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# CANADIAN VALLEY ELECTRALITE

## Three Ways to Electrify Your Lawn Care

If you're in the market to upgrade your lawn care equipment, you may want to consider electric (or battery-powered) options.

Gas-powered lawn mowers and trimmers may be your go-to, but times they are a changin'. Electric lawn care equipment options are becoming more popular than ever, offering consumers faster charging times, longer battery life and quieter, greener products compared to their gas-powered counterparts.

Here are three ways you can electrify your lawn care this spring.

### Electric Lawn Mowers

Electric lawn mowers have come a long way over the last few years. Early models required corded connections, which were tricky to manage—but the cord has been cut. Newer cordless electric mowers are certainly more expensive than gas-powered mowers, but much of the upfront cost can be recovered since electricity is a less expensive fuel than gas, and

electric engines generally require less maintenance than gas engines. Cordless electric mowers typically range from \$200 to \$500.

Electric mowers are suitable for most lawn care needs, with batteries that typically require about one to two hours to fully charge, and most batteries can run for a full hour. That said, if you have a large yard (half an acre or larger), a gas-powered option may be best to suit your needs.

### Electric Trimmers

Cordless electric string trimmers are a great option for most lawns. Traditionally, like lawn mowers, string trimmers have typically been powered by gas. But new versions of electric trimmers are improving and are now considered worthy competitors of gas-powered models.

Cordless electric trimmers are much quieter and easier to use, but most batteries last about 30 to 45 minutes. So, if you have a lot of space to trim, you may



**CVEC offices will be closed Friday, July 3 to allow our employees and their families to celebrate the Independence Day holiday.**

Service personnel will be on duty throughout the holiday weekend should you experience an interruption in your electric service.



want to consider a back-up battery or plan to work in short bursts. If you're interested in purchasing an electric trimmer, the main factors to consider are the battery's life, charge time and power. Costs can vary depending on your needs, but you can find a quality version for about \$100.

### Electric Leaf Blowers

After cutting and trimming your lawn, you'll need to clear off those walkways and patios for the finishing touch. If you don't want to deal with the maintenance of a gas-powered blower or the restraints of a corded blower, a cordless 605070700 electric version is a great option.

Cordless electric leaf blowers are lightweight and easy to maneuver, but they

don't offer quite as much power as gas-powered and corded blowers. If your leaf blowing and clearing needs are minimal, a cordless electric leaf blower can get the job done. Costs for a cordless electric blower vary depending on power and battery quality, but you can purchase a dependable model for about \$150 and up.

If you're looking to electrify your lawn care equipment, be sure to do your homework. Search online for the latest reviews, and check trusted websites like ConsumerReports.org. With a little research, you'll be well on your way to Lawn of the Month – with less maintenance, hassle and noise (and your neighbors will thank you!).

**P.O. Box 751 Seminole, OK 74818**

Serving Hughes, Lincoln, McIntosh, Okfuskee, Pottawatomie, Seminole & portions of Oklahoma, Cleveland & Creek counties

## Main Office and Headquarters

Interstate 40 at the Prague/Seminole Exit

Area Office - 35 W. JC Watts Street, Eufaula

**Office Hours - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday**

### Board of Trustees

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<b>Telephone Numbers</b>	Seminole.....	(405) 382-3680
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	Eufaula.....	(918) 689-3232
	Prague.....	(405) 567-3206
	Toll-free.....	(877) 382-3680

### IN CASE OF TROUBLE

1. Check for blown fuse or tripped circuit breakers.
2. Check with your neighbors. Ask if their electricity is off and if they have reported it.
3. If not, call the office or download the Smarthub app to report the trouble.

	<u>Read</u>	<u>Billing date</u>	
Cycle 1	26th-31st	5th	1-1/2% penalty
Cycle 2	6th-11th	15th	applied 20 days
Cycle 3	16th-21st	25th	after billing date

## Operating Statistics for April

	2019	2020
Operating Revenues	\$4,446,874	\$4,589,820
Wholesale Cost of Power	\$3,427,970	\$3,173,314
Percentage WPC is of Revenue	77.09	69.14
Consumers per Mile of Line	4.77	4.82
Revenue per Mile of Line	\$847.51	\$873.09
KW Peak Demand - This month	128,413	126,598
Billing kW demand	104,290	105,474
KW Peak Demand - YTD	171,445	159,902
KWh Purchased - This month	57,154,255	54,279,859
Taxes Paid	\$104,805	\$98,438
Interest on Long Term Debt	\$176,628	\$170,360
System Load Factor	61.8	59.5

### New Services Staked in May

During the month of May, 53 new services were staked. The total new services staked in 2020 is 203. This compares to 160 for the same period in 2019.

