

- A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 🔨

# 2020 EASTERN SHORE GARDEN • Tour Highlights •

ome by bridge or boat to explore the homes, gardens and history on Virginia's Eastern Shore. Bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Chesapeake Bay to the west, the Eastern Shore Peninsula is renowned for the warmth of its residents, the serenity of its waterfronts, the richness of its land and the charm of its homes. Hosted by The Garden Club of the Eastern Shore, the 2020 tour features properties in the southern midsection of the peninsula. Perennial tour centerpiece and National Historic Landmark, Eyre Hall, is an acclaimed ancestral property displaying some of the country's oldest continuously maintained gardens. The tour will be held on Saturday, April 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and features five stops, four of which are new to the tour.

**A&N ELECTRIC** 

#### **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. anec.com

Payments: 1-855-386-9921

President & CEO Butch Williamson

Local Pages Editor Jay Diem

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#### **EYRE HALL** 3215 Eyre Hall Dr., Cheriton, VA 23316

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. 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 wonderfully 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. On the west, the recently stabilized remaining walls of an early orangery add a hint of romance to the garden scene. Beyond the house and garden, broad stretches of open fields and long views over Cherrystone Creek complete the placid panorama awaiting visitors to this perennial centerpiece of the Eastern Shore tour. H. Furlong Baldwin, owner.



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### CASERTA II 14195 Caserta Rd., Eastville, VA 23347

Overlooking Mattawoman Creek and 200 acres of farmland, the original Virginia Historic Landmark home, Caserta, was built in 1736. Later additions by George Upshur c. 1830, resulted in a classic Federal period "telescope" home with the traditional Eastern Shore silhouette: big house, little house, colonnade and kitchen. In 1975, a fire caused by a lightning strike destroyed the original home. More than 20 years later, portions of two unoccupied Accomack County homes of period-specific vintage and exact dimensions - Edmonds House, c. 1810, and Runnymede, c. 1797 - were moved over land to the original Caserta site, joined together and renovated, thus resulting in Caserta II, a typical Eastern Shore Federal period telescopic home. Bricks used in the foundation and chimneys were sourced from the Edmonds and Runnymede home sites. The interior of the current Caserta II is enhanced by an original wood-paneled library, detailed millwork including mantels and wainscoting. Collections of treasured American and English antiques and fine reproductions in furniture, artworks and light fixtures grace both the first and second floors. Separate from the main house is the restored original 1742 ice house. Dr. Howard and Mary J. Moses, owners.



#### BARRIER ISLANDS CENTER (Tour Headquarters) 7295 Young St., Machipongo, VA 23405

Designated a Virginia Historic Landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places for preserving three historic buildings, the Barrier Islands Center sits on an 18-acre farm. Serving as a museum, the center's mission is to preserve and perpetuate the unique culture and history of Virginia's Barrier Islands. Founded in 1996 and opened to visitors in 2002, the Barrier Islands Center is the sole organization showcasing this special regional history, preserving the photos, artifacts and written accounts of those who once called Virginia's Barrier Islands home. A crepe myrtle-lined drive leads to three historic buildings, which together comprise the most complete Almshouse complex extant in the United States. The 1890 Almshouse was the first to be restored and serves as the museum building, displaying exhibits with more than 7,500 artifacts. The 1910 African American Almshouse was restored in 2012 and serves as an education space. A rare piece of Eastern Shore history, the Quarter Kitchen has two distinct halves: the brick structure, c. 1725, and a wood-frame addition, c. 1840. On the center grounds, highlights include brick pathways, functional and decorative plantings, a Hog Island fig orchard and millstone exhibit.



