



Mission Statement
 Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. is a member owned organization providing competitive rates and reliable service while enhancing the quality of life of our neighbors in the Suwannee River Valley.

SUWANNEE VALLEY ELECTRIC BOARD MEETINGS

4th Tuesday each month @ 6:00 P.M., 7:00 P.M. daylight savings time at Suwannee Valley Electric Headquarters
 11340 100th Street - Live Oak, Florida

ELECTRIC RATES

Residential Service

Customer charge \$17.00/month
 Energy charge 11.250 cents per kwh
 Plus or Minus Wholesale Power Adjustment
 MINIMUM CHARGE \$20.00

Pre-Paid Residential Service

Daily Fixed Charge\$1.58 / per day
 Energy Charge.....8.66 cents per kwh
 Plus or Minus Wholesale Power Adjustment

General Service Non-Demand (demand under 50 kw)

Customer charge \$17.00/month
 Energy charge 11.600 cents per kwh
 Plus or Minus Wholesale Power Adjustment
 MINIMUM CHARGE \$20.00

Time of Use

Customer charge \$17.00/month
 On Peak energy charge15.000 cents per kwh
 Off Peak energy charge..... 9.500 cents per kwh
 Plus or Minus Wholesale Power Adjustment
 MINIMUM CHARGE \$20.00
 (Not Applicable for Residential Services)

General Service Demand (50 kw - 499 kw)

Customer charge \$50.00/month
 Demand charge\$6.16 per kw
 Energy charge 9.200 cents per kwh
 Plus or Minus Wholesale Power Adjustment

General Service Large Demand (500 kw - 5,000 kw)

Customer charge \$250.00/month
 Demand charge \$8.40 per kw
 Energy charge 8.400 cents per kwh
 Plus or minus Wholesale Power Adjustment
 MINIMUM DEMAND 500 kw

Outdoor Lighting

(Only HPS are available on new requests on existing metered services.)

175 watt MVL.....\$9.25
 100 watt HPS\$8.70
 250 watt MVL.....\$12.00
 250 watt HPS\$12.00
 400 watt MVL.....\$15.00
 Additional pole & span\$2.00

"Plus or Minus Wholesale Power Adjustment on Lights"

PAYMENT OPTIONS
 Choose the method that's best for you!

To Pay Online:

Go to SVEC's website, www.svec-coop.com, and click on "SVEC's EBILL" to pay your bill. The first time, you will need your billing account number, your name or the name of your business, last 4 digits of your social security number or Federal tax ID number, your e-mail address and a password. To set up a payment you will need your bank account information or your credit card.

For electric accounts that are past due, to prevent disruption of your power, it is recommended that you call our office and let us know that you have initiated your payment electronically.

To Pay at Local Convenience Stores

Pay your electric bill at numerous convenience stores located throughout the service territory. For a complete listing of locations, please visit our website: www.svec-coop.com. When paying at one of these locations, you will be charged a convenience fee by the merchant for this service.

To Pay By Phone:

Call 1-386-362-2226. The first time you call you will need your billing account number, and will be required to set up a personal pin number. We accept check and credit cards by phone.

To Pay By Bank Draft or Recurring Credit Card:

Please contact our Member Services Department at 1-386-362-2226 or go to our website and signup through the EBill web service.

To Pay With a Check by Mail:

When paying by mail, to insure prompt and accurate payment posting, please enclose your bill stubs and use the return envelope enclosed with your bill. Please be sure to allow mailing time. (Sorry no two party checks and never send cash in the mail.)

To Pay At Our Office:

To insure prompt and accurate payment posting, please provide your bill stub with your payment. Pay inside our office at 11340 100th Street, Live Oak, FL from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. with cash, credit card, or check. At our drive-in from 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. with cash, credit card, or check. Our night depository can be accessed after hours. Payments will not post until the next business day. (Please do not drop cash in the depository.)

****SVEC only accepts credit cards for Residential accounts.**

To Pay at 1st Federal Bank:

Pay your **current bill two days before the delinquent date** at the Jasper, Mayo, Dowling Park or Lake City Offices. Please present your electric bill to the teller. Payments to your account may be in the form of cash, check or money orders payable to SVEC. When paying at one of these locations, you will be charged a convenience fee by the bank for this service.

Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. is cooperatively owned by 17,631 members and serves 26,853 meters in Suwannee, Hamilton, Lafayette and Columbia counties.

