

COPPER VALLEY ELECTRIC



Ins and Outs of Service Requests at CVEA

Summer is upon us and homebuilding, renovations, upgrades, and yard work are happening at a rapid pace. Make sure you're planning for your needs this construction season. If you are in need of an upgraded service, relocated meter base, additional meter, or all together brand new service, CVEA can help.

To guide you as you move forward on your projects, below are steps that summarize the general process for CVEA to complete construction of a new, moved, or upgraded service.

Request your Service Needs

Communicate what you are looking for so the CVEA team knows what questions to ask and what to include in the design and plans. *Form 421: New/Upgraded Electrical Service Request Form* will help you accomplish this. Form 421 is available at the CVEA office in either district, or can be found online at cvea.org/electricalservice.

Once completed to the best of your ability, this form should be emailed to the address on the form or dropped off at either office location.

Information you may need available to complete your request:

- Deed and plat/land information

- Contact information for applicant, landowner, and/or contractor
- Service amperage and voltage
- Site plans if available
- Other utilities sharing the trench or structure
- Construction schedule

Site Visit

Once your request has been reviewed and system details related to your request have been confirmed, a CVEA representative will contact you to discuss your service details and schedule a site visit. A \$250 non-refundable fee will be required prior to scheduling a site visit. This fee will be credited towards construction costs and will expire in one year.

During the site visit, the CVEA representative will discuss your project with you and communicate any additional needs. You will be provided information regarding meter base requirements, design options, and the next steps in the process.

Estimate

CVEA will begin designing and estimating your service based on the site visit. During this time, you may obtain necessary permits and materials, and arrange for land clearing/grading as needed. Once design is complete, CVEA will send you an approved design and/or cost estimate. The cost estimate must be signed and returned along with any associated payments in order to move forward.

Loan applications are available through CVEA for qualified applicants. Please remember to ask the representative assisting you if you are interested in this option.

It is important to note the following requirements:

- Customers are responsible for clearing the new right of way located within their property per CVEA guidelines
- If the location of the service request is within the Valdez City limits, you must call the City of Valdez for approval of the meter base prior to CVEA construction

Additional Documents

For most projects, CVEA will draft a Right-of-Way Easement that will require your notarized signature.

- This document can only be completed by the landowner or their legal representative
- Once drafted, documents are available at either CVEA office and a notary is available onsite for your convenience

Construction

After payment is received, all documents are in place, the project meets CVEA requirements for installation, and the meter





Opposite, meter bases and grounding must be installed by the customer per the CVEA Meter Base Guidelines prior to a work order being released for construction.

Above, property corners may be located to ensure that new construction is located within the landowner's property or within a platted easement.

base is properly installed per CVEA guidelines and inspected/ approved by the City of Valdez (Valdez only), then your project will be added to the construction schedule.

The date of completion for your project is dependent on work load at the time it is added to the schedule.

CVEA works very hard to complete installations as soon as possible, but it may be days or weeks from the date a work order is ready to be released and the actual date of construction.

The end of the 2023 construction season is Thursday, September 14. All paperwork and payment need to be made prior to September 14 in order to be considered for the current construction season.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Can I get an estimate for property I am looking at purchasing?

Answer: Yes! CVEA encourages members to consider the cost of a new service prior to purchasing an unserviced lot. Visit the Member Services section at cvea.org to access the new Construction Cost Calculator.

Question: Does CVEA provide a distance or amount of line for free?

Answer: New and additional permanent services to constructed structures are eligible for the standard offering of \$5,000. See Sections 7.2 and 4.1 of the current Tariff (available at cvea.org).

Question: Can I get a meter added to an existing pole?

Answer: Generally, a customer can ONLY have a meter base placed on poles without primary wire (upstream of a transformer). This is for the safety of the line crew and system.

For additional information email construction@cvea.org. ■

Stay Safe This Construction Season

Anyone planning an outdoor project that requires digging, regardless of the depth or the size of the project, must contact Alaska Digline by calling 811 before you dig.

Alaska Digline serves as a message handling and notification service, taking information about planned excavations and providing this information to CVEA. Digline serves as a single point of contact for all utility locates. One call will do it all!

Advance notice is required. Alaska law requires anyone engaging in any type of excavation to provide advance notice. This notice must be at least 48 hours/2 full business days prior to the start of excavation, and the project must begin within 15 working days from when the locate is requested. Requests for locates after 5 p.m. will be processed as if received at 8 a.m. the next business day.

When calling in an emergency locate request, inform the Alaska Digline call center operator that an emergency exists and be prepared to explain the situation and/or conditions.

