

## Co-op Will Celebrate 80 years of Local Service in 2020

**A**&N Electric Cooperative will reach a milestone this year in August, as we celebrate 80 years of commitment to Virginia's Eastern Shore and Smith Island, Md.

Cooperatives like ours began in the 1930s. At that time, more than 50 years after the first American neighborhood was lighted, rural areas were being left in the dark because it was too expensive to provide electricity. Without power, the simplest of farm chores remained back-breaking work.

Rural electrification was one of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's relief projects announced Jan. 4, 1935. The following April, Congress appropriated \$100 million for the project, and the next month Executive Order 7037 created the Rural Electrification Administration (REA). On Nov. 29, 1935, the Farmers Rural Utilities organized as Virginia's first non-profit utility corporation.

In March 1936, the Virginia General Assembly approved the Rural Electrification Act.

On the Eastern Shore, ordinary citizens were determined to form a cooperative that would light up their portion of the peninsula. They went door-to-door to garner support, and eventually secured funding from the Rural Electrification Administration that had been created by Roosevelt in 1935. The newly formed A&N took over the Parksley Power and Coal Supply in August of 1940, and the effort to light the two counties of the Eastern Shore was off and running.

On Jan. 1, 1968, Accomack-Northampton assumed responsibility for the Chesapeake Islands Electric Co-op. Chesapeake Islands Electric Co-op consisted of diesel engines generating power for Tangier Island, Va. and Smith Island, Md. This power supply continued for 10 years until May 5, 1978, when a



Photographs from our archives. A&N Electric Cooperative will celebrate 80 years of service to the local area this August.

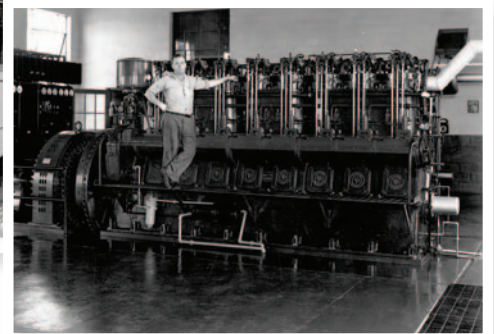
power line was run from the mainland to the islands.

On June 27, 1977, Accomack-Northampton changed its name to A&N Electric Cooperative.

In 2005, A&N Electric Cooperative moved into its new Tasley office facility. The cooperative had been headquartered in Parksley. And in 2008, the cooperative acquired all the local distribution and related assets from Delmarva Power. At the time, the move doubled the cooperative's workforce, and tripled the number of

meters it serviced.

Today A&N Electric Cooperative continues to provide safe, reliable electric service to its members in the counties of Accomack and Northampton on Virginia's Eastern Shore and Smith Island, Md. The cooperative is non-profit, with no outside investors. The same refundable \$5 fee charged in 1940 is all that is required to become a member. Any profits are returned to members in the form of capital credits.



# Electric Cooperatives Accepting College Scholarship Applications

Electric cooperatives in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware are accepting applications for their popular scholarship from high school seniors who intend to pursue higher education studies.

The scholarships are awarded by the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives' Education Scholarship Foundation. Since 2001, the foundation has provided almost 800 scholarships to graduating high school students totaling more than \$680,000.

"This program has helped hundreds of students advance their education and demonstrates once again how electric cooperatives are committed to their member-consumers and the communities they serve," says Richard G. Johnstone Jr., president and CEO of the VMD Association.

The open date for applications was Monday, Nov. 4, while the application deadline is Friday, Feb. 28, 2020. Award recipients will be notified no later than

June 1, 2020. The online application and information is posted at [vmdaec.com/scholarship](http://vmdaec.com/scholarship).

Any high school or home-schooled senior graduating in spring 2020, and whose primary residence is served by a VMDAEC member cooperative, is eligible to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship to be applied to a two- or four-year college or trade school.

