

## ANEC files with State Corporation Commission for rate-change approval

**A**&N Electric Cooperative (ANEC) has filed an application with the State Corporation Commission (SCC) to adjust its rate structure and increase rates later this year.

If approved by the commission, members would see an increase in their monthly access charge and the addition of seasonal rates.

“As a non-profit electric cooperative, ANEC is committed to providing reliable service at an affordable cost. Through careful review and consideration, we have determined that there is a need to adjust our rates,” said Butch Williamson, president and CEO of ANEC. “We must make sure we keep ANEC financially

healthy and be able to recover the rising costs of delivering electricity.”

As a member of ANEC, you make an investment in the Co-op each month when you pay your bill. That investment benefits you and the community as a whole immediately and in the future.

The access charge is a monthly investment that helps ANEC cover the expenses of operating and maintaining the electric-distribution system. Staying ahead of cybersecurity threats and maintaining electrical-distribution equipment and substations take careful planning and require substantial resources. The access charge keeps that equipment up to date and operating properly. It also ensures staff is trained to

respond to issues and keep electricity flowing safely to your home or business.

Regardless of how much electricity a particular family uses, the cost of delivering power to that house is the same. As a not-for-profit electric-distribution cooperative, we believe the operational costs should be spread fairly and equitably across all of our members, regardless of the level of electricity use. This gives all our members an equal share in ANEC’s operation.

ANEC has proposed a slight increase in winter rates but has also proposed higher seasonal rates for summer (June through September) to better align our power-supply cost. The summer season brings the highest costs for purchasing power due to our area’s increased demand during that time.

A typical residential member using 1,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month will see an increase of about \$3.61 per month in the winter (October-May) and \$13.94 per month in the summer (June-September) under the new proposed rate structure. The overall impact will be about a 5 percent increase for a calendar year.

“Our proposed adjustments to our current rates will allow ANEC to continue to deliver safe, reliable and affordable energy to the homes and businesses we serve,” Williamson said. “We realize every dollar matters to our members on the Eastern Shore and we’re always working to reduce expenses. We will continue to use technology and provide information that will help serve our members better and control costs.”

The SCC must approve any changes to ANEC’s rates. SCC staff and commissioners will thoroughly review and evaluate ANEC’s rate application. Any proposed changes will not take effect until October.

ANEC will provide additional details about the planned changes and will continue to inform members throughout the SCC’s review schedule by notifications in *Cooperative Living* magazine, community meetings and at [www.anec.com/content/rate-case](http://www.anec.com/content/rate-case).



JAY DIEHM PHOTOS

# A&N Electric Cooperative seeks approval of Community Solar Pilot Project

In late January, A&N Electric Cooperative (ANEC), along with three fellow Virginia electric cooperatives, began seeking formal approval for a pilot program to provide additional solar energy to interested members. If approved, the Community Solar Pilot Project will allow members of the Cooperative to subscribe to solar energy generated from two facilities in Virginia.

Currently, a portion of all power supplied to Cooperative members comes from solar. The new program will allow members who want a larger percentage of solar power to receive a dedicated, predetermined amount of solar power each month. By doing so, participating members can further support the development of solar energy in Virginia, while also locking in the price paid for the dedicated-solar portion of their generation service during the three-year pilot period.

"ANEC is excited about the opportunities the proposed community solar offering

will provide our members," said Leo Radkowski, project manager for ANEC. "The pilot program will make it easy to enjoy the benefits of solar without the expense and effort related to on-site solar installations. Additionally, the pilot will make solar generation accessible to our members who may have limited opportunities to install solar generation at their residence."

If approved by the commission, the community solar pilot program will allow the Cooperative's members to choose solar power to cover all or a portion of their electric usage each month. The cost to members of a 50 kWh "solar block" will be about \$5.50 per month, a modest increase over the current cost of wholesale power. The program also offers members the opportunity to lock in the cost of their solar power supply for the future.

