

Summer Rates Begin June 1

New summer rates will go into effect on June 1 and will run through the end of September. These rates are different than the non-summer rates co-op members have experienced beginning October 2018 through last month.

Summer electricity use drives the wholesale cost of electricity. For A&N Electric Cooperative, recently the highest peak demands for electricity during the summer have helped determine the cost of electricity year-round.

The establishment of seasonal rates for cooperative members was approved by the Virginia State Corporation Commission during last year's rate-adjustment filing.

Historically, rates at the cooperative have been the same year-round based on the average annual cost of electricity. This older method has meant times of lower wholesale energy costs have been subsidizing times of high wholesale energy costs.

Members will pay more for the electricity they use in the four "summer" months (June through September), while a lower rate has already been established in the eight "non-summer" months (October through May).

The cooperative's voluntary Beat the Peak program, which encourages members to conserve or limit energy usage during peak times, is an important tool to help control our wholesale power costs. The cooperative pays a monthly demand charge based on the peak hourly usage during the month; this accounts for a

large percentage of the cost of electricity for our members.

When members cut back on their electric usage, it helps the cooperative reduce the amount of wholesale power purchased at peak times. This will help hold down the cost for our members.

Peak periods occur when the demand for electricity is the highest. Usually, these are periods when it is very cold or hot outside. During these times, members are asked to use energy wisely and follow these guidelines:

- During the cooling season, raise the thermostat 3 degrees and, in the heating season, lower the thermostat by 3 degrees.
- Postpone the use of major appliances, such as clothes washers, dryers and dishwashers.
- Delay using hot water during peak periods.
- Turn off all unnecessary lights.

MESSAGES FROM YOUR CO-OP

- Visit us at facebook.com/ANElectricCoop and "like" us.
- Visit 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.



A&N ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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Local Pages Editor
Jay Diem

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

Seasonal Rate Comparison

kWh Used	Summer Rates June-September (4 months)	Non-summer Rates October - May (8 months)
0	\$14.00	\$14.00
500	\$73.41	\$68.25
1,000	\$129.85	\$119.52
1,500	\$183.31	\$167.82
2,500	\$290.23	\$264.41
5,000	\$557.53	\$505.88

*Rate comparisons do not include taxes or any additional fees.



VICE 2019: Learning the Ins and Outs of Cooperatives

Three local students recently attended the 2019 Virginia Institute on Cooperative Education Conference held at Graves' Mountain Lodge in Syria, Virginia.

In early April, Nandua High School's Venah Hargis, Broadwater Academy's Travis Northam and Arcadia High School's Sara Wenzel were sponsored by A&N Electric Cooperative to attend the conference. The three students were selected through the cooperative's annual essay contest, which is also used to determine Washington Youth Tour participants. The contest was open to juniors from every area high school, with one spot available to each school.

Students are required to visit the sponsoring cooperative business and complete an interview form. This allows them to learn about the size and operation of a cooperative in their community. Participants are also provided with a booklet on cooperatives, which they are asked to read prior to the conference.

While at the conference Hargis, Wenzel and Northam participated in team-building exercises, were taught about the cooperative model of business and were tested on their knowledge about cooperatives.

The conference also features a condensed business-simulation game developed by Purdue University. Students were split into teams and simulated the operation of a cooperative feed store through five fiscal quarters. Teams competed against one another to increase their own store's net worth.

"This is a great opportunity for local students to learn about what it takes to run a business," said Jay Diem, the local VICE Conference coordinator for A&N Electric Cooperative. "Students come away with a better understanding of what a cooperative is and what makes the cooperative form of business unique."

This was the third consecutive year A&N Electric Cooperative has sponsored three local students to attend the conference. The cooperative is hoping to increase participation among the local schools next year. The annual VICE Conference is just one of the educational opportunities the cooperative offers to local students.



Above, L-R: Venah Hargis, Travis Northam and Sara Wenzel attended the 2019 Virginia Institute on Cooperative Education Conference held at Graves' Mountain Lodge in Syria, Virginia. Conference attendees spend a weekend learning about the cooperative model of business and participate in a business simulation.



JAY DIEM PHOTOS

Two local students earn electric co-op scholarships

Two high school students whose families are served by A&N Electric Cooperative are the recipients of \$1,000 college scholarships awarded by the Education Scholarship Foundation of the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives (VMDAEC).

The students are **Elizabeth Reid** of Cheriton, a student at Northampton High School, and **Samantha Nicholson** of Chincoteague, a student at Chincoteague High School.

The students were eligible for consideration because their parents are consumer-members of A&N Electric Cooperative.

“We commend these students on their outstanding achievements,” said Robbie F. Marchant, chair of the VMDAEC Education Scholarship Foundation Committee and a director at Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative. “The electric co-ops support them as they pursue their education and then we hope they return to their communities to do great work.”

Recipients were chosen based on a competitive screening process that considers financial need (40%), academic achievement (40%) and community involvement (20%). Applicants must be a senior graduating from either high school or home school in 2019.



