

IT'S ELECTRIC Sep 25-Oct 3, 2021

NATIONAL DRIVE ELECTRIC WEEK 2021

BY CHRISTMAS WHARTON COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

This month, we're highlighting the new kid on the block: electric vehicles. National Drive Electric Week is September 25 through Oct 3, 2021, and is a nationwide celebration to raise awareness of the many benefits of all electric and plug in hybrid cars, trucks, motorcycles, and more. During this week, checkout Grand Valley Power's Facebook or Twitter feeds while we share more about this electrifying technology and helpful resources. Find us by searching for *Grand Valley Power*.

From SUVs to pickups, western Colorado loves a powerful automobile. But who says it has to run on gasoline? "If you love horsepower, electric vehicles are something you may want to consider because that's what they're about," said Brian Sloboda of NRECA's Business and Technology Strategies Department. "I think once people start to see more electric vehicles on the road they're going to start to realize these are performance cars. These are about power and torque," said Sloboda.

There is no denying that electrifying transportation is here to stay. Not only have major automobile manufacturers announced electric vehicle expansion, but also it's brought startups on board as well, like Rivian and Bollinger. Trucks will start hitting the roads as soon as late 2021 according to InsideEvs.com. So, how do you know which vehicle type is best suited for you?

You can learn more about electric vehicles, current range and charge time by visiting touchstoneenergy.com/technology.



FEATURE EV EVENT



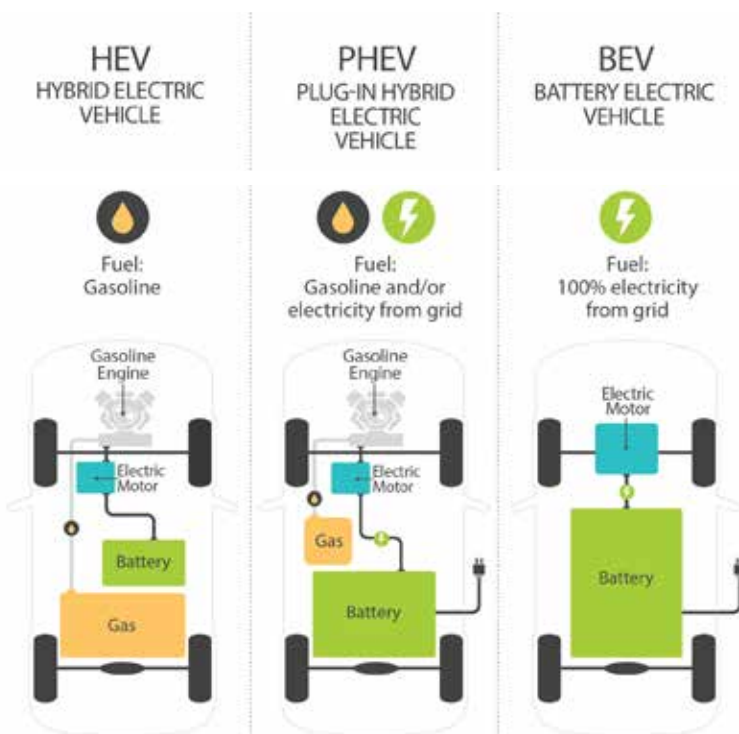
20TH ANNUAL MOBILITY DRIVEN CAR SHOW

- Best in Show
- People's Choice
- Mayor's Choice
- KOOLest car
- Electric Avenue Award
- and more!

In September, "Electric Avenue" will gently hum with the sound of fast, clean, quiet, and efficient electric vehicles as participants pour into Downtown Grand Junction for the 20th annual Mobility Driven Car Show. Aside from the EV section, vehicle owners bring antique cars, muscle cars, classic cars and even motorcycles to display. It's a great opportunity to visit with real owners about their EV experience.

The 2021 Car Show will take place on September 18 from 9:00am-3:00pm. Car owners and spectators visit with each other, talk cars, and participate in a friendly competition for great prizes!

For more information about the event, visit downtowngj.org.



Sources: www.cooperative.com, *An Electric Car Education for Co-ops and Members* and *Electric Power Research Institute*.

