage starts on a larger level and ends up in local areas. First, high-voltage transmission lines are examined, then distribution stations, and then main

distribution lines. If the outage can't be pinpointed to these areas, tap lines and individual homes are inspected. This process allows Caney Valley Electric to efficiently help the most members in the shortest amount of time, and we are working to make this process even faster.

One of the biggest technology advancements our cooperative is using is Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). These meters allow for two-way communication and work by sending information back to the co-op's operations center. This helps to distinguish between events that affect a single home or multiple outages, which is important because solving either issue is a very different process. Two-way

communication also provides verification of power restoration after an outage.

One of the major benefits from improved technologies, especially for outages caused by extreme weather, is understanding where the outages are located, which helps to reduce risk for our co-op crews out on the road during weather events. These technologies also clearly benefit our members with improved outage response times.

Power outages are inevitable, but as technology continues to improve, disruptions are becoming shorter and easier to resolve. Caney Valley Electric is dedicated to using those technologies that make the most (dollars and) sense for our cooperative.

Control Your Peak Usage

For the next three 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 Caney Valley at 620-758-2261 or 800-310-8911 if you have any questions. Thank you for your participation in this program.

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?

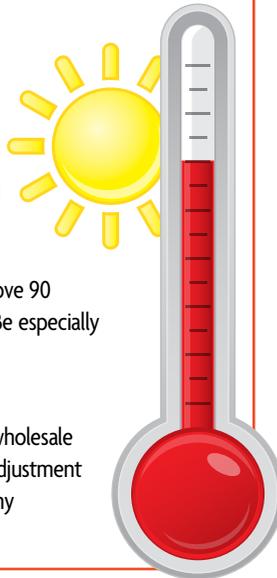
You can participate by voluntarily reducing your use of electric equipment and appliances that require larger amounts of electricity.

When Do Members Need to Participate in Peak Control?

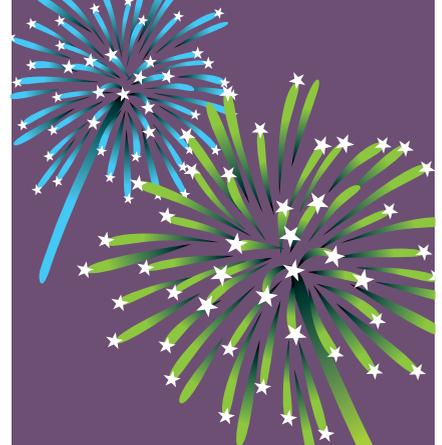
During the hours of 4 to 8 p.m. every weekday from June 1 through Sept. 30. The actual peak demand for June, July, August and September is the billing demand for each respective month. Special emphasis is placed during July and August, as the peak electricity demand registered by Caney Valley during 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.



FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS



Fireworks and the Fourth of July go hand-in-hand, and we want you to have a safe, fun celebration! About two-thirds of all fireworks-related injuries occur between June 16 and July 16, so keep these safety tips in mind:

- ★ Make sure fireworks are legal in your community before using them.
- ★ Never buy professional-grade fireworks. They are not designed for safe consumer use.
- ★ Keep small children a safe distance from all fireworks including sparklers which can burn at temperatures in excess of 2,000 degrees.
- ★ Never reignite or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Keep a bucket of water or garden hose nearby to thoroughly soak duds before throwing them away.
- ★ Keep pets indoors and away from fireworks to avoid contact injuries or noise reactions.



Always Assume a Downed Power Line is Deadly

Overhead power lines carry thousands of volts of electricity. If a line is down, always assume it is energized and dangerous, even if the power is out in your area. Touching or getting near a live power line injures and kills.

Never approach an accident scene where a line is down or damaged. If you run toward the accident to help, you too could become a victim by entering the energized area.

Power lines can come down or sag for a few reasons, including severe weather or damage, possibly due to a car accident. And a downed line isn't always visible. After severe weather, lines can lurk underneath water or debris.

Stay clear of all types of utility lines. Even if you think lines might be designated for telephone or cable service, they may have contact with damaged and energized power lines nearby. Caney Valley Electric offers these additional safety reminders:

- ▶ Call 911 to report fallen or damaged power lines.
- ▶ Power lines do not have to be arcing, sparking or making a humming noise to be live.
- ▶ Do not attempt to move a downed line or anything it is

touching with another object such as a stick or pole. Even materials that don't normally conduct electricity can do so if they are slightly wet.

- ▶ Do not step in water or walk in debris near a downed power line.
- ▶ Stay at least 10 feet away from the downed power line.
- ▶ Do not attempt to drive over a downed power line.
- ▶ If a power line falls on your vehicle while driving, do not attempt to drive away or get out. Call for help and **STAY INSIDE THE VEHICLE** until utility crews say it is safe to get out. If there is a fire or you smell gasoline, hop out without touching the vehicle at the same time and **DO NOT WALK**, but hop away to safety.
- ▶ Line properties can change: Any power line that is dead could become energized at any moment due to power restoration or backfeed from backup generators.

Always consider all lines, regardless of the type, energized at deadly voltages. For more information about electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.

Caney Valley's Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	Apr. 2019	Apr. 2018
Meters Billed	5,307	5,376
kWh Purchased	4,250,682	4,599,532
Cost per kWh	0.07592	0.07798
kWh Sold	4,900,693	4,489,471
Total Revenue	\$ 750,317	\$ 711,937
Purchased Power	\$ 323,460	\$ 359,395
Operating Expenses	\$ 227,236	\$ 218,313
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 67,788	\$ 65,902
Interest Expenses	\$ 46,214	\$ 44,164
Other Expenses	\$ 590	\$ 1,642
Operating Margins	\$ 85,029	\$ 22,521
Non-Operating Margins	\$ 12,440	\$ 1,789
Total Margins	\$ 97,469	\$ 24,310
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ 101,613	\$ 109,216

Statement of Nondiscrimination

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form found online at www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call 866-632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, by fax 202-690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Outages for May 2019

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

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
5/8	SW of Dexter	40	3 hr 20 min	2 poles down
5/14	NE of Grenola	28	1 hr 30 min	OCR failed
5/18	North of Cedar Vale	30	1 hr 15 min	Reset breaker-lightning
5/20	Cedar Vale sub-west circuit	255	1 hr 20 min	Lightning arrester on transformer
5/20	Silverdale sub	174	3 hr	Westar-burndown-lightning
5/21	West of Longton	40	5 hr 50 min	Pole hit by lightning
5/30	Longton sub	379	1 hr 45 min	Westar-tree on transmission line
5/31	Tisdale & Burden subs	237	1 hr 50 min	Westar-phase down