From top:
Elizabeth Reed;
Samantha
Nicholson

They must also provide evidence of their acceptance into a post-high-school educational institution or program. These grants can be used to pay for tuition, fees and books.

The Scholarship Foundation Committee’s points-based system and blind-review process ensure that no single committee member sees any applicant’s name until such time as final selections are made, and even then, no committee member has the ability to influence an individual selection — everything is based on points awarded. The majority of points (80%) are awarded completely objectively without any direct input from committee members.

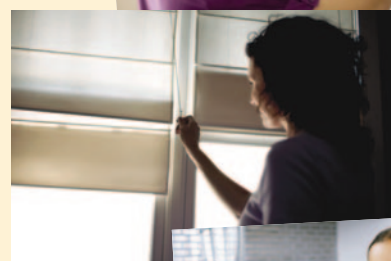
This year, the Foundation is awarding 58 Worth Hudson scholarships to students who live in areas served by electric cooperatives in Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. The scholarships are named in honor of Hudson, the Foundation’s first chairman and former chairman of the board of directors of Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative in Chase City, Virginia. Since 2001, the Foundation has provided almost 700 scholarships to graduating high school students totaling over \$500,000.

The Foundation is funded through tax-deductible donations and bequests from individuals, proceeds from benefit fundraising events and CoBank’s Sharing Success Program.

10 ways to reduce energy use this summer

A&N is committed to helping our members find ways to save energy. There are a number of ways to save depending on the season. Here are 10 easy ways to save in summer:

- 1 Set your home’s thermostat to 78 degrees Fahrenheit. We understand members’ comfort levels vary, but understand that keeping a cooler home comes at a cost.
- 2 Have your HVAC system serviced once per year, preferably by a NATE-certified technician. Systems that are operating properly, operate more efficiently and can help save money on your cooling bill.
- 3 Close window curtains and shades during the day to help keep heat out. The heat from the sun coming through unshaded windows will work against your home’s cooling system.
- 4 Change HVAC air filters regularly. This helps keep air circulating easier, which helps your cooling system operate more efficiently. Regularly check and clean window air-conditioner filters as well.
- 5 Use your dishwasher’s air-dry cycle instead of the heat-dry cycle. Not only does the heat-drying cycle use electricity, it also produces heat that works against your cooling system.
- 6 Consider using a “solar-powered” clothes dryer: an old-fashioned clothes line.
- 7 Ensure your outdoor heat pump/air-conditioning unit is kept clean and free of debris. These units work best when air is able to circulate properly.
- 8 Consider grilling outside in summer. The heat from your kitchen’s stove or oven will work against your cooling system.
- 9 Set your hot water heater’s temperature to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 10 Replace any light bulbs, especially ones that are on for more than one hour per day, with LED light bulbs. Not only do LEDs use less electricity than a comparable incandescent bulb, they also produce much less heat, which helps your cooling system.



Urgent call from a utility? It could be a scam.

NRECA
Utilities United Against Scams

Telephone scams increase around the first of each month

It's becoming a trend in recent months that telephone scammers begin targeting A&N Electric Cooperative members around the first of each month.

The telephone scammer contacts a co-op member claiming to represent the cooperative. The scammer then urges the co-op member to pay their bill right away or they will be faced with an immediate service disconnection.

Members should also be aware that scammers could direct them to use a fraudulent 1-800 number that contains a copy of an A&N Electric Cooperative recorded greeting. And in some cases, the scammer has the ability to clone the cooperative's phone number with a tactic known as caller ID spoofing. In these instances, the scammer is calling from a different number, but uses computer software to trick your caller ID into thinking the call was sent from the cooperative's number.

While residential members are often targets, local businesses should be on high alert for these types of scams. Scammers will leverage the fear of an electric disconnect, and subsequent lost revenue, to push business owners into making a quick decision on paying what they believe is a past-due bill payment.

Please be on the alert for telephone scams. While A&N Electric Cooperative may contact you by phone for various reasons, the cooperative will never call you to demand payment by a specific method or threaten an immediate disconnection of service if payment is not received.

If you have any doubt about a person's validity to represent A&N Electric Cooperative, you should hang up the phone and initiate a call to the cooperative immediately at 757-787-9750 and an official cooperative representative will be glad to assist you.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Want to light up your outdoor space without increasing your energy use? Try outdoor solar lights! They're easy to install and virtually maintenance free. Remember, solar lights work best when the solar cells receive the manufacturer's recommended hours of sunlight.

Source: energy.gov



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





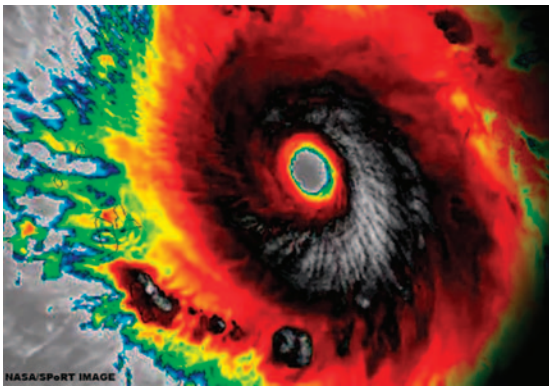
iOS Users



Android Users

Learn more at www.anec.com or scan the QR code above to get started!