# Don't Let Summer Heat Spoil Family Fun

Even as restaurants start to reopen and take-out food is available everywhere, home is where the cookouts happen. Moving dinner outdoors is a great way to save energy in the summer.

**Firing up a charcoal grill uses zero electricity.** Other ways to keep energy bills down at dinnertime:

**Get creative with cold side dishes.** Learn how to make gazpacho, colorful salads that mix fruit with raw veggies, and dips featuring avocados, garbanzo beans or tomato bases.

**Grill veggies outdoors rather than steaming them on the stove.** Asparagus, corn-on-cob and skewer of mushrooms, onions, tomatoes and zucchini all taste better in the summer when they're grilled.

**Make potato salad or pasta salad in large batches.** That way, you only have to boil the ingredients on the stovetop once for a supply that can last over several dinners.

**Skip the baking.** Order fresh bread and desserts from a nearby bakery to show your support for local businesses and keep your own oven closed for the season.

### Regional Office Hours

Eufaula	Seminole	Seminole Warehouse
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

## OPERATION ROUND-UP

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BEGINNING BALANCE 4/30/20	\$201,352.99
DEPOSITS	8,684.01
INTEREST INCOME	3.36
CHECKS ISSUED	
APPROVED, NOT YET PAID	-9,299.20
BALANCE 5/31/20	\$200,741.16

CVEC Foundation administers and disburses funds collected through CVEC's Operation Round-Up Program.

# Run Ceiling Fans to Save Energy

Ceiling fans don't actually cool the air in a room. Instead, they circulate the air, so anyone who is in the room while one is running will feel a sort of breeze. That makes the person feel cooler.

So there's no point in running a ceiling fan in an empty room.

But for rooms that are usually occupied, a ceiling fan can make the room feel like it's up to 8 degrees cooler than a room without one. And because the fan circulates cool air, it gives the air conditioning system a break.

In fact, with a ceiling fan running, you can turn your thermostat up by about 4 degrees without sacrificing comfort, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

A few tips for getting the most energy savings from ceiling fans:

- Rotate the direction that the fan blades spin when the weather warms up. In the summer, ceiling fans should rotate counter-clockwise. That way,

the blades push cool air down into the room. In the winter, they should rotate clockwise, to draw warm air up to the ceiling and recirculate it. The rotation isn't automatic; you have to manually flip a switch on most models.

- Hang the fan seven to nine feet above the floor and about a foot below the ceiling.
- Fan blades should be at least eight inches away from the ceiling and 18 inches from the walls.
- Large ceiling fans move more air than small ones. For a large room, choose a large fan.
- Likewise, large fan blades move the air around more forcefully. So if you're installing one in a home office or another room where you keep loose papers, choose one with small blades.
- Generally, the more expensive the fan, the quieter it runs.
- Fans with an Energy Star label are about 20 percent more efficient than standard models.

## How to Clean Your Thermostat

If we've learned one thing from the pandemic, it's how important it is to keep surfaces clean.

At this time of year, one of the most-touched surfaces in your home just might be the air conditioner's thermostat.

Killing germs on the thermostat's surface is only one reason to regularly clean it, however. Often, a malfunctioning thermostat is simply dirty.

Dirt can affect the way the thermostat calibrates, which means it has to use more energy than normal to maintain a comfortable temperature in your

home. In other words, a clean thermostat is a more energy-efficient thermostat.

Cleaning your thermostat when the seasons change from warm to cool and then again when they change back can extend the life of the device as well.

Here's how to clean your thermostat:

- Remove the cover. Depending on the model you have in your home, you might have to remove screws, but most covers simply snap off.
- Using a clean, soft paintbrush and a gentle touch, dust the

inner workings of the thermostat. For grime or debris at points where the electronic components touch, slide an open dollar bill like dental floss between them to loosen and remove it. An alternative tool is compressed air.