An applicant must be entering his or her first semester at a post-secondary or technical/trade school in the fall of 2020. Scholarship funds, which will be sent directly to the educational institution, must be used toward tuition, student fees, room and board, or textbooks.

To be considered complete, SAT and/or ACT score reports must come from the College Board. A score report must be uploaded by the student in the online application system. Scores listed on transcripts do not qualify. If a student has taken the SAT more than once, he or she can take the best score from each test



("Super Score"), but both tests must be submitted in the package to qualify.

The Foundation's board of directors will select recipients based on these weighted criteria: financial need at 40 percent, academic achievement at 40 percent and personal statement at 20 percent.

In 2019, the VMDAEC Education Scholarship Foundation awarded 58 Worth Hudson scholarships to students who live in areas served by electric cooperatives in Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

The scholarships are named in honor of Hudson, the Foundation's first chairman and former chairman of the board of directors of Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative in Chase City, Va.

Questions about donations and the application process should be directed to Sam Brumberg, scholarship program coordinator, at [sbrumberg@vmdaec.com](mailto:sbrumberg@vmdaec.com).

## SurgeAssist Program Offers Peace of Mind

A power surge is a short burst of extra energy or brief period of insufficient energy. These brief variations in the flow of energy can damage electrical devices, especially sensitive electronic equipment, and result in equipment damage or failure. Surges can be caused by events such as lightning, trees contacting power lines, vehicle accidents or activities inside the house. Surges can travel along power lines, as well as telephone and cable TV lines. They can also be caused by the starting and stopping of appliance motors within the home.

SurgeAssist is A&N Electric Cooperative's newest electronics protection program line in its member products and services, and helps address failures caused by surges. SurgeAssist covers surge-related issues that affect most home electronics and appliances, including refrigerators, HVAC, well pumps, TVs, microwaves, computers, washers, dryers, stoves and wall ovens.

You are eligible for the program simply by being a member of the cooperative with residential service.

Members who enroll in the program and pay the monthly fee of \$4.95 a month get the peace of mind that in surge-related situations, A&N Electric Cooperative will cover the cost of repair or replacement up to the \$2,000 annual coverage amount. For more information or to enroll in SurgeAssist, call 757-787-9750 or log onto [anec.com/content/surgeassist](http://anec.com/content/surgeassist).



### SurgeAssist Provides:

- **Low cost** – SurgeAssist costs about 17 cents a day. (\$4.95 a month)
- **Peace of mind** – Anytime you experience a surge-related situation, we will cover the cost of repair or replacement of the claim, up to the \$2,000 coverage amount.
- **Satisfaction** – We have created SurgeAssist to provide an easy, satisfying resolution for your surge-related issues. If you are not happy with the service, you can discontinue it at any time.

# New Year's Checklist

## ✓ Sign Up for SmartHub

SmartHub is a valuable tool that makes it easy to manage your A&N Electric Cooperative account from your computer or your smartphone or other mobile device.

The SmartHub app literally puts control of your account in the palm of your hand with the ability to track your daily and monthly energy use, report a power outage, set up bill reminders and pay your bill. You can also go paperless with SmartHub, if you're looking to become more environmentally friendly.

The app is free and is available for Apple and Android phones and devices. Want to get started today? Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code in the SmartHub ad below. That should take you directly to SmartHub in the app store. Just download it from there.

It's that easy.

To register, you'll need a valid email address and your A&N Electric Cooperative account number.

SmartHub is also accessible through the web; just log onto [anec.com](http://anec.com) to learn more.

## ✓ Update Your Account Phone Number

If a co-op member has changed phone numbers associated with their account but has not informed the cooperative, their ability to report an outage may be affected.

The system A&N Electric Cooperative uses to predict outages utilizes member phone records to help locate issues with the cooperative's electrical distribution system. Out-of-date phone numbers listed on member accounts can impact that member's

**For many the new year is a time for a fresh start. Here are three things to get you off on the right foot this year and help you better manage your A&N Electric Cooperative service.**

ability to report an outage, meaning longer response times in some cases.