The cooperatives participating with ANEC in the pilot program are Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative in

Chase City, Northern Neck Electric Cooperative in Warsaw and Rappahannock Electric Cooperative in Fredericksburg.

All four are members of Old Dominion Electric Cooperative (ODEC), which provides wholesale electricity to the local cooperatives. ODEC's generation portfolio currently includes 30 megawatts of solar from two Virginia solar facilities — 20 megawatts from the Cherrydale Solar facility in Northampton County, and 10 megawatts from the Clarke County Solar facility in White Post, Virginia.

The pilot programs must be approved by the Virginia State Corporation Commission. The 2017 session of the Virginia General Assembly approved the "Community Solar Act," which allows for such programs. The cooperatives expect to receive approval of their community solar pilot programs later this spring, and hope to begin offering solar subscriptions this summer.

## Director Elections

A&N Electric Cooperative Directors are elected from the membership to represent you on the Cooperative's Board. Seats in Districts 1, 2 and 4 are scheduled for election in 2018. Those interested in running for those seats can be nominated through the following two methods:

- 1. The Nominating Committee** — A Nominating Committee representing the applicable districts will be appointed. The committee will select a slate of candidates to be placed on the ballot at the Cooperative's Annual Meeting. This year's nominating committee is scheduled to meet May 23, 2018. Should a Co-op member have a recommendation, please notify a member of the nominating committee prior to its meeting. The members of this year's committee are listed below.
- 2. Member Petition Nominations** — Members can make Member Petition Nominations by delivering them in writing to the Board's Secretary no later than May 18, 2018.

After verifying that the member petition complies with its Bylaws, the Co-op will post the Member Petition Nomination in about the same location as the Nominating Committee Nominations. Those interested in running for a seat on the Board should visit our Tasley headquarters to pick up an application packet. All nominations are due by May 18, 2018.

**No nominations shall be made from the floor at the Annual Member Meeting. Please visit [www.anec.com](http://www.anec.com) for the complete list of A&N Electric Cooperative's Bylaws.**

**Dennis Crockett**  
P.O. Box 232, Tangier 23440

**Phil Custis**  
P.O. Box 237, Nassawadox 23413

**Michelle Marsh**  
63 Kerr St., Onancock 23417

**Bill Sterling Jr.**  
P.O. Box 145, Craddockville 23341

**John M. Roach**  
P.O. Box 275, Parksley 23421

**Steve Sturgis**  
P.O. Box 178, Eastville 23347

**Joseph Thornton**  
5419 Woodland Dr., Chincoteague 23336

**Bruce Freeman**  
23913 Bailey Neck Rd., Onancock 23417

**Kenneth Webb**  
13527 Deerfield Tr., Machipongo 23405

## Free seedlings for Arbor Day



A&N Electric Cooperative is partnering with the Eastern Shore Soil & Water Conservation District to distribute seedlings on Arbor Day, Friday, April 27.

Groups will be distributing the seedlings at the Eastville Courthouse in Northampton County and the Eastern Shore Community College in Accomack County.

Check the A&N Electric Cooperative website at [www.anec.com](http://www.anec.com) and our social media pages for more details.



MATT JONES PHOTO



PETER ZACH PHOTO

Secondary roads disappeared under snow drifts as A&N Electric Cooperative crews tried to reach outages during the snowstorm in January. Farmers in both counties came to the aid of the Cooperative, helping our crews reach outages on impassable roadways.

# Cooperative thanks local farmers for assistance during snowstorm

**A**&N Electric Cooperative (ANEC) would like to thank the area farmers who assisted us during the winter snowstorm in January. Without their help the Cooperative's restoration efforts would not have been as swift.

"That assistance from those farmers in Accomack and Northampton counties was critical in allowing us to restore power as quickly as we did," said Brian Charnock, ANEC's director of operations and construction services.