- Inspect the device for loose or corroded wires. If you find them, call an electrician. Repairing a thermostat is not a do-it-yourself job.
- Replace the batteries.
- Dust the cover and then put it back on.

Note that smart thermostats do not need interior cleaning.

**AUTOMOBILES & BIKES**

2014 Honda Rancher 4-wheeler, 4-wheel drive, auto shift, electronic, new tires, \$4,600, 405-313-9099.

**FARM & RANCH**

**HOME & LAND**

Log home on 35 acres w/pond, all electric w/wood-burning fireplace insert, beautiful view, 405-379-3977, 405-221-1325 - Jack Sherry, 309-221-2770 - James Parrott.

For sale or trade: 20 acres and nice house, 1,876 sq. ft., 2 car garage, 405-878-6697.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Cedar tree clearing \$85/hr., brush mowing, \$40/hr., hay hauling, \$5/ bale, dirt work/driveways, \$75/hr., other services available, call or text 405-642-9356.

Stainless steel welding rods, \$20; roping ropes, \$10 ea.; Hanson scales, \$20; #40 Dazey churn, \$100; Chambers antique gas stove, \$300; Craftsman belt and 6" disc sander on stand, \$775, 405-659-5047.

Dutchman 25' Sport Lite travel trailer, CHA, refrigerator, range, oversize bathroom, TV, anti-sway bars, sleeps 6, very clean, ready to pull, \$5,000 cash accepted, pictures available upon request, call for viewing, 405-317-1520.

1959 Cessna 172 airplane, low time, frame and new engine, always hangared with new annual, \$29,000 firm, 405-631-1505.

Whirlpool washer and dryer, \$200; 110-volt AC, \$75; refrigerator, \$100; 220-volt AC, \$150; electric cook stove, \$100, 405-275-3419.

Reese 5th-wheel trailer hitch, 16K lb., \$200 OBO; pickup bed cover for a 2006 Dodge truck, black, \$20, 405-740-3168.

500-gallon pecan tree sprayer and solar-powered bird guard, (repels crows and jays) covers approx. 30 acres, \$4,000 for both, 405-623-0613.

3-ton AC and heat unit, \$600; 22 hp, 48", zero-radius Husqvarna mower, \$1,500, 405-567-2635.

2008 Chevy Impala parts; 2 tires mounted and balanced less than 1,000 miles, \$100 ea., 405-303-0490, leave message.

2008 31' travel trailer w/12' slide, \$3,000; 3 male Great Pyrenees/ Anatolian puppies born 2-6-2020, reduced to \$75 ea.; small 3' chest-type freezer, \$95; 5' oval-shaped wooden dinette table & 4 chairs, \$200; 8' front-loader bucket, \$500; 6' dresser w/mirror, \$50; couch, \$50; Kenmore lg. load washer & dryer, \$150, 405-301-0945.

Heavy-duty metal 3" pipe saw horse, 8' long, 26" tall, \$40; 1/4" metal tow cable, 70' long, \$15; about 100 antique bricks, en-scribed Standard or Coffeeyville VB & TCO, 50¢ ea., take one or all, Harrah, 405-454-0510.

Cedar tree removal, mulching, \$80/hr., tree-trimming/removal, stump grinding, other services available, call or text, 405-550-9756.

WANTED - two plots at Dale Cemetery, 405-454-0556.

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**Since we have members living in different area codes, please remember to include the area code on phone numbers in your classified ads.**  
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**ELECTRALITE CLASSIFIED ADS**

- Each CVEC member family is limited to ONE free classified ad per month.
- Length of the ad cannot exceed space provided below. Ads run only one time
- and must be resubmitted to appear in the next edition. **Return the completed form to P. O. Box 751, Seminole, OK 74818. Forms may also be dropped off at either office location, or email your ad to editor@mycvec.coop.**
- **Ads must be received by the 5th of each month; if received after the deadline they will be printed in the next issue.**

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*All information below must be completed.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Account # \_\_\_\_\_


Phone # \_\_\_\_\_



**Find Your Account Number and Win \$25**

**Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month**

Spending more time at home? Try an online energy audit to assess the overall efficiency of your home. Visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov), then enter "home energy yardstick" in the search box to get started!



If you find your account number hidden in this issue of *The ElectraLite*, you could win \$25. The account number must be your own. Report finding the number to us by the 15th of the month. You need to report finding it by phone, mail or in person.