

**Inside  
Learn How to:**

**Win FREE  
ELECTRICITY  
FOR A YEAR!!**

**Vote for Our Photo  
Contest**

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# Power Lines

Photo by Jean Mershimer of Cherry Township

**Our Greatest Ability**

*by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager*

Anyone who has ever played, coached, or even spectated a sport has likely heard the coach’s cliché “your greatest ability, is your availability”. Now — this could have been used for any number of reasons, like encouraging someone who perhaps wasn’t the best player, getting someone to try harder, and — my favorite — helping you understand the difference between pain and injury. Regardless of the reason, the line was typically used to motivate someone to do what was necessary to play.

During the ongoing pandemic, Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) has made the saying a mantra. We take very seriously the responsibility of being available to maintain the essential service we provide our members and a virus that can infect or require a quarantine of at least two weeks for our entire workforce could make

it impossible for us to meet that responsibility. With that in mind, we have taken measures to ensure that our workforce has limited exposure to the virus and have put protocols in place to mitigate the risk of spread within our team.

During the early stages of the pandemic, when the state had imposed stay at home restrictions, we implemented telework practices and dispatched our field personnel remotely and directly from their respective homes. As things improved and we saw a consistent decrease in cases, we eased some of our restrictions but remained mindful that we must follow conservative practices, relating to working safely, while the virus persisted. Subsequently, the virus began a resurgence but as we had not lifted all restrictions, we remained in a good position to adapt and meet our primary goal of being healthy and

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## *Our Greatest Ability /From Page 1*

available to serve our membership.

My management style has always been one of regular, if not daily, face-to-face interactions with as many of our employees as possible. I have found this effective in aiding real-time communication of issues and even squelching the occasional rumor. The restrictions we have instituted in the workplace make my normal approach unavailable. I will confess, I have found this to be one of the more challenging aspects of the pandemic. With that said, it is a small sacrifice to make in order to demonstrate my commitment to being responsible and doing what I can to aid in keeping our employees healthy and available.

As of the end of July (when I am writing this article) the virus has seen a significant spike in specific areas of the country and a concerning increase in Pennsylvania, including CEC's service territory. We have continued to be conservative in our approach. We are health screening all of those who enter the facility on a daily basis. We are requiring masks be worn in all common areas and when we are interacting with other employees. We are maintaining social distancing and limiting face-to-face contact to only when is necessary. We utilize telework as appropriate to assist in isolating employees who may create a higher risk within the facility. We have maintained platooning of our field personnel in order to mitigate the spread should an outbreak occur. While we don't dictate what employees can and cannot do on their own time,

"We all share the frustration that comes with this unprecedented time, especially given the fact that there is no defined time frame for its end. However, your cooperative employees take seriously the responsibility of being available to serve you — our members."

Matt Boshaw, CEO &  
General Manager

we have requested they use their best judgement in limiting their exposure even when on their time.

We all share the frustration that comes with this unprecedented time, especially given the fact that there is no defined time frame for its end. However, your cooperative employees take seriously the responsibility of being available to serve you — our members. So, we will continue to play with the pain and avoid injury as long as it takes.

If you see one of us out and about and we are wearing a mask that some might think unnecessary, please know we are wearing that mask for you and to maintain our best ability — our availability. Thank you for your continued support and willingness to work with us during this difficult time.



## VOTE

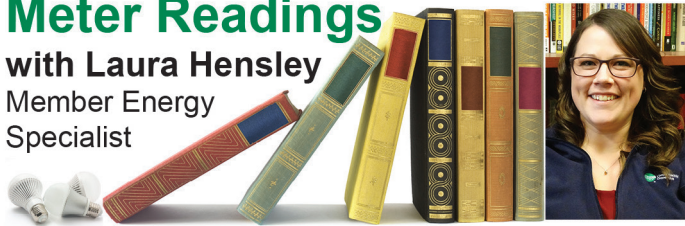
A PROGRAM OF AMERICA'S  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES  
[WWW.VOTE.COOP](http://WWW.VOTE.COOP)

**ELECTION DAY  
NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2020**

## Meter Readings

with Laura Hensley

Member Energy  
Specialist



Back-to-school time seemed like the perfect opportunity to offer a mini lesson in electricity — as recommended through our Power Lines' quiz.

Electricity is the flow of electrical power, or charge, and is one of the most widely used forms of energy. Electricity is both naturally occurring (lightning) and a secondary, energy source produced by converting sources of energy — such as coal, natural gas, nuclear energy, solar energy, and wind energy — into electrical power.

### Common Terms:

- Voltage: The pressure pushing electrons, forcing it to move through a wire, in an electric circuit. A volt is the measurement of electric potential or electromotive force. There are typically 12,500 volts moving through a distribution line to your nearest transformer. Then, the voltage drops down to be used in a residential or commercial setting. There are two 120-volt lines entering your electrical panel.

## Electricity Basics

- Ampere (Amp): The unit of measure for current (the flow of electrons traveling along a conductor). A common residential electric service panel has 100 or 200 amp capacity.

To put it together, imagine your garden hose. Voltage is comparable to water pressure available within the hose. Amps would be the volume of water flowing through the hose.

### Measuring Electricity:

- Watt: The unit of electrical power equal to one ampere under the pressure of one volt — or watts = volts x amps. Watts measure rate of doing work or expending energy, similar to horsepower.

- Kilowatt-hour (kWh): Equal to one kilowatt (1,000 watts) generated or consumed for one hour of time. This is familiar because your bill is based on total kWh consumed in one month.

