

# April provides temporary respite on energy costs

The announcement by the Tennessee Valley Authority of a 7-percent decrease in its fuel cost adjustment allows Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation to pass on a net rate reduction to its members effective April 1. For the three-month period beginning on that day, the fuel cost adjustment will decrease about 0.5 cents per kilowatt-hour, from more than 1.3 cents to 0.8 cents per kilowatt-hour.

Because the fuel cost adjustment is a per kilowatt-hour charge, amounts that consumers will save depend on the amount of energy they use. Savings will vary from house to house because peoples' energy needs are different.

What this means to the "average" CEMC residential member (meaning one whose monthly use is 1,640 kilowatt-hours of electricity) is a reduction of \$7.04 in a monthly bill.

The reasons for the second consecutive quarterly FCA reduction are as follows:

- Significantly lower than expected fuel costs for the quarter;
- A lower forecast for natural gas prices and purchased power costs; and,
- Lower sales.

Under the fuel cost adjustment, when the price of fuels used to make electricity decreases, the cost of electricity also decreases. Current economic conditions and increased rainfall also contributed

to lower fuel and purchased power costs.

Unfortunately, coal prices have not decreased as rapidly as other fuel prices, which prevented TVA's costs from dropping further.

About 60 percent of TVA's power supply comes from fossil fuels — primarily coal, along with oil and natural gas.

Like other utilities around the country, TVA uses a fuel cost adjustment to recover costs of the fuel to generate electricity and the cost of electricity purchased from other suppliers.

The adjustment is part of consumers' power bills and goes up or down, depending on those costs.

Any reduction in energy costs is good news on the heels of colder than average winter months at a significantly higher FCA rate. The unusually cold weather resulted

in higher consumption of electricity and higher power bills even for people who kept their thermostats low.

Unfortunately, we do not expect this trend of lower costs to continue. TVA has a debt ceiling to maintain and more expenses to bear. Rates will most likely continue to climb incrementally.

The board of directors and management of CEMC will continue to operate this business as economically as possible, maintaining margins to ensure the reliability of power. Allowing maintenance of the distribution system to relax is not a sensible option.



**Jim Coode**  
General Manager  
Cumberland Electric  
Membership  
Corporation

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**The "average" CEMC consumer using 1,640 kwh will save \$7.04 per month.**

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## CEMC Management and Staff

Jim Coode, General Manager  
Randy Holt, Operations Division Manager  
Lynne Wilson, Admin. Services Div. Manager  
Chris Davis, Engineering Division Manager  
Michael Batson, Financial Services Manager  
Barbara Harper, Member Services Manager  
Howard Whitaker, Eastern Regional Manager  
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Clarksville office  
J.D. Bumpus, District Operations Supervisor

Dover office  
Terry Odom, District Manager

Gallatin office  
Allan Cook, District Manager

Portland/White House offices  
Homer Mayes, District Operations Supervisor

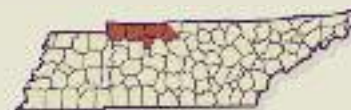
Springfield office  
Larry Richardson, District Manager

## CEMC Board of Directors

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## Mission Statement

Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation is committed to providing dependable, affordable electric service through the expertise and dedication of competent leadership and a well-trained and responsive workforce.



**Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation**

Serving Cheatham, Montgomery, Robertson, Stewart and Sumner counties.



## 2008 CEMC tax bill tops \$2.7 million

Payments by Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation to local governments in the form of ad valorem taxes totaled \$2,707,761.05 for 2008. That is 4.21 percent more than the prior year's total.

The payments represent taxes on CEMC's investments in power lines, buildings, equipment and other facilities needed to distribute electricity to the co-op's 89,000 members. Checks ranged from as little as \$572 to as much as \$834,000 among 21 municipal and county governments. Most received higher payments than the year before.

Local governments are not restricted in their use of ad valorem taxes. The money is used for public education, road improvements, recreation programs, law enforcement, fire safety, etc., depending on the needs of each particular community.



Robertson County Trustee Sandra Head accepts payment of CEMC's 2008 ad valorem taxes from Springfield District Manager Larry Richardson.