Chargepoint Level II Charger Station is Here

BY CHRISTMAS WHARTON
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

In 2020, Grand Valley Power installed its first electric vehicle level two charging station. Grants from the Charge Ahead Colorado program helped fund the new location, and it's now available for public use. At Grand Valley Power, we're starting to explore and learn more about electric vehicles in the coming months. While we're working hard on future programs, rate options and more, one of the most frequently asked question is often about charging them and also how long it takes to charge. EV owners have multiple options for charging their vehicle at home or on the go. There are three common EV charging levels: Level One, Level Two and DC Fast Charge.

Level One Charging

Level One is the most basic charging level. If you choose this option, your EV will typically include an adapter that plugs into a typical 120-volt outlet. This is the easiest and cheapest charging solution, but it will take much longer to charge your EV.

Level Two Charging

Level Two is about three to five times faster than Level One, but this level of charging often requires additional equipment. The EV is plugged into a 240-volt outlet, which is used for larger appliances, like a clothes dryer. Most homes do not include a 240-volt outlet in garages, so the outlet must be installed by a licensed professional. You typically see Level Two charging stations at shopping malls, office buildings and multi-family community spaces.



Electric vehicles are gaining ground in Colorado. As of August 1, 2021, there are over 39,000 registered vehicles in Colorado. In Mesa County, there are 398 registered electric vehicles. *Source: Colorado Department of Motor Vehicles*

DC Fast Charging

DC Fast Charge stations are typically seen near high-traffic public areas, like gas stations, rather than in homes. This is the fastest charging level, with the ability to charge an EV at 80% in under 30 minutes. As EVs continue to become more popular, you can expect to see more DC Fast Charge stations throughout Colorado.

Take advantage of our enhanced meter data through SmartHub, your energy and billing portal. You can view your hourly usage and learn how your electric vehicle is using energy. The time of day you charge your EV can have an impact on the grid and your monthly energy costs. You can sign up or log in to your account by visiting gvp.org/SmartHub.



groups/WesternColoradoEVClub

WESTERN COLORADO EV CLUB

Why do we love this page? The self-proclaimed "fan club and advocacy group for electric vehicles and their owners in Western Colorado" celebrates driving electric vehicles, shares experiences, new charging stations on the west slope, and of course, the ride!

Whether your EV is a Tesla, Nissan, Chevrolet, Toyota, BMW, or other; all are welcome!



Photo Credit and EV Owner: Matt Gawlowski



Vegetation Management: Improving Service Reliability for All Co-op Members

BY DANA POGAR COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST



Western Colorado is a special place. We appreciate the beauty trees afford, but we also know our community depends on us to provide reliable energy. Through vegetation management, Grand Valley Power is able to keep power lines clear, prepare for future weather events and secure the reliability of the grid. Here's just a few ways vegetation management improves service for all.

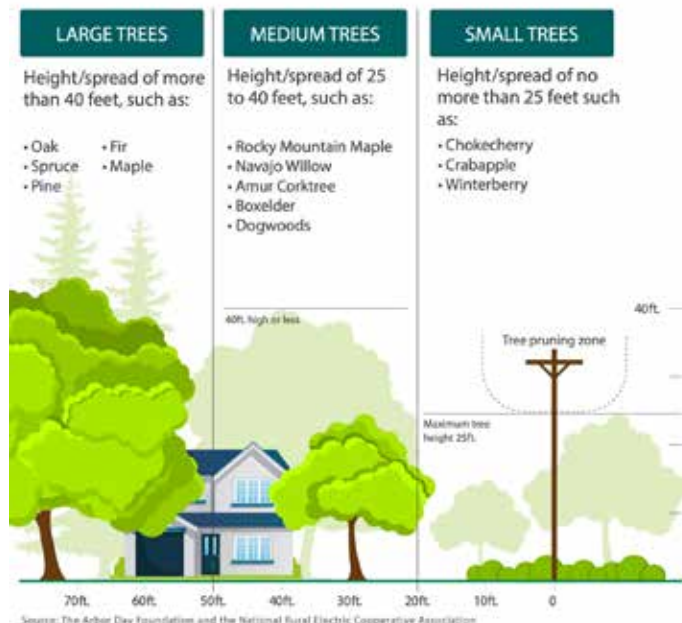
RIGHT OF WAY

The operations team at Grand Valley Power strives to balance maintaining beautiful surroundings and ensuring a reliable power supply by keeping power lines clear in rights-of-ways (ROW). A right-of-way is the land we use to construct, maintain, replace or repair underground and overhead power lines. Rights-of-way enable the co-op to provide clearance from trees and other obstructions that could hinder the power line installation, maintenance or operation. ROW areas are typically on public lands or located near a business or home. Regardless, Grand Valley Power must be able to maintain the power lines above and below the ROW. The overall goal of our vegetation management program is to provide reliable power to our members while maintaining the beauty of our community.