Alaska Digline asks callers to be prepared to provide the following information:

- Name, address, and contact information
- Location of the excavation/demolition
- The type and extent of the work involved
- What the depth of the excavation will be
- The start date and time of the planned excavation/demolition



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**



Include Home Energy Savings in Summer Vacation Plans

CVEA reminds members going on vacation this summer to make sure their home's energy use takes a vacation as well. Even if you plan to be away just a few days, you can save energy in your home when you travel. Here are simple tips that can give your electric bill a break when you take a break.

Heating

Lower the thermostat settings. The heater doesn't need to keep you warm when you're not there, and you'll save energy. If it is a programmable thermostat, use the "hold" or the "vacation" setting to keep it at that temperature.

Lighting

Consumers can improve their energy savings, and their home's security, by using timers to operate one or two lights each night. Turn off all the other lights in your home.

Electronics

Computers, CD/DVD players, TVs, VCRs, microwaves, and digital clocks – these and other electronic appliances use electricity, even when they are not turned on. Unplug all of these

devices before leaving.

Any electronics with digital displays, instant-on features, or remote controls will consume energy even if they're not in use.

Water Heating

Turn the water heater's temperature down to the lowest setting, so it doesn't work to keep the water warm while you're away.

Many water heaters have a "vacation" setting for this purpose. Leave a reminder to turn it back up upon returning home.

Refrigerator

Adjust the refrigerator control to a warmer setting. Depending on food stored in your fridge, you may be able to turn the thermostat as high as 38 degrees without risking spoilage. If going on an extended trip, consider emptying the fridge and turning it off.

For more ways to save, visit cvea.org. ■



July is National Grilling Month Celebrate With Energy Savings

Summer is a prime opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors. To reduce home energy use, avoid using your oven and use a grill instead. Not only will cooking outdoors eliminate the electricity used to power the stove, but it will also avoid raising the temperature inside your home, reducing the need for air conditioning or cooling.

You can also avoid using the oven with tasty no-bake recipes. Get creative in the kitchen (or the backyard) and find new ways to save energy!

Grilling is also a great way to bring people together. Make sure your feast includes a generous portion of fun and a side helping of safety! The following are recommended safety tips:

- Supervise the grill at all times
- Use the proper tools for cooking on a grill
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when the coals have already been ignited
- Always follow the manufacturers instructions when using grills

Source: energy.gov



Community Foundation representative Sharon Scheidt presenting a contribution to HHEs 5th Graders for educational field trip.



CVEA Community Foundation

2023 Contribution Season Begins

It is Community Foundation Contribution Season time. Nonprofit program requests will be accepted until August 17.

The Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that promotes and sponsors the community support activities of CVEA, allowing CVEA to do more for the people it serves.

The mission of the Foundation is “to provide scholarships for students and make contributions to educational, scientific, and charitable organizations in our communities.”

The Foundation’s three-flagship programs are the Educational Scholarship and Youth Leadership Programs, and the Nonprofit Contribution Season that

supports new or expanding projects and programs of qualifying local nonprofit organizations.

Since 2008 the Community Foundation has provided approximately \$138,000 to nonprofit organizations that support the CVEA membership.

In 2023, the Foundation has \$28,762 available for contributions. The goal of the

funding is to help local non-profits make an even greater impact in our communities.

The Contribution Season is open July through August each year, and is the ONLY time the Foundation accepts requests for funding.

If your organization is a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization looking for funding for new or expanding projects or programs within the next 12 months, please review the Contribution Guidelines to determine eligibility, and fill out the Contribution Request Form in its entirety. Incomplete applications may not be considered.

The deadline to submit all contribution requests for funding is Thursday, August 17, 2023, as indicated on the CVEA Community Foundation Contribution Request Form. The fillable form is available under community support at cvea.org, or stop by your local office and an associate can assist you.

Please note that the Foundation's contribution process and guidelines vary from the cooperative's standard contribution program. CVEA has a small community support program that will continue to fund small cash (up to \$500) and in-kind donations for events and activities throughout the year. The requirements for the CVEA program are different and separate from the Foundation and can also be found on cvea.org.

Please ensure your organization meets the specific guidelines for Foundation funding and the correct appli-

cation is submitted. If unsure where a request is best suited, please contact the cooperative for assistance.

Applications will be reviewed and scored by a volunteer committee in September/October. Awards will be approved by the Board of Directors in October and checks will be distributed in November/December.

Contributions Committee

The Foundation is looking for interested members to serve on the Contributions Committee. If you are interested in being a part of your local cooperative, but don't have a lot of time to give throughout the year, this committee is for you.

Committee members are responsible for reviewing and scoring all nonprofit contribution requests and making funding recommendations to the Board. If you are interested, plan on participation in late September and October; attendance at one or two meetings is required. In all, commitment is estimated at eight hours or less.