COOPERATIVE HELP NUMBERS

8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Monday - Friday

www.svec-coop.com

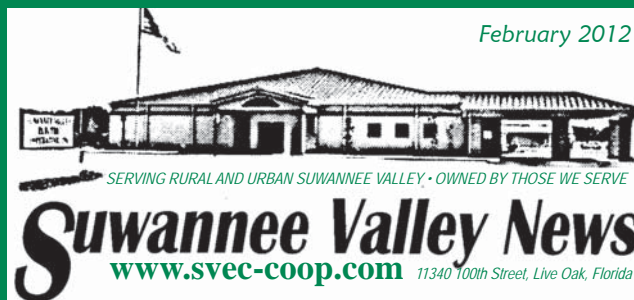
Business Office (386) 362-2226
 Business (long distance) 1-800-447-4509
 (Lobby Hours...8:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M. Mon.-Fri.)
 (Drive-In Hours...8:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. Mon.-Fri.)
 Except on Approved Holidays

Power Outage Reporting

(DAY, NIGHT, WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS)
 Live Oak Service Area (386) 364-5200
 Hamilton/Columbia Co. 1-800-752-0025

clip & save

February 2012



SPRING AHEAD, FALL BACK
DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS
SUNDAY, MARCH 11TH



The time to change your clocks back to Daylight Savings Time will soon be here. Starting in 2007, Daylight Saving Time was extended one month to begin on the second Sunday in March and end on the first Sunday in November. The revised schedule

for changing your clocks in the spring and fall was established by Congress with the Energy Policy Act of 2005. This year Daylight Saving time starts on Sunday, March 11th and will end on Sunday, November 4th.

One of the biggest reasons that we observe Daylight Saving Time is to help conserve energy. While the amounts of energy saved per household are small, added up they can be very large. Studies have shown that we trim the entire country's electric usage by about one percent EACH DAY with Daylight Saving time.

While we're in the process of changing things, it's a good idea to change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors, at the same time you change your clocks. Seventy percent of all home fire fatalities occur in homes where there are either no smoke alarms or smoke alarms are not working properly. Despite a drastic increase in smoke alarm use over the last 25 years, nearly one-quarter of the smoke alarms involved in fires were not working.

WE STRIVE TO MAKE LIFE EASIER FOR OUR MEMBERS

SVEC now accepts credit / debit cards as well as electronic checks on EBILL for members served on a residential rate.

Sign up today and save money.

It's safe and secure.

MANAGER'S MEMO

By John Martz,
Executive V.P./CEO



A Matter of PRINCIPLES

You might be surprised by the number of co-ops around you. Co-ops have been formed to sell produce and electricity, offer financial and banking services, provide

housing and health care, and much more.

So where did the bright idea for co-ops come from? It's a matter of principles (seven, to be exact). The modern movement traces its roots to a store started by weavers in the town of Rochdale (pronounced Rotch-dale) in northern England in 1844. The group was guided by a set of principles drawn up by one of its members, Charles Howarth. When introduced into the U.S. by the National Grange in 1874, these "Rochdale Principles" fueled a cooperative explosion.

Although stated in many ways, the Rochdale Principles require that a cooperative must be open for anyone to join. Every member retains one voice, one vote. Electric co-ops hold member business meetings annually, allowing members to elect fellow consumers to guide the co-op and have a say in how their utility is run.

There also have to be real member benefits. For example, members of electric co-ops often get money back (called capital credits or patronage refunds) when the co-op's in good financial shape. More than \$9.5 billion has been returned to members by electric co-ops since 1988—nothing to sneeze at.

Education remains another big focus. Electric co-ops provide safety information in schools, share ideas on how to make your home more energy efficient to keep electric bills affordable, and make sure elected officials and opinion leaders know about the co-op business model. Because there is strength in numbers, co-ops tend to stick together when tackling regional and national issues.

Perhaps most important of all, co-ops are independent and community-focused, not tied to the purse strings of far-flung investors. Co-ops help drive local economic development, fund scholarships, support local charities, and work to make life better in the areas they serve—the heart of the cooperative difference.

Learn more about cooperatives and the principles that define them at www.go.coop.

Smart Metering At Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperatives By Tom Tuckey

Recently, there has been a lot of talk about smart metering on the internet and as well as a YouTube video using a scare tactic claiming an intrusion on the privacy of individuals and businesses. I trust this article will clear up some misconceptions on this issue.