ANEC crews worked around the clock and through harsh weather conditions to restore power for about 7,000 Co-op members affected by outages during the storm.

Dozens of crews were dispatched and worked to restore 22 outage events scattered across the Eastern Shore.

The winter storm brought heavy snow and gusting winds into the area. Snowfall totals reached 12 inches in some areas but gusting winds caused snow drifts that reached as tall as 6 feet. Snow drifting on secondary roads proved to be an issue that hampered the Cooperative's outage response.

Crews were assisted by area farmers throughout the weather event. Farmers in both Accomack and Northampton counties used their tractors and other equipment to help linemen and servicemen reach outages that were on impassable secondary roadways.

"We very much value the assistance we receive from the area farmers responding to storms like this," said Charnock. "That relationship between Eastern Shore farmers and A&N Electric Cooperative has been there from the very beginning. Shore farmers are always willing to lend a hand to help the community."

ANEC would like to thank Lee Turlington; Lee Sturgis; Will Atkins and his crew of Brice Ashby, Paul Selzer and Luke Carpenter; Major Jones; Larry Custis; Jeff and Ryan Horner; Patrick Long; Ronnie Bailey; Jackie Bailey; and Jody Brittingham for their help during the storm.

Despite the weather conditions and with that assistance the Cooperative's crews were able to restore all outages associated with the storm in less than 20 hours.

## MESSAGES FROM YOUR CO-OP

- ▶ Visit us at [www.facebook.com/ANElectricCoop](http://www.facebook.com/ANElectricCoop) and "like" us.
- ▶ Visit [www.anec.com](http://www.anec.com) to sign up to receive Beat the Peak emails or text-message alerts.
- ▶ The **Touchstone Energy® Co-op Connections® Card is FREE to all ANEC members.** The card offers discounts at participating local and nationwide businesses, including prescription drug discounts.



## Donation application forms available from Co-op

**O**ur mission at A&N Electric Cooperative (ANEC) is to enhance life on the Shore through member-driven services. One of the ways the Cooperative strives to achieve this is by supporting outstanding youth, community organizations and events that benefit the members within our service territory.

Beginning in 2018, if you or your organization are interested in receiving donations from ANEC, please contact our Tasley office to receive an application form. Completing the form does not guarantee funding. Requests will be reviewed by the Cooperative's Member Services and Community Development Committee.

Organizations seeking funding from March-June, applications are due no later than Jan. 31st. Organizations seeking funding from July-October, applications are due no later than April 30th. Organizations seeking funding from November-February, applications are due no later than Oct. 31st. Please allow at least 30 days after due date for approval of funding.

Contact Janelle Dawkins at [jdawkins@anec.com](mailto:jdawkins@anec.com) or call 757-787-9750, ext. 345, for more information or to receive an application form.

# Historic Garden Week on the Eastern Shore



Saturday, April 28, 2018 | 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Rain or Shine  
Sponsored by the Garden Club of Virginia  
Hosted by The Garden Club of the Eastern Shore

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

Ellie Gordon (757) 710-0763 or easternshore@vagardenweek.org

## BUS TOURS:

Susan Dixon (757) 641-2047 or easternshore@vagardenweek.org

## LUNCH OPTIONS/SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:

[www.esgardentours.com](http://www.esgardentours.com), [www.capecharlesbythebay.com](http://www.capecharlesbythebay.com) and [www.esvatourism.org](http://www.esvatourism.org)

**WEBSITES:** [www.esgardentours.com](http://www.esgardentours.com), [www.vagardenweek.org](http://www.vagardenweek.org)

**FACEBOOK:** Historic Garden Week on the Eastern Shore

**INSTAGRAM:** @hgweasternshore

**HASHTAGS:** #GCV, #HGW, #HGW18, #HGWEasternshore

**TICKETS:** NEW 2018 TICKETING — BUY YOUR TICKETS ON TOUR DAY AT TWO LOCATIONS:

1) TOUR HEADQUARTERS — 2 Bahama Road, Cape Charles, VA 23310

2) EYRE HALL — 3215 Eyrehall Drive, Cheriton, VA 23316

Ticket price \$45 per person includes six tour houses. Single-site ticket \$15. Children 5-12 \$20 (sold only on tour day).