SAFETY

At Grand Valley Power, the safety of our members and communities is the highest priority. Every year, the cooperative works to trim thousands of trees and clear vegetation to maintain the safety and reliability of both community and co-op members. To put it into perspective, overgrown vegetation can pose a safety hazard to all. For example, a tree that contacts electrical equipment can become energized, making the entire tree an electrical hazard. To prevent these incidents from occurring, tree trimming arborists and right-of-way contractors work to maintain 10-15 feet of clearance around power lines.

Avoid planting within 20 feet of power lines. When planting within 20 feet is unavoidable, use only shrubs and small trees.



RELIABILITY

Of course, one of the biggest benefits of a smart vegetation management program is reliability. Strategic tree trimming reduces the frequency of downed lines causing power outages. When conditions are favorable for a storm, severe weather can take down overgrown tree limbs and power lines. Generally speaking, healthy trees can withstand these conditions but having a robust vegetation mitigation plan diminishes the chances of fallen branches or trees during severe weather events.

CO-OP MEMBERS TAKE ACTION

While we clear vegetation in the rights-of-way, it's important for our members to also know that they are the eyes and ears we rely on as well. If you notice a tree may be creating an electrical hazard, please call us at (970) 242-0040 or submit a tree trimming inquiry by visiting gvp.org/special-services.



A NOTE FROM OUR CREWS TO YOU

You may see a tree trimming notice hanging on your door, especially during the change of the seasons. This door hanger is meant to notify GVP members that professional tree trimming will take place in your neighborhood near overhead power lines, at no cost to you. Vegetation management is just one of the many ways Grand Valley Power provides safe, reliable, and affordable electric service.



ANNUAL MEETING A SUCCESS

Over 440 members and guests attend

The 2021 Annual Meeting of Members was held on August 6, with over 440 members and guests joining Grand Valley Power employees and board members. At the annual meeting, there were member gifts including LED/USB night light combo, a commemorative viewfinder and over \$2,000 in raffle prizes. In addition, members enjoyed a mashup of decade hit songs and a performance by locally-owned Absolute Dance and Performing Arts. New this year, GVP incorporated a full video business meeting presentation so that members who were unable to attend, would still see the full report. You can view this now by scanning the QR code with your smartphone camera or by visiting gvp.org/85Years. Thank you to all our members who attended this years annual meeting!

WATCH IT NOW
ON YOUR
SMARTPHONE



OR VISIT GVP.ORG/85YEARS

2021
Annual Meeting
RECAP

1936-2021
CELEBRATING 85 YEARS OF SERVICE

GVP
GRAND VALLEY POWER
Empowering Lives with Hometown Service

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTED

BY CHRISTMAS WHARTON COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Grand Valley Power members elected three directors to the board for three-year terms on August 6, 2021. Three positions were available with five candidates running for this year's election. Incumbents Jesse Mease and William "Bill" Rooks were re-elected to two seats, along with newcomer Brian Woods. They were sworn in at the August 18, 2021, board meeting. The tabulation of ballots for the 2021 Board of Directors election was conducted by the local CPA firm Chadwick, Steinkirchner, Davis & Co., P.C., under the supervision of the Grand Valley Power Election Supervisory Committee. The final vote count was:

- Brian Woods 1,189 votes
- Jesse Mease 1,123 votes
- William "Bill" Rooks 1,008 votes
- Dennis Haberkorn 1,003 votes
- Mike Simons 464 votes

Grand Valley Power thanks Dennis Haberkorn for his 24 years of service on the board. We truly have appreciated all he has done for our members through the years. Thank you to all the members who participated in this year's cooperative election!



Brian Woods

Jesse Mease

Bill Rooks