### Comparison of 2008 and 2007 ad valorem taxes

	2008 taxes paid	2007 taxes paid	Dollar difference	Percentage difference
<b>Cheatham County</b>	\$306,973.00	\$285,720.00	\$21,253.00	7.44%
Ashland City	13,248.00	12,576.00	672.00	5.34%
<b>Dickson County</b>	4,516.12	4,340.87	175.25	4.04%
<b>Montgomery County</b>	834,703.00	852,760.00	(18,057.00)	-2.12%
Clarksville	73,706.61	77,601.65	(3,895.04)	-5.02%
<b>Robertson County</b>	591,410.00	476,317.00	115,093.00	24.16%
Adams	2,471.00	2,346.00	125.00	5.33%
Cedar Hill	572.10	576.94	(4.84)	-0.84%
Greenbrier	14,143.06	12,814.51	1,328.55	10.37%
Springfield	6,100.00	5,773.00	327.00	5.66%
White House	13,381.00	12,416.00	965.00	7.77%
Ridgetop	871.00	484.00	387.00	79.96%
Portland	3,735.49	1,759.00	1,976.49	112.36%
Millersville	2,768.12	2,444.00	324.12	13.26%
<b>Stewart County</b>	218,383.00	231,899.00	(13,516.00)	-5.83%
Cumberland City	2,354.82	2,418.47	(63.65)	-2.63%
Dover	31,236.00	33,932.00	(2,696.00)	-7.95%
<b>Sumner County</b>	505,713.85	495,812.85	9,901.00	2.00%
Gallatin	11,674.57	12,485.44	(810.87)	-6.49%
Hendersonville	10,728.00	10,455.00	273.00	2.61%
Millersville	2,814.85	3,728.00	(913.15)	-24.49%
Mitchellville	1,185.61	1,721.48	(535.87)	-31.13%
Portland	45,096.85	47,982.76	(2,885.91)	-6.01%
White House	9,975.00	9,966.00	9.00	0.09%
<b>Total taxes paid</b>	<b>\$2,707,761.05</b>	<b>\$2,598,329.97</b>	<b>\$109,431.08</b>	<b>4.21%</b>

## Farm families meeting focuses on ‘Communicating Leadership Cooperatively’

**T**.C. and Emily Groves of Portland participated in the Young Leaders Conference Feb. 20-21 at the Doubletree Hotel in Jackson. They joined more than 200 others from across the state for the annual conference.

Designed to bring young leaders together, the conference focused on “Communicating Leadership Cooperatively” and offered a variety of topics affecting rural Tennesseans.

The Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation’s Young Farmers and Ranchers, which co-sponsors the conference with the Tennessee Council of Cooperatives (TCC), is an organization within the Farm Bureau for men and women ages 18 to 35 with an interest in agriculture. The purpose of the group is to develop future agricultural leaders and to generate new ideas to help the Farm Bureau keep up with the constantly changing world of agriculture.

The Tennessee Council of Cooperatives is composed of a variety of cooperatives across the state including dairy coop-



**T.C. and Emily Groves of Portland represented CEMC at this year’s Young Leaders Conference in Jackson.**

eratives, farm credit banks, farm supply cooperatives, telephone and electric cooperatives, tobacco cooperatives and the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation (TFBF).

“Young leaders are vital to our communities and the lifeline of our agricultural industry,” said Mark Klepper, a livestock producer from Greene County who serves as chairman of the Young Farmers and Ranchers. “If we don’t keep young people involved, we’ll all suffer in the long run. This Young Leaders Conference is meant to give us a renewed enthusiasm and confidence in our leadership abilities.”

Participants are selected and sponsored by TCC businesses or TFBF’s Young Farmers and Ranchers to attend the motivational, recreational and educational weekend. T.C. and Emily were sponsored by Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation.

The conference gave the Groveses the opportunity to attend workshops addressing areas of interest to young farmers and cooperative members.



**McCarroll Heating and Air won \$250 worth of advertising from the Tennessee Valley Authority during a meeting of the Quality Contractor Network in Clarksville. Above left, from left, are Randy Farris of McCarroll, Seth Roberts of CEMC, Todd Thompson of TVA and Mike McCarroll. At right, during a QCN meeting in Portland, Terry Butler, left, of Butler Heating and Air is congratulated by Thompson upon winning the same prize.**

# CEMC celebrates student achievements

Some excel in science, some in spelling and some love reading



CEMC provided prizes and certificates for Science Fair winners at Cumberland Heights Elementary School. Congratulations to, from left, front row, Noah Taylor, Jessica Troyani, Ben Taylor, Karley Davis, Layla Christy, Scarlet Smith, Thomas Knowles, Trace McElroy and Nairen Smith. Back row: Logan Brame, Storie Hogue, Derek Calhoun, Erika Adams, John Michael Baggett, Tristan Sartor, Matthew Hauerwas and Slater Smith.



