

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**MUCH-LOVED
HOLIDAY
TRADITIONS
AND MEMORIES**
PAGE 2

**FIBER INTERNET
TO HOME
UPDATE**
PAGE 3

**GET YOUR
FRIDGE
HOLIDAY
READY**
PAGE 4

CANADIAN VALLEY ELECTRALITE

Think 'Smart' this Holiday Season and Save Money Year-Round

This holiday season, think “smart” and consider giving a loved one (or yourself) a gift that keeps on giving. Many smart devices reduce home energy use, which can put a little more jingle in your pocket. A special note from Canadian Valley Electric COO, Josh Holt: “Wishing you joyous holidays filled with energy-efficient moments that not only brighten your celebrations but also lighten your energy bills!”

Consider these five energy-saving smart gadgets while shopping this holiday season:

- **Smart thermostats** learn users’ schedules and the temperatures they prefer to keep their home. It then remembers these temperatures while a home is occupied and adjusts to a more energy-saving setting when it’s not to avoid heating and cooling an empty home. Smart thermostats also feature apps that let family members change the temperature from anywhere in the world using a phone or other mobile device. Owners may also use the app to see how much energy is used and why, and then use that information to make appropriate adjustments to their home energy usage.
- **Smart lighting** saves energy in multiple ways. Smart lightbulbs last longer and use less power. Smart lighting systems also have scheduled timers and allow you to remotely turn the lights off (a great feature if you have loved ones who constantly leave the lights on).
- **Virtual assistants**, like Siri or Alexa, can connect to smart thermostats, smart lights, entertainment center

devices, and others. With a few spoken words, virtual assistants can turn lights, appliances, and other devices off and on, activate and deactivate security systems, shut or open a garage door, and more. These home automation devices allow homeowners to control their appliances and create daily smart-home routines through smartphone apps, creating many new ways to save energy. For example, owners can schedule kitchen appliances, such as dishwashers and coffee makers, to run while they are out of the house or to operate at a specific time every day.

- **Thermal Leak Detectors** use infrared sensors to detect energy-draining drafts so they can be repaired (filled) to make your home more energy efficient. Thermal imaging accessories now exist for smartphones as well, converting them into lightweight, portable thermal leak detectors. Repairing thermal leaks in a home can save up to 20% in heating and cooling costs.
- **Smart power strips and surge protectors** are a less expensive option to gain some smart technology without upgrading all appliances and devices to smart models. Smarter devices that can be used independently of an all-smart home, the strips can detect when a device is in standby mode and cut its power supply. Using smart power strips can reduce a home’s overall energy usage, which equates to savings on your energy bill.

Be sure to visit our website at <https://www.mycvec.coop/reduce-energy> for more energy-saving tips!



A Message from
Canadian Valley Electric CEO

Gary Highley

The Holiday Season is a Time of Much-Loved Family Traditions and Memories

The Warmth of the Holidays

As we approach the holiday season, a time of warmth and togetherness, we reflect on the cherished traditions that have illuminated our homes and hearts for generations. Before electricity was standard in rural America, we relied on more personal, deeply connected traditions. As I write this, I can smell the food cooking and laughter at my grandmother’s jokes as she prepares to play hymns on her well-worn upright piano.

Homemade Delights and Hearth-Cooked Feasts

Without the conveniences of electric appliances, holiday meals were a labor of love, prepared by the skillful hands of our ancestors. Ovens and stoves were replaced by open hearths, where delicious feasts were roasted, baked, and simmered in cast-iron pots. These traditional dishes brought families together, and the aroma of roasting meats and freshly baked bread wafted through the air.

Family Storytelling and Parlor Entertainment

Without television and streaming services, the holiday season was a time for storytelling and live entertainment. Families gathered in the parlor, where tales of past adventures and local legends were shared. Musicians played melodies on their acoustic instruments, and games and charades provided joyous amusement.

A Warm and Cozy Holiday Season

Keeping warm during the cold winter months was a necessity, and many homes were fitted with wood-burning stoves. Families would huddle around these stoves, bundled in blankets, and enjoy the radiant heat while sharing stories and memories. It was a time when the simple pleasures of life held immense value.

As we celebrate the traditions of old, we honor the enduring spirit of togetherness and the enduring glow of tradition that will forever light up our holidays. Where electricity has aided us with many modern conveniences, it is not the Facetime or Skype app that brings warmth to the holidays, but the togetherness of families and those long-enduring traditions.

We wish you and your loved ones a warm, joyous, and nostalgically magical holiday season.

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Website: www.mycvec.coop



Business Hours

Seminole Office -

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

Eufaula Office -

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday

Seminole Warehouse -

7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday - Friday

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Gary Highley

Chief Executive Officer

Did You Know?

Electric co-ops power 56% of the nation's landmass.



*Improve Life,
 Serve Community*

Fiber Internet to the Home Update

CVEC Fiber is excited to give you a progress update about our fiber build-out plan!

In an age where high-speed internet connectivity is as vital as any utility service, CVEC Fiber continues to make strides towards its goal of connecting rural communities to fast and reliable fiber internet access. CVEC Fiber's recent update on its fiber-to-the-home build-out plan is excellent news for those eagerly awaiting access to a world of opportunities right from their homes.

CVEC Fiber has made substantial progress in its fiber-to-the-home build-out plan over the past year. We have successfully connected numerous communities to our fiber-optic network, offering residents access to high-speed internet services. Phase 2 will be completed by the end of the year, and phase 3 of the build-out plan is in full swing! CVEC Fiber has opened four areas in Prague, and they want to give you some insight into what is coming next! Please note it is hard to provide specific time-frames.