**ADVANCE TICKETS:** \$40 per person. [www.vagardenweek.org](http://www.vagardenweek.org). Available locally through Thursday, April 26, at all Eastern Shore Xenith Bank locations: Cape Charles, Exmore, Onley and Chincoteague; The Book Bin, Onley; Ker Place, Onancock; and Rayfield's Pharmacy, Nassawadox and Cape Charles. Cash or check only.

**VISITOR GUIDELINES:** Please wear flat walking shoes. No cellphone or camera use in tour homes. Children 17 or younger must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. These properties are not handicapped-accessible. Houses may be visited in any order after ticketing at Ticket Headquarters or Eyre Hall. On-street parking available at all tour houses.

This year's Eastern Shore Garden Tour takes place on Saturday, April 28, 2018, and features six properties within close proximity to each other, including Eyre Hall, and is focused on the Cape Charles community.

Settled just a few years after Capt. John Smith landed at Jamestown in 1607, the Eastern Shore of Virginia is a narrow peninsula situated between the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean.

The Eastern Shore lies between two marvels: a link to the mainland by one of the longest bridge-tunnels in the world to the south, and a link to outer space via a NASA rocket pad to the north. In between is a land known for the warmth of its residents, the serenity of its waterfronts, the richness of its land and, most especially, the charm of its homes — exemplifying the fine maritime, railway and agricultural heritage of the Eastern Shore.

For one week in April, nearly 25,000 visitors tour beautiful homes and gardens across the state during the height of the spring blooming season. Presented by the Garden Club of Virginia, Historic Garden Week encompasses 25 tours organized and hosted by member clubs.

*Garden Club of Virginia and The Garden Club of the Eastern Shore and participating homeowners are not responsible for accidents occurring on the tour.*

## A&N ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

21275 Cooperative Way  
P.O. Box 290  
Tasley, VA 23441-0290  
757-787-9750 • 800-431-2632

Office Hours: M-F, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
[www.anec.com](http://www.anec.com)

Payments: 1-855-386-9921

President & CEO  
Butch Williamson

Local Pages Editor  
Jay Diem

*A&N Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*



## Eyre Hall

3215 Eyrehall Drive, Cheriton 23316

Recently honored as a National Historic Landmark, this acclaimed ancestral property offers a rare picture of Colonial plantation life. The key to Eyre Hall's remarkable preservation lies in its descent through eight generations of the same family. The gambrel-roofed manor was completed in 1758 by Littleton Eyre, who lavished his home with expansive spaces, superlative woodwork and handsome furnishings. Before the end of the century, Littleton's son and grandson had, in their turn, inherited his masterwork, adding an eastern wing and laying out a grand rear garden. Luckily for historians, the three early owners were succeeded by stewards who declined to gild their classic legacy with the passing fancies of later eras. Today, Eyre Hall visitors are delighted to find that the refined but soft-spoken style of its creators remains in place. The past also lives in the garden, where venerable crepe myrtles tower above parterres enclosed by ancient boxwood and set off by colorful mixed borders. *H. Furlong Baldwin, owner.*



## Bayholme

306 Bay Avenue, Cape Charles 23310

This grand neo-classic-style house was built in Cape Charles, a town that can trace its importance to an era dominated by the railroad industry, in 1914. The home's location reveals an interesting segment of the town's growth when dredging its harbor at the turn of the 20th century created a new expanse of land known as "sea cottage." The house occupies an imposing position overlooking the Chesapeake Bay through 100-year-old ash trees. Its colorfully planted town garden shares a quaint back alley with its neighbors. Designed to capture the bay's breezes, Bayholme has a generous 900-square-foot columned porch that wraps around three sides of the first floor and balconies on each of the second and third floors. *Mr. and Mrs. William A. Walker, owners.*