CEMC provided prizes and certificates for the 2009 Cheatham County Middle School Spelling Bee. Congratulations to, from left, first place — Eli Brown, seventh grade, Sycamore Middle School; second place — Sam Davis, seventh grade, Sycamore Middle School; third place — Savannah Conley, sixth grade, Harpeth Middle School; fourth place — Marissa Williams, eighth grade, Harpeth Middle School; fifth place — Jonathan Farley, eighth grade, Cheatham Middle School; and sixth place — Bethany Hughes, eighth grade, Sycamore Middle School.



Steve Borens, working foreman, was one of several CEMC Dover District employees who helped celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday by reading stories to second- and third-graders at North Stewart Elementary School.



## April 1 rate changes

Upon management recommendation, the board of directors of Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation approved rate action in the following classes to be effective April 1, 2009:

- Residential customer charge — from \$12 to \$14
- GSA-1 (Under 50 kilowatt commercial) customer charge — from \$18 to \$23
- Manufacturing classifications demand charge — increase of \$1 per kw in each class.

The net effect of these rate actions will be a decrease with the Tennessee Valley Authority fuel cost adjustment. The “average” CEMC residential customer using 1,640 kwh per month will experience a decrease of \$7.04 in a monthly bill.

## Lots to do and see at Rivers & Spires

The annual Rivers & Spires Festival in Historic Downtown Clarksville will be held April 16-18. This internationally award-winning event is free to the general public, and most activities are offered at no cost. Five stages of entertainment will feature a wide array of music including country, rap, hip hop, oldies, Christian rock, salsa and much more.

New activities for 2009 include Quilts of the Cumberland, Clarksville's Got Talent, Last Band Standing, Songwriters' Showcase and an adventure race — produced in part with R3 Running, Racing & Relaxing. Your favorite zones are back again to include the International Street-Fest, Kidz Zone, teen activities, classic cars and Corvettes, arts and crafts, jazz and wine, cooking shows, boutique shopping and military appreciation events. An entire weekend of entertainment awaits the entire family in Historic Downtown Clarksville.

For more information, log on to [www.riversandspires.com](http://www.riversandspires.com).



**John Michael Montgomery headlines this year's Rivers and Spires Festival in Clarksville.**

## New service charges

The following service charges, with changes shown in red, are in effect as of March 1, 2009, at Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation:

A service charge will be collected for each of the following services rendered by the Cooperative.  
(Operating Bulletin No. 11)

	Regular Hours	After Hours
Meter set or reconnect	\$ 35.00	\$ 75.00
Service connect or reconnect	\$ 65.00	\$ 200.00
Trip charge	\$ 20.00	
Meter reread charge	\$ 20.00	
Meter test	\$ 50.00	
Returned check charge	\$ 35.00	
Temporary service hook-up	\$ 65.00	
<b>Meter Bases:</b>		
Single phase:		
60 amp	\$ 20.00	
125 amp 1¼-inch hub and 2-inch hub	\$ 30.00	
200 amp overhead and underground	\$ 40.00	
200 amp mobile home with disconnect	\$100.00	
400 (320) amp overhead and underground	\$150.00	
CT charge	\$150.00	
<b>Security Lights:</b>		
1) Each pole set for a security light installation	\$200.00	
2) Each security light added or relocated on existing pole	\$ 65.00	
3) Add transformer	\$125.00	
Underground service installation	\$100.00	
Late night service re-connect	\$200.00	

Customers cut off for non-payment: Upon reconnection, a customer cut off for non-payment will be required to pay the past due balance, reconnection charge and satisfy the current deposit requirement, including increase in amount of guaranty, if applicable.

(Operating Bulletin No. 28)

## Member Appreciation Days reminder

Don't forget to join us at your local CEMC district office from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for lunch and conversation during Member Appreciation Days:

Tuesday, April 21 - Springfield;  
Wednesday, April 22 - Ashland City;

Thursday, April 23 - Clarksville;  
Tuesday, April 28 - Portland;  
Wednesday, April 29 - White House;  
Thursday, April 30 - Gallatin; and,  
Friday, May 1 - Dover.