“We have built nearly 2,200 miles of fiber at this point of the project. As we continue to build out, we will be entering some of the most rural areas

of CVEC’s service territory,” states Neil Wildman, Outside Plant Supervisor, CVEC Fiber. “I’m excited that these areas will soon be able to enjoy fast and reliable connectivity.”

As CVEC Fiber expands its network, residents

can anticipate a seamless transition to faster, more reliable internet access. This will open the door to many opportunities, including remote work, online learning, e-commerce, and telehealth services. Subscribers will also enjoy streaming their favorite shows, online gaming, and connecting with family and friends. CVEC’s Fiber-optic cables are future-proof and capable of accommodating emerging technologies, which ensures CVEC Fiber subscribers



stay at the cutting edge of the digital world. The fiber-to-the-home build-out plan is a clear testament to CVEC Fiber’s dedication to narrowing the digital divide, one home at a time, that promises to Improve Life and Serve Community. As CVEC Fiber continues to bring high-speed internet to the doorsteps of rural residents, the future of rural Oklahoma is indeed looking brighter.

CVEC Fiber is coming to these locations in 2024:

** In no particular order*

- Asher
- Boley
- Bowlegs
- East Macomb
- East Seminole
- Holdenville
- North Wewoka
- Paden
- South Seminole
- South Wewoka
- Tribbey
- Wanette
- West Seminole

ELECTRALITE CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified Ads Must be Submitted to

<https://www.mycvec.coop/submit-an-ad>

Ads must be received by the first of each month



AUTOMOBILES & BIKES

flooring, approx. 150 sq. ft., \$50; Whirlpool top loader washer/dryer stack, only 1 year old, \$750, 405-761-9046.

FARM & RANCH

Registered Hereford bulls, 9-20 mos. old, both polled and horned, growthy, low birth-weight, and out of productive, efficient, good-milking dams, \$1,800-\$3,500; some replacement females also available, call or text 405-210-8794.

Antique bottle capper w/caps, \$35.; kerosene railroad compartment heater, \$100; railroad spike puller, \$100; bottle jack, \$50; new 1:18 model Corvette cars for Christmas gifts, \$35 ea.; collectors bank, patented Jan. 1904, \$25, 405-659-5047.

Tubular farm gate, 15.5' long x 4' 5" tall, \$125; 4 tubular stock panels, 9' 9" x 4' 11", \$75 ea., 405-454-0510.

Spring/Fall are ideal times to plant Vitrex trees for pollinators, we sell saplings to mature trees, we also rescue/remove honey bees, 405-432-9352.

HOME & LAND

MISCELLANEOUS

Black hard Tonneau cover for short-bed pickup, \$800; 2 working trolling motors, \$40; electric smoker, \$20; oak wood

Brown leather Barcalounger recliner, \$75; two 6' chain link gates, \$50; old teacher's desk, \$20; 12 new 24% lead crystal glasses, \$25; 20 old hub caps, \$3 ea., or all for \$25, 405-279-3897.

Get Your Refrigerator Ready for the Holidays

As the holidays approach, your refrigerator is probably getting full.

If your fridge is more than a decade old, the holidays might be too much for it.

Consider replacing your old fridge before the holidays. And this time, buy one that bears the Energy Star label, means it uses at least 15% less energy than federal standards require, and 40% less than one that's been around for a decade or more, according to the Department of Energy.

Yet more than 60 million households have refrigerators that are more than 10 years old, DOE says. By replacing it with a new, energy-efficient model, you could save up to \$300 in electricity charges over its lifetime.

When shopping for a new refrigerator or freezer, read the EnergyGuide label. It tells you how many kiloWatt-hours of electricity the unit will consume over a year of operation. The smaller the number, the better. Look for refrigerators that have a freezer on the bottom or the top, as side-by-side designs consume more energy. Chest freezers are typically better insulated than upright models.

ENERGIZE OKLAHOMA

A PODCAST POWERED BY
Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative

Listen in on Tuesday, December 26 when Communications Coordinator Kaci Dennis discusses holiday energy efficiency and Christmas traditions with CVEC employees.

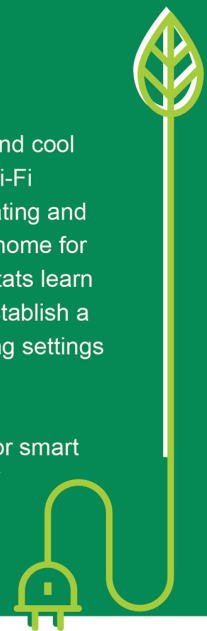
Energize Oklahoma can be found on our Facebook page or at <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1906989> the last Tuesday of each month. It is also available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and iHeart Radio apps.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Get smart with a better way to heat and cool your home! Smart thermostats are Wi-Fi enabled and automatically adjust heating and cooling temperature settings in your home for optimal performance. Smart thermostats learn your temperature preferences and establish a schedule that adjusts to energy-saving settings when you're asleep or away.

For maximum energy savings, look for smart thermostat models with the ENERGY STAR® label.

Source: Dept. of Energy



CVEC offices will be closed **Monday, Dec. 25 and Tuesday, Dec. 26** for the Christmas holiday, and **Monday, Jan. 1** in celebration of the new year.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!