



# Beyond the Wire

Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.



## Safety First Safety ALWAYS!

When you think of safety at an electric cooperative you probably think of the lineman working around high voltage electricity, and while keeping them safe is one of Central Valley Electric Cooperative's top priorities, safety at the co-op has evolved into so much more.

In this ever-changing world we live in, safety is not just about keeping our employees safe, but it's also about cyber safety and security, COVID safety, and keeping the public safe. Here are some ways the co-op handles safety:

### Employee Safety:

Employee safety at CVE is a top priority, because at the end of the day we want everyone to go home. To keep employees safe, monthly safety meetings are held. The New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association is contracted with the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives to provide the training for these monthly safety meetings, not just for CVE, but for other electric cooperatives throughout the state as well. These meetings cover everything from bucket truck rescue, and ladder safety, to blood borne pathogens, back safety, driving safety, and much more. With COVID restrictions in place, monthly safety meetings are being conducted on Zoom.

Employees out in the field also conduct tailgate meetings before every job. These tailgates allow the foremen to discuss the job at hand and outline any potential safety issues or site-specific obstacles that might pose a risk.

### Cyber Safety:

Cyber safety and security are also important to the co-op. Employees go through annual security and safety awareness training to educate them on how to identify suspicious emails and phone calls where outside cyber attackers could be phishing for private and personal information. The co-op also has a third-party company conduct annual vulnerability assessments to see where cyber security and safety can be improved. CVE's billing and accounting software provider takes all necessary measures to keep both the co-op and the member's information secure. So, rest assured that your private information is kept safe.

### COVID Safety:

In an effort to keep both our employees and anyone who comes into our facility safe, we have all COVID safe practices in place. Hand sanitizer and masks are available throughout our building, and masks were distributed to all CVE employees. Also, hand sanitizer is provided for all CVE vehicles. Employees in the office wear masks and social distance whenever they are around other employees or visitors to the building. Outside employee's social distance as best they can and still get the job done. We also had protective glass installed in our lobby area, and our building is sanitized on a regular basis.

### Public Safety:

Keeping the public safe is also very important to CVE. All construction is built to the current electrical codes and laws. We routinely have third-party companies audit different construction jobs to make sure they meet current codes and laws.

Education is also a big part of CVE's public safety. CVE provides free electrical safety demonstrations to school kids, businesses, and organizations. If you would like an educational electrical safety demonstration, please give us a call. At this time, we can only provide demonstrations that meet COVID restrictions set forth by the current health order.

In 2020, CVE was presented the Carl M. Turner Safety Award for having a zero-dollar loss ratio in worker's compensation claims for the year 2019. So, our employees take their safety and the safety of their co-worker's very seriously. Safety is an ongoing process here at the co-op, and we are constantly working, training, and finding ways to keep you, and our employees safe. When we say, "**Safety First, Safety Always,**" we mean it.





# Annual Meeting

*Saturday, March 20*

Mark your calendars!

Central Valley Electric Cooperative will hold an Annual Meeting on *Saturday, March 20*. The meeting will be different than normal, and once we work out all of the details you'll be the first to know.

You should receive your annual report in the mail around March 10.

## Look for Annual Meeting Details and Updates:

- Monthly Enchantment magazine
- Monthly Newsletter
- CVE website ([www.CVECOOP.org](http://www.CVECOOP.org))
- CVE Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/CVECOOP](http://www.facebook.com/CVECOOP))

**We look forward to seeing you there, even if it's at a distance.**

NOTE: Annual meeting plans are subject to change and depend on the current health order. All COVID safe practices will be in effect for this event. Thank you.



**College Scholarships Available**  
The CVE Education Foundation is now accepting applications for college scholarships. Scholarships are available to CVE members and their dependents for undergraduate studies. Completed applications are due by April 15.  
Go to [www.CVECOOP.org/scholarships](http://www.CVECOOP.org/scholarships) for complete eligibility and an application.



**WE**  
♥  
**OUR**  
**MEMBERS**

Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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