Of course there is much more to understanding electricity. Since most of us don't remember it all from our fifth-grade science class, try an online search or check out [energy.gov](http://energy.gov) to learn more.

## Rural communities depend on Co-op Voters.

- ✓ Learn about the issues.
- ✓ Find your polling place.
- ✓ Talk to your family and friends.

Go to the polls on November 3, 2020.

Be an active participant in our democracy. Be a Co-op Voter.

[www.vote.coop](http://www.vote.coop)





# Power Lines

## Photo Contest Voting

After 52 members submitted photos for our 2020 Photo Contest, online voting has narrowed it down to five contestants. Please vote from the below photos for the **three** you feel deserve to be our winners! The photo with the most votes will receive first place and a \$100 bill credit, second place a \$50 bill credit, and third a \$25 bill credit. **You can also vote on our website until Oct. 16.** We will announce the winners in late October and in December's Power Lines newsletter. Thank you to all who entered photos!



Photo #1



Photo #2



Photo #3



Photo #4



Photo #5



### Photo Contest Voting Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check the boxes for the three photos you wish to vote for.**

Photo #1

Photo #2

Photo #3

Photo #4

Photo #5

Return this coupon to CEC by Oct. 16, 2020.

## Win FREE ELECTRICITY FOR A YEAR or a Visa Gift Card!

CEC is dedicated to providing quality service. To effectively do that, we need member feedback. That's why we're asking you to take part in an electronic, member satisfaction survey. The process should only take a couple minutes to complete.

The survey will help us gather your thoughts and opinions, and better serve you. It will determine member satisfaction for a variety of topics from across our seven-county service territory. The results will be used for future goal planning.

Members who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win FREE ELECTRICITY FOR A YEAR or a VISA gift card. We are giving away two \$50 Visa gift cards, two \$100 Visa gift cards, two \$200 Visa gift cards,

and a grand prize of one year's worth of electricity — valued up to \$1,500\*.

**Visit [www.central.coop/survey](http://www.central.coop/survey) to take the survey.** If you don't have access to the Internet, please contact us to make alternative arrangements. **Survey entries must be received by Nov. 20 to qualify for prizes.**

Only CEC members can complete the survey and qualify for the prize drawing.

Thank you in advance for giving us the opportunity to learn how to serve you better.



*\*\$1,500 is based on the average, annual electricity costs of an average, CEC residential-member. Prize must be redeemed for energy use by Dec. 31, 2021.*



## The Safety Linke



*Don't be a stranger, to electrical danger.*

### Emergency Services: How To



Manager of Safety & Loss Control

**Dylan Linke**

This month marks the 19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11 (September 11<sup>th</sup>) — a day we'll remember forever.

I felt it appropriate that we take this time to talk about another 9/11 — Calling 9-1-1. We all know the number, but do we all know how to best use it?

Here are some guidelines for if you ever need to call for emergency services.

- Stay calm. It's important to take a deep breath and not get overly excited. The dispatcher will try to move things along quickly, but calmly.
- Know the location of the emergency and the number you are calling from. Even though many 9-1-1 centers are able to see your location on the computer screen, they are still required to confirm the information.

- Wait for the dispatcher to ask questions, then answer clearly and calmly.
- Let the dispatcher guide the conversation. They are typing the information into a computer and it may seem to be taking forever. However, there is a good chance that emergency services have already been sent.
- Follow all directions. In some cases, the dispatcher will give you directions. Listen carefully, follow each step exactly, and ask for clarification if you do not understand.
- Keep your eyes open. You may be asked to describe parts of the scene.
- Do not hang up until directed to do so.
- Stay at the scene until help arrives.

## Recipe of the Month

### Chili Con Queso Bites

**Ingredients:**

- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup Pace Picante Sauce or thick and chunky salsa
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons chili powder
- 1-1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese (6 ounces)
- 1 green onion, chopped (about 2 tablespoons)

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Grease muffin pan (for 24 muffins) — set aside. Mix eggs, picante sauce, flour, and chili powder in a bowl. Stir in cheese and onion. Spoon about one tablespoon mixture into each muffin slot. Bake 10 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm or at room temperature with sour cream.

*Thank you to Marie Cherrison  
for submitting this recipe!*

## CEC Management Team

Matthew P. Boshaw  
CEO & General Manager

Chester Conti  
Director of Finance and  
Accounting/CFO

Christopher W. Kossman  
Director of Information Technology

Stephanie Deal  
Director of Human Resources

Fred E. Terwilliger  
Assistant General Manager/COO

Lisa A. Hoover  
Director of Member Services

## Read Power Lines and Win!

Last Issue's Winner:

**Clinton Salsgiver of Worthington**

Last Issue's E-Winner:

**Jennifer Spence of Grove City**

Read Power Lines for a chance to win a \$25 credit on your monthly electric bill by completing and returning the quiz below. You can also have a chance at another \$25 bill credit by submitting a quiz online at [www.central.coop](http://www.central.coop).

If you don't have access to the Internet, indicate that on the quiz and we'll also enter you in the online drawing. Just complete and enclose the quiz and personal information below and return it with your monthly payment.

**1. True or False:** When calling 9-1-1, it is not important to wait until you're told to hang up.  
**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. True or False:** Electricity is the flow of electrical power.  
**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**3. True or False:** You have a chance at winning a variety of prizes by completing CEC's online, member satisfaction survey by Nov. 20.  
**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How are we doing?** (no wrong answer)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acct. #:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Central Electric Cooperative**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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