HURRICANE GUIDE

PREPARING FOR SEVERE WEATHER

Hurricane season is officially June 1 through Nov. 30; however, the peak threat for the United States is August through October. With each storm comes the threat of wind damage as well as storm surges, flooding, rip currents and tornadoes. The front right section of the storm path is typically where most of the damage occurs. For more information, see our hurricane guide at anec.com/content/hurricane-guide.

During the hurricane:

- Make sure to get inside a building and stay away from the windows.
- Don't leave candles unattended and keep them away from furniture, draperies and other flammable materials. Make sure to keep children away from open flames. Avoid using candles if possible.
- Don't open freezers and refrigerators any more than absolutely necessary.
- Listen to local radio stations for news about power outages.
- Turn off your heating and air-conditioning systems, as well as electric range.
- Unplug sensitive electronic appliances such as TVs, Blu-ray players, microwave ovens and computers — this will protect your appliances against power fluctuations that can occur when power is restored.
- After power is restored, be sure to wait five to 10 minutes before turning on appliances and heating systems.

Below are tips you and your family should practice to stay safe before, during and after the storm.

Preparing for the hurricane:

- Make sure flashlights, battery-powered lanterns and other sources of light are readily available.
- Make sure flashlights and radio batteries are fresh.
- Make sure you have an adequate supply of medicine, first-aid supplies and baby items.
- Keep at least a two-week supply of bottled water, nonperishable food items, batteries and firewood on hand.
- If prescriptions are essential, make sure to get them refilled in case of an extended power outage or extensive damage to the area.
- Make sure to have identification and documentation on hand, such as your social security card, driver's license, birth certificate and insurance information for your home, car and life.
- Have an evacuation plan for you and your family in case of an extended power outage.
- Listen to weather forecasts and predictions for possible hurricanes — hurricane season begins June 1 and ends in November.

After the hurricane:

- If power lines and poles are down in your yard or in the street, always treat them as if they are energized and dangerous. Never touch them and stay away. Make sure to call A&N Electric Cooperative to report downed power lines.
- Debris from the storm can hide power lines that have fallen. Fallen trees that contain energized power lines can electrocute any item they come in contact with, such as a metal fence, a pond or standing water. Even the ground can be energized near fallen power lines.

BE PREPARED BEFORE A STORM STRIKES

In the event of a power outage, be prepared by keeping the following items in an easy-to-find emergency supply kit.

■ WATER

Three-day supply, one gallon per person per day.

■ TOOLS

Flashlight, extra batteries, manual can opener, battery-powered or hand-crank radio, NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert.

■ FIRST AID KIT AND PRESCRIPTIONS

First aid supplies, hand sanitizer and at least one week's supply of prescriptions and medications for the family.

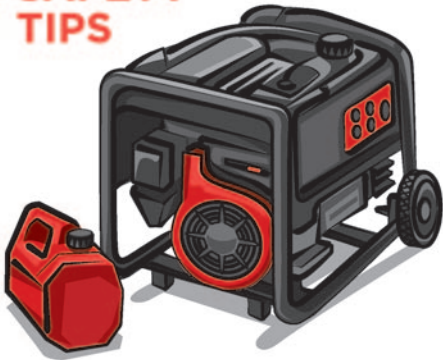
AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

Learn more at www.ready.gov

Source: American Red Cross, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

- If your electricity is out, make sure to check with neighbors to see if they have power. If they have power, you may have blown a fuse or tripped a breaker. Never replace a fuse or reset a circuit breaker with wet hands or while standing on a wet (or damp) surface.
- If you're without electricity and want to use a portable generator, make sure to use it in a well-ventilated area.
- Avoid using candles if possible. If you must, never leave a burning candle unattended.
- If power remains out following a storm and you have to cook with Sterno or charcoal, do so outside to avoid the build-up of deadly carbon monoxide fumes.
- Replenish your supplies of batteries, bottled water, nonperishable food items and firewood for future hurricanes.

GENERATOR SAFETY TIPS



Never connect a standby generator into your home's electrical system. There are only two safe ways to connect a standby generator to your equipment.

Stationary Generator:

An approved generator transfer switch, which keeps your house circuits separate from the electric co-op, should be installed by a professional.

Portable Generator:

Plug appliances directly into the outlet provided on the generator.

Set up and run your generator in a well-ventilated area outside the home. Make sure it's out and away from your garage, doors, windows and vents. The carbon monoxide generated is deadly.

Use a heavy-duty extension cord to connect electric appliances to the outlet on the generator.

Start the generator first **before** connecting appliances.

Source: SafeElectricity.org



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 or call us at 787-9750 to learn more.

Subscribe Today!

OFFICE CLOSING

A&N Electric Cooperative will be closed on Thursday, July 4th, in observance of Independence Day.

If you experience an outage or power emergency during this time, please report it by calling 757-787-9750 or by using our SmartHub app.

