# **Beyond the Wire**



**Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.** 

## Get Involved! Join Us at the Annual Meeting

Electric cooperatives, like Central Valley Electric (CVE), are unique among utility providers. Unlike investorowned utilities, co-ops are owned and governed by the people they serve – the member-owners. One of the most important ways members can exercise that ownership and ensure the cooperative's success in by participating in the annual meeting.

The annual meeting is more than just a business requirement – it's a celebration of community and cooperation. Each member of CVE has an equal voice and vote, regardless of the amount of electricity they use. The annual meeting offers members the opportunity to connect directly with CVE leadership, learn about the organization's accomplishments from the past year, and help shape its future.

The annual meeting is also where the membership elects board members. Voting for board members helps to ensure CVE's board of directors reflects the interests

and values of our communities. This democtractic process keeps decision-making local and accountable, reinforcing the cooperative's "member-owned, membergoverned" model.

Participation in CVE's annual meeting strengthens the cooperative from the inside out. When members attend, vote, and engage, they ensure the co-op remains responsive, responsible, and resilient. It's an opportunity to celebrate the cooperative difference and reaffirm our shared commitment to providing safe, reliable, and affordable power.

The annual meeting is the heart of cooperative democracy. It empowers members, fosters transparency, and keeps decision-making rooted in the communities we serve. When members take the time to attend, they aren't just observing the process – they're shaping CVE's future. Please make plans to attend CVE's annual meeting on Saturday, February 28, 2026. Thank you.



#### **CVE to Use Automated Calls**

Central Valley Electric Cooperative recently added software that will allow us to send automated voice messages to your phone.

We will use this system to send you important messages about the co-op and your account. Like past-due accounts, 48hour disconnect notices, planned outages, and special projects that my be underway in your area. We will also send messages about upcoming events, like our annual meeting.

If you receive an automated voice message about your bill, at the end of the message, you will have

CVE will be closed



the option to "Pay Now" and you will be transferred to a secure line where you can make a payment.

Rest assured that you can always call our office at 575-746-3571, and a live customer service representative will answer the call and assist you.



### Wednesday, December 24, & Thursday, December 25, to celebrate Christmas with our families. Thank you.

#### **CVE to Retire Idle Power Lines**

Retiring idle power lines is a proactive measure that Central Valley Electric Cooperative takes to reduce the risk of wildfires by eliminating unnecessary electrical infrastructure that could become an ignition source. This approach enhances public safety and environmental protection by demonstrating responsible system management and risk mitigation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 575-746-3571.

## Bright Lights, Safe Nights Use outdoor-rated lights with UL safety labels. Plug into GFCI outlets for shock protection. • Stay at least 10 feet from power lines

- when hanging lights.
- Don't hang lights with tacks, nails or screws - use clips instead.
- Keep cords away from water and snow.
- Inspect for damage like broken sockets or frayed cords.
- Don't overload extension cords or outlets.
- Turn off lights before bed or when away; a timer makes it easy.



#### **Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

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Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Monday - Friday)