## Tazewell

6 Tazewell Avenue, Cape Charles 23310

Located steps from the beach, this residence was built in 1912 by W.H. Lambertson who is credited with constructing more than half the homes in the town of Cape Charles from the 1880s through the 1940s. Rich in town history and known to locals as the "Dodd House," the home was occupied by the Horner/Dodd family across multiple generations for an impressive 84 years. With views of the Chesapeake Bay, its proximity to the water and town play a role in the home's history. In the 1930s, the third floor was rented by a tugboat captain and his family. Visitors with a keen eye for historical detail will admire the unique original hitching post, one of the last remaining in the town of Cape Charles. The large, curved, wraparound porch sets this property apart from other homes in town while complementing the interior and creating space for a welcoming front-room window seat. *Mr. and Mrs. Will Jones, owners.*



## Serenity

155 Heron Pointe Drive, Cape Charles 23310

The numerous porches and patios of this contemporary English manor home provide scenic vistas of the Chesapeake Bay. Situated amidst tall pine trees on a golf course in the Bay Creek Community on land first surveyed by Capt. John Smith, the home was built in 2015. The home looks out onto the mouth of Old Plantation Creek, a site that played a significant role in Bacon's Rebellion in 1676. Bay Creek was developed on land belonging to Littleton Waller Tazewell, the 26th governor of Virginia (1834-1836). Inside the home, a dramatic spiral staircase is the first of many outstanding architectural features guests will experience. Each room of the contemporary interior is styled differently from the next. Azalea, hydrangea and rhododendron highlight the grounds with color. Adirondack chairs surround a fire pit on the back patio, inviting guests to enjoy the pines, hollies and Eastern Shore native plants that collectively frame the serene water views. Open for the first time. *Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nelson, owners.*

## The Wilson's Building

245 Mason Avenue #401,  
Cape Charles 23310

In the center of a town reborn sits a building more than a century old, now enjoying its own renaissance. While Cape Charles was a bustling railroad town, the original Wilson's Department Store was the tallest building on the Shore. Today, this brick structure houses galleries and shops at the street level, and spacious loft condominiums above. Distinctive brickwork patterns and balconies distinguish each level. Visitors to this fourth-floor home, named "Maçon Fraise" by the owners' daughter due to the location at the corner of Mason and Strawberry streets, will be impressed by the expansive view of street life below and marina and bay views beyond. In the level terrain of the Eastern Shore, little elevation is needed to reveal this panorama. The present owners renovated in 2014. Favorite family furnishings from the 18th and 19th centuries are mixed with new works by local Eastern Shore chair makers, wood carvers and mosaic tile artists. Open for the first time. *Dr. and Mrs. Earnest Coalter, owners.*



## Tides Pointe

125 Creekside Lane, Cape Charles 23310

Situated on historic Old Plantation Creek in Cape Charles' Bay Creek community, this grand brick home was built in 2014. The arched entry of an open foyer leads to living spaces highlighted by collections and pieces curated from the homeowners' extensive world travels. Highlights are the dining room niche wall, vaulted beams of lime-washed pecky cypress in the family room and a variety of special finishes throughout the home. Woodwork, such as the paneling in the study, originated from trees milled on-site. Faux marbling on the baseboards and decorative wall finishes were painted by the owner. Outside, a pierced wall serves as a framework for informal gardens designed to include an optimal number of Eastern Shore native plants, thus creating a welcoming habitat for migrating species. A herringbone brick path leads the way through a sitting garden brimming with lilies, roses and hydrangea. Open for the first time. *Mr. and Mrs. William Girtman, owners.*

**DAYLIGHT  
SAVING TIME**

Don't forget to spring  
forward on **March 11!**  
Set your clocks ahead  
by one hour.