Suwannee Valley Electric has been using Smart Metering for years now. Utility companies are constantly striving to improve their reliability, their efficiency and the quality of service to their members/customers. Installing a Smart Metering system is just one example of technological improvements utilities have made to their operations.

Smart metering systems vary depending on the type system installed. Some utilities elect to install a radio based smart system and others have installed a 'power line' based system.

Since we do have smart metering at SVEC, here are some key points you should know about the metering system. SVEC has installed the Two-Way Automatic Communication System (TWACS) at the cooperative. (We still have some older generation automated meters that are being changed to the newer TWACS system as soon as we can do so).

- TWACS meters are a power line based system.
- The data from TWACS meters will be sent back to the co-op office over the power lines. Using the power lines for data transmission means that the meters will not emit any radio frequency (RF).
- TWACS meters allow for meter readings, connects and disconnects.
- TWACS meters installed on homes are not a surveillance tool nor does it monitor activity inside the home.

- Like the electronic and mechanical meters that SVEC had been using for years, these digital meters simply measures the amount of electricity usage at the home.
- These meters cannot tell what particular appliances or devices are being used in the home.
- The meter measures the consumption and stores the information for retrieval by TWACS for billing purposes.
- TWACS can pinpoint the location of outages so SVEC employees can restore power more quickly
- Meters can be read by office personnel to answer questions that members have regarding their power usage on a daily basis and assist in identifying a spike in power consumption.
- In no way does Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative assert to monitor and regulate anything in our members' homes or businesses nor shut off appliances, monitor activities or intrude on our member's lifestyle.
- SVEC does not sell any member information, including meter data to third parties. Our goal is to deliver better service, control rising operating expenses and improve system reliability for our membership. Let me emphasize, SVEC is a not-for-profit cooperative that is solely owned and operated by the members who receive electric service from the cooperative.
- When your Board of Directors approves a policy or procedure or use new equipment and technologies, they do so knowing that it will also apply to their own homes and businesses.

President Thomas Jefferson

A Voice From the Past to Lead Us in The Future

"When we get piled upon one another in large cities, as in Europe, we shall become as corrupt as Europe." **Thomas Jefferson**

"The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not." **Thomas Jefferson**

"It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes. A principle which if acted on would save one-half the wars of the world." **Thomas Jefferson**

"I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them." **Thomas Jefferson**

"My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government." **Thomas Jefferson**

"No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms." **Thomas Jefferson**

"The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government." **Thomas Jefferson**

"The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants." **Thomas Jefferson**

"To compel a man to subsidize with his taxes the propagation of ideas which he disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical." **Thomas Jefferson**

Thomas Jefferson said in 1802:

"I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies.

If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around the banks will deprive the people of all property – until their children wake-up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered."

PRESIDENTIAL QUOTES

George Washington (1789-1797)

"To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace."

Thomas Jefferson (1801-1809)

"The price of freedom is eternal vigilance."

James Madison (1809-1817)

"The truth is that all men having power ought to be mistrusted."

Abraham Lincoln (1861-1865)

"Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?"

Rutherford Birchard Hayes (1877-1881)

"Nothing brings out the lower traits of human nature like office seeking."

Stephen Grover Cleveland (1885-1889)

"It is the responsibility of the citizens to support their government. It is not the responsibility of the government to support its citizens."

Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1933-1945)

"Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort."

Dwight David Eisenhower (1953-1961)

"Next to the right of liberty, the right of property is the most important individual right guaranteed by the Constitution."

Herbert Clark Hoover (1929-1933)

"A splendid storehouse of integrity and freedom has been bequeathed to us by our forefathers. In this day of confusion, of peril to liberty, our high duty is to see that this storehouse is not robbed of its contents."

Ronald Wilson Reagan (1981-1989)

"We are a nation that has a government-not the other way around. And that makes us special among the nations of the earth."

George Walker Bush (2001-2009)

"Recognizing and confronting our history is important. Transcending our history is essential. We are not limited by what we have done, or what we have left undone. We are limited only by what we are willing to do."

SUWANNEE VALLEY ELECTRIC

NOW OFFERING

MARATHON WATER HEATERS

AND WHOLE HOME SURGE

PROTECTION CALL (386)362-2226

FOR DETAILS