If you have questions, contact Sarah Jorgenson-Owen, CVEA Marketing and Communications Specialist, at 907-835-4301 or email sjorgensonowen@cvea.org. ■

Community Support Guidelines

CVEA Guidelines

- ▶ It is CVEA's goal to provide the maximum benefit to the greatest number of members in the communities we serve; due to the large number of requests received, we regret being unable to fulfill all requests
- ▶ Requests are evaluated and funded based on the amount of funds available and how well the request meets CVEA's requirements
- ▶ CVEA looks for events/activities that benefit a large portion of the communities we serve
- ▶ CVEA limits donations to a maximum of \$500
- ▶ CVEA does not donate or discount products or services that are provided to all members in the Tariff
- ▶ CVEA does not donate funds to individuals
- ▶ Due to the large number of sports teams in our service area, CVEA does not fund sports teams or sporting activities unless there is a district-wide benefit

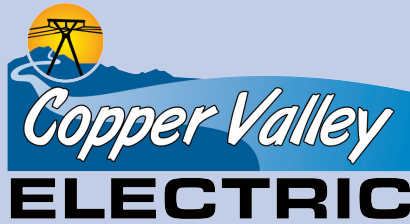
CVEA Community Foundation Guidelines

- ▶ Education and youth programs are often the biggest recipients of Foundation funds
- ▶ The Foundation does not fund organizational operating costs
- ▶ The Foundation looks to contribute to new programs/projects or the expansion of existing programs/projects
- ▶ The Foundation will evaluate the amount of each request based on the merits of the application; an interview or demonstration may be required

For either CVEA or the CVEA Community Foundation, nonprofits MUST meet the following minimum requirements:

- ▶ The organization must be a nonprofit entity
- ▶ The organization must benefit the public welfare or have a charitable, educational, or scientific benefit to the membership
- ▶ The organization's program or event must provide broad CVEA membership benefit
- ▶ The organization must support members in the CVEA service area

Individuals, religious organizations, and political organizations are not eligible for assistance.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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P.O. Box 45
Glennallen, AK 99588
www.cvea.org

Copper Basin District
907-822-3211

Mile 187 Glenn Hwy.

Valdez District

907-835-4301

367 Fairbanks Dr.

After hours outage line

866-835-2832

Important Dates

July

CVEA Offices Closed: The CVEA offices will be closed Tuesday, July 4, 2023, for Independence Day

CVEA Board Meeting: The July meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m. Thursday, July 20, 2023, in Valdez

August

CVEA Member Tour: The CVEA Member Tour will take place in Valdez, Saturday, August 12, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; email Sarah at sjorgensonowen@cvea.org to register by Thursday, August 27 (advanced registration required)

CVEA Community Foundation Contribution Request Deadline:

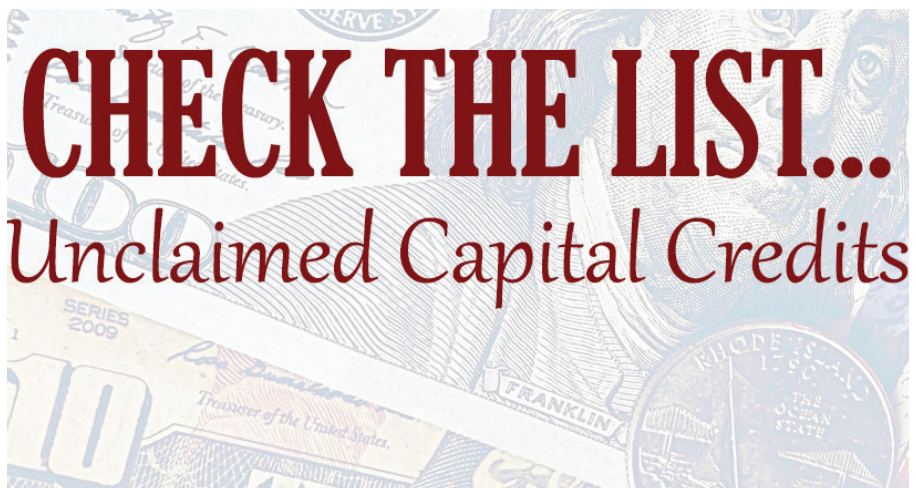
The deadline to submit contribution request forms is 6 p.m. Thursday, August 17, 2023; forms are available under community support at cvea.org

CVEA Board Meeting: The August meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m. Thursday, August 17, 2023, in Glennallen

AK-34



INDEPENDENCE DAY



In December 2022, CVEA made general retirements of capital credits. Some members who were mailed a check did not receive it because CVEA had an invalid mailing address at the time of mailing.

CVEA is currently noticing unclaimed capital credits from the 2022 retirement. The complete list can be found at cvea.org, as a feature on the home page or under the member services section. The list is organized by district and is in alphabetical order.

If you find your name, call 907-822-3211 in the Copper Basin, 907-835-4301 in Valdez, or email customerservice@cvea.org to update your information.

Distributions which remain unclaimed after all noticing requirements have been met will revert to the CVEA Community Foundation.