If your phone number has changed, contact us at 757-787-9750 to update that information.

## ✓ Serious Medical Condition Certification

If you have medical equipment in your home that requires electricity, please let us know about it. The cooperative will attempt to give these members advance notice of any planned or extended outages. This does not guarantee that your electric service will not be interrupted.

If you have this type of equipment, complete the Serious Medical Condition Certification Form, with the assistance of your physician, and return it to the cooperative. The form can be found on the cooperative's website ([anec.com/content/serious-medical-condition-certification](http://anec.com/content/serious-medical-condition-certification)) or at the Tasley office.

An updated form is required when the anticipated length of time the serious medical condition will last ends, or yearly, whichever occurs first.

The possibility does exist that members who fill out the certification may be without electric service for an extended period when there is major damage to the electrical system. In preparation for this type of situation, you may want to obtain an alternate power source such as a generator or be prepared to relocate until power can be restored.



## Putting The Power In Your Hands



**SmartHub makes it easy to manage and track your A&N Electric Cooperative account from your smartphone or mobile device.**



- Pay your bill
- Set bill reminders
- Schedule payments
- Report outages
- Check your daily and monthly energy use
- View your payment history



iOS Users



Android Users

**Learn more at [www.anec.com](http://www.anec.com) or scan the QR code above to get started!**



# Solar Made Easy



**COOPERATIVE  
SUNSHARE™**

Cooperative Sunshare gives ANEC members the power to embrace even more clean, renewable energy.



Looking to take advantage of solar energy, but can't install panels on your property? Are the upfront and ongoing maintenance costs of a personal solar array holding you back? Cooperative Sunshare is designed for you.



Through Cooperative Sunshare, residential members may purchase 50-kilowatt-hour (kWh) blocks of solar energy.



A 50-kWh block is \$5.42, plus delivery costs. While higher than standard electricity, solar blocks will remain the same price for 3 years and are not subject to Power Cost Adjustments.



Log onto [www.anec.com](http://www.anec.com) or call us at 787-9750 to learn more.

**Subscribe Today!**

# Space Heater Calculator Helps You Monitor Costs

With cold weather, you don't want to spend more money on electricity than you'd planned – like an extra \$70 a month for using two space heaters eight hours a day.

Colder weather doesn't have to turn up the heat on your monthly electric bill if you take advantage of the interactive energy calculators provided on A&N Electric Cooperative's website. We've added a space heater calculator to help you understand one common cause of higher bills in winter.

## Run the Numbers

Before you plug in that snazzy new space heater you bought, check out the energy use. Consider this: If you use two 1,500-watt space heaters four hours each day, the added cost to your bill will be about \$35 a month! If you use them eight hours a day, it'd be just over \$70 month!

Take the element of surprise out of your energy bill and simply visit [anec.com](http://anec.com), look under the "Manage Energy Use" tab and select "Energy Use Calculators." The space heater calculator is located here, along with other helpful tools. Once you've opened the space heater calculator:

- Enter the number of space heaters you plan to use

- Enter the hours per day you plan to use the space heaters
- Instant estimated costs are shown!
- Reduce the number of heaters and/or operating hours to see how much you can reduce their cost.

## Safety Comes First

Safety considerations are also important. Make sure you don't run the heater if you are not in the room and don't sleep with the heater on. Study the recommended operating guidelines and take them seriously. Fossil fuel space heaters have another set of safety precautions and operating costs to consider.



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

## AMI Update

A&N Electric Cooperative continues deployment of its Advanced Metering Infrastructure system upgrade.

The cooperative recently completed residential meter exchanges in Northampton County and in Painter. At this time, the cooperative has completed over one-third of the meter exchanges. Those exchanges will continue northward towards Keller and through the rest of the Eastern Shore peninsula until full deployment is completed. Co-op members can expect to receive an automated phone call the week of their meter exchange.

The upgraded meter system will enable the cooperative to perform several functions, such as reading meters and assisting with outage restoration and will support additional value-added services for our members.