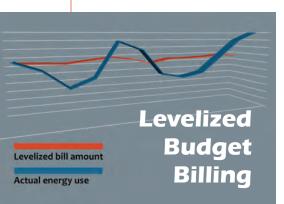


# The Light Issue of the Current Communicator

Summer 2015

News for the member-owners of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative



#### Take charge of your power bills!

In June 2015, CVEC began converting our Equal Payment Budget Billing Plan to a Levelized Option that will calculate a rolling average of a member's energy usage each month.

The average will be based on the usage in the current month and previous 11 months. This will eliminate the peaks and troughs, levelizing the budget bill payment each month with a fluctuation of only a few dollars.

So how is this different than our previous Budget Billing Plan?

Formerly, members could only enroll in the months of May and September. The new plan will allow members to enroll any business day of the year.

Also, the former budget billing plan was an Equal Payment Plan; members paid the same amount each month regardless of their usage. Then there was a "settle-up" month when they would either pay or receive the difference in cost between their projected energy use and actual energy use.

If the member used more than anticipated, they would owe CVEC money. If they used less, then the member would get a credit. Some members would owe hundreds of dollars due to higher energy use and that did not serve them well.

To sign up, a member must be a good paying account, with two or less late payments and no disconnects in the last 12 months.

In the table below, the areas in brown in the first two columns represent the last eleven months and current month's usage. The brown cell in the third column shows their average ... and that is all that member would owe that month on our new Levelized Billing Plan.

The rest of the third column demonstrates the averaged amount due through out the rest of the year, a variation of only \$9!

	Actual Monthly Payment Due Prior Year	Projected Monthly Payment Due Current Year	Projected Levelized Payment Based on Prior Usage
January	\$375	\$400	\$250
February	\$400	\$425	\$254
March	\$350	\$375	\$256
April	\$275	\$200	\$250
May	\$175	\$150	\$248
June	\$150	\$175	\$250
July	\$175	\$175	\$248
August	\$225	\$250	\$250
September	\$250	\$225	\$250
October	\$175	\$200	\$252
November	\$150	\$175	\$254
December	\$300	\$330	\$257

Best of all, a Levelized Plan is constantly adjusting so there is no settle-up month when extra money might be owed. •

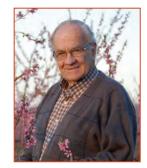
#### Honoring 38 Years of Service

#### **Chiles Recognized for Long Service to CVEC**

Albemarle orchardist and businessman Henry Chiles was recently recognized for 38 years of service to Central Virginia Electric Cooperative at the Annual Membership Meeting at Nelson County High School. Chiles, the owner of Crown Orchard

in Batesville and Carters Mountain Orchard, near Monticello, is not only the longest serving Director in the history of the Cooperative, but one that is well known for his business savvy, enthusiasm and leadership in charting the course for your memberowned electric utility for nearly half of its existence.

After receiving the resolution from Chair Kinckle Robinson and Vice-Chair Roberta Harlowe, Chiles shared a comment with fellow members: "When I joined the board in 1977 my goal was to keep your bills as low as possible and that has never wavered."



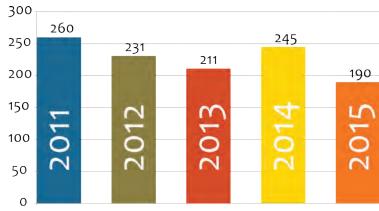
Henry Chiles in apple orchard

The resolution presented to Chiles noted his contributions to CVEC including his strong business skills, wisdom, judgment, and counsel.



#### **Keeping the Lights On!**

While CVEC has nominal control over outages caused by major weather events and power supply issues, CVEC has been working hard to reduce the frequency and impact of outages where the Co-op has a measure of control, such as right-of way maintenance. CVEC has been steadily reducing the average number of outage minutes per member over the past five years and has set a goal to keep going deeper. We're making progress. (Graph to right.)



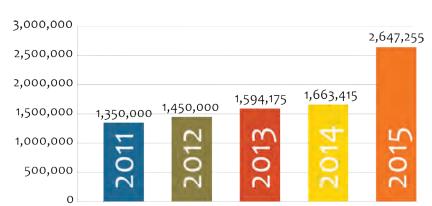
CVEC Yearly Average per Account Comparison 2010 thru 2014 End-of-Year

In the first six months of 2015 alone, CVEC has searched

for and cut more than 1,700 dead and dying "danger trees" growing outside of the right-of-way (ROW), trees that often fall into the area maintained by CVEC, creating outages. Combined with an increase in bush hogging, side trimming, and vegetative management, your Co-op has increased the ROW budget with the goal of increasing service reliability for you. (Graph to right.)

**You can help!** Send a photo of a danger tree to **forester@mycvec.com** ...

... and thank you for your help.



CVEC Yearly ROW Budget Comparison 2010 thru 2014 End-of-Year

# Everyone thanks you...

As member-owners of the Cooperative, we enjoy the benefits of our collective purchasing power for wholesale energy as well as professional linemen who maintain the poles and wires to deliver energy to our home. With 35,000 electric services, most CVEC members are very good about paying their bills on time. This allows the Cooperative to pay the power bill and the loans on the distribution system, with each member paying his or her fair share.

The Co-op does have to put in extra effort to encourage late paying members and, unfortunately, disconnects 200-300 members per month for non-payment, in order to prevent potential bad debt from being spread to other member-owners.

Please remember that payment is due 20 days after electric bills are issued. Thank you to the many members who are prompt with their payment!



Choose your own payment date!

### Choose the amount you wish to pay!

All available with our new PAY AS YOU GO payment plan. All you have to do is keep a positive balance, and CVEC will let you know if it starts getting low!



## Living Green

Many of us make an effort to reduce the impact we have on the environment while living an enjoyable, healthy life. Often that means small steps to be green.

- ✓ Take a few more steps by signing up for paperless billing.
- Consider adding renewable energy certificates to your monthly usage.
- ✓ Sign up for "Pay as You Go" and watch your kilowatt-hour usage fall as you monitor your energy consumption.

Visit **www.mycvec.com** for other ways to do the right thing.

