

Watt's New

JULY 2025



Vernon Electric Cooperative

"Information for our members."

Monthly Co-op



June Trivia:

True or False: Digger's Hotline will locate underground wires between the meter and your house and/or buildings?

Answer: False – Digger's Hotline will only locate lines owned by the utilities. Wires and electrical equipment from the meter to your house and/or buildings belong to you. To have your personal wires located you must call an electrician with locating equipment – see our website for some local electricians who provide this service.

July Trivia:

True or False – The most common cause of "blinks" (momentary outages lasting just a few seconds) are caused by faulty electrical equipment.

(See next month's newsletter for answer.)

Stronger Together as Member Appreciation Picnic Comes to Readstown

Last month VEC and VernonCom cooperated to bring a member appreciation picnic to the Village of Readstown. The event took place on June 11 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm at the tourist park where the cooperatives served hamburgers, hot dogs, macaroni salad, chips and cookies. Members from all over took



CEOs, Garin Mayer from VernonCom, and Craig Buros from VEC, cook up some burgers for members.

advantage of the great weather to engage in casual conversation with employees and directors of both organizations while enjoying the meal.



"The member appreciation picnic on June 11th in Readstown was truly a wonderful day! It was an absolute honor to partner with Vernon Electric and show our members how much we appreciate them. There was nothing quite like the pleasure of entertaining and catching up with old friends on such a beautiful day". – VernonCom Board President Trudy Wallin

"The picnic was a great opportunity for us to join with VernonCom to host a picnic for all of our members. The weather was beautiful and we enjoyed visiting with everyone." Thank you for coming! – VEC Board Chair Bernadine Hornby

National Night Out 2025

Get ready for an exciting evening of fun, community, and connection at National Night Out 2025! Mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 5th, and join us in celebrating the spirit of unity and safety in our neighborhoods.

National Night Out is a wonderful opportunity to meet your local first responders, explore emergency vehicles, and participate in a variety of family-friendly activities. It's a chance for neighbors to come together, strengthen community bonds, and build partnerships that contribute to a safer environment for everyone.

We'll see you at National Night Out on August 5 at the Vernon County Fairgrounds.



MEAT GIVEAWAY

Vernon Electric's 4th Annual Meat Giveaway: Supporting Our Community and Fairgrounds

The Vernon Electric Meat Giveaway is already going strong and continues to make a significant impact in supporting the improvements at the Vernon County Fairgrounds. Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of our members, this initiative has already raised over \$2,000, significantly contributing to the much-needed improvements to the livestock buildings. These enhancements aim to enrich the fair experience for local youth, families, and agricultural programs, ensuring that Vernon County's agricultural heritage continues to thrive.

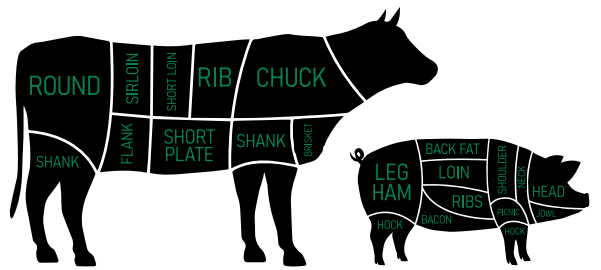
How to participate:

We invite you to stop by our office to enter the giveaway. Here's how you can support the cause:

\$1.00 donation = 1 ticket

\$5.00 donation = 6 tickets

Every dollar raised goes directly to fairground improvements, making a tangible difference in our community. After the Vernon County Fair, four lucky



winners will receive a \$100 gift certificate to a local meat locker, perfect for stocking up on quality meat while supporting local businesses.

Additionally, join us at National Night Out at our booth for a chance to win two Vernon County Fair Passes by entering the meat raffle!

We encourage everyone to participate and help us celebrate the agricultural roots that make Vernon County so special. Your contributions not only support the fairgrounds but also strengthen the community bonds that define our region. Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

Summer Shift: Small Steps for Savings

When members save energy, they tend to save money. However, there is always something in our homes using electricity – whether to cool the home, turn on the lights or run appliances. While using electricity is inevitable, HOW members choose to use it can be impactful.

The goal of the Summer Shift program is to shift non-essential electricity use to after 8 p.m., June through August. These are times when electricity use is not at its peak and, therefore, is not as expensive. So, how does Summer Shift work?

If a member shifts their electricity use, they may not necessarily save energy. They could use the same amount of electricity, but at a different time of the day. That is still beneficial because it means Vernon Electric's wholesale power provider – Dairyland Power Cooperative – did not have to purchase as much power when electricity costs were more expensive. When the cooperative saves, so do members.

The price of electricity purchased on the grid is always changing, based on the need for electricity balanced with available generation resources. As need – or demand – rises during the day, the price of electricity increases as more generation resources (power plants, solar arrays, etc.) are needed to power homes, businesses and other buildings or devices. When temperatures cool and things quiet down for the night, electricity demand drops, as do prices for electricity. When a member chooses to shift their electricity use, it helps spread electricity use throughout the day. The less electricity cooperative members use when prices are at their highest, the more stable Vernon Electric Co-op can keep our retail rates. The more members who choose to participate, the more impactful these savings become.

Tips:

- Set your thermostat to 78 degrees (or a level that is comfortable for the home, but a few degrees higher than normal). Closing curtains and shades during the day will help the home feel cooler, longer. If you're at home during the day, a ceiling fan or table fan throughout the afternoon will help circulate air.
- Set up a schedule for your smart thermostat and smart lighting options, ensuring a minimal amount of energy is used between 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
- Charge electric vehicles overnight, after 9 p.m.
- Set the water heater to 120 degrees
- Washing dishes in an ENERGY STAR dishwasher instead of by hand can save a home \$111 per year, according to some studies
- Open the dishwasher after the wash cycle to let dishes air dry instead of using the built-in electric heater

Contact Vernon Electric Co-op, your trusted energy advisor, to learn more!