5243 TICKITANK WAY 5243 Tickitank Way, Machipongo, VA 23405

Situated along Church Creek, 5243 Tickitank Way is a new, Coastal Tidewater-style home, completed in 2018. The interior features heart pine floors, vaulted ceilings and an open floor plan, well-suited for modern living. A vibrant and eclectic collection of art from the homeowners' travels and by various local Eastern Shore artists is showcased throughout. Reclaimed bricks from a Baltimore warehouse are repurposed in the service areas, interior chimneys and laundry rooms. First- and second-floor porches offer creek breezes and undisturbed water views. The intuitive floor plan of the upstairs master suite includes walk-through closets, upstairs laundry and office. An open-concept chef's kitchen, complete with a vintage oyster can collection, flows into the sun porch. Copper exterior finishes, rain chains and an herb garden accent the exterior. The inviting outdoor living area includes a patio with a pergola and fireplace. Informal and lush coastal gardens frame the home with a variety of grasses, palmetto, mixed native plantings, roses, boxwood, hydrangea and fern. The pastoral waterfront landscape is further enhanced by live oaks, magnolias, crepe myrtles and palm trees. Christopher and Susan Gass, owner.



FINNEY HOUSE 24350 Finney Dr., Onancock, VA 23417

Built in 1813 on land inherited by Thomas Watts Finney, Finney House sits along Parker Creek in Onancock. Completely restored by the current owners from 2011-2019, the traditional Eastern Shore home was overhauled and a master bedroom was added in keeping with the existing structure. As if to assert authenticity, at one point during the renovation, musket balls fell out from a wall. Traditional colonial paint colors on the exterior and interior of the home convey the owners' affinity for period furnishings, including treasured heirloom pieces like the corner cupboard from Havre De Grace, Md., that was salvaged during the War of 1812. Original glass windows, molding and doors repeat throughout Finney House, along with exquisite original dentils such as those on the mantel in the study. Between the home and the creek bank lies a shaded family cemetery — the final resting place of Thomas Watts Finney and three generations of his descendants. On one of the Finney House chimneys, "TWF 1813" is clearly carved into the brick. Holly, cypress, crepe myrtles and a grand walnut tree border this historic property. Dr. Laura D. Kerbin and Mr. Rick L. Matthews, owners.

### 2020 EASTERN SHORE GARDEN WEEK INFORMATION

Tickets: See vagardenweek.org for details

Parking: Available at each property

#### **Places of Interest:**

- Ker Place, 69 Market St., Onancock
- Historic Cokesbury Church, 75 Market St., Onancock
- Hopkins and Brothers Store, 2 Market Street, Onancock
- Hungars Episcopal Church, 10107 Bayside Rd., Machipongo
- Historic Northampton County Courthouse and Court Green, 16404 Courthouse Rd., Eastville
- Kiptopeke State Park, 3540 Kiptopeke Dr., Cape Charles

# **Upcoming Director Election**

&N Electric Cooperative Directors are elected from the membership to represent you on the Board. Those interested in running for a Board seat can be nominated through the following methods:

(1) The Nominating Committee, representing the areas to elect Directors, is appointed. The Nominating 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 on May 7, 2020. Should you have a recommendation, you can submit your request in writing to the Nominating Committee prior to May 1, 2020, by sending a letter to the address listed below.

Nominating Committee A&N Electric Cooperative P.O. Box 290 Tasley, VA 23417 (2) Member Petition Nominations. Members may nominate additional individuals to run for election for any Director position for which Members are scheduled to vote at any Member meeting ("Member Petition Nominations"). Members may make Member Petition Nominations by delivering to the Secretary at least seventy-five (75) days prior to the Membermeeting a writing for each Member Petition Nomination ("Member Petition"):

After verifying that the Member Petition complies with this Bylaw, the Cooperative shall post the Member Petition Nomination in approximately the same location as the Nominating Committee Nominations. All nominations and petitions are due in by May 1, 2020.

No nominations shall be made from the floor at the Annual Member Meeting. Please visit our website for the complete version of A&N Electric Cooperative's Bylaws.

# Celebrate Arbor Day with Free Seedlings

&N Electric Cooperative is partnering with the Virginia Department of Forestry and the Eastern Shore Soil and Water Conservation District to distribute tree and shrub seedlings on Saturday, April 25th.

A group will be distributing the seedlings at the Eastern Shore Community College in Melfa and at the historic courthouse green in Eastville. The seedlings will be given away from 9 a.m. to noon, or until supplies last.

"The assortment of seedling species we will be giving away will help benefit native wildlife and pollinators," said Mark Belknap, director of vegetation and environmental management for the cooperative. "Cooperative staff will be on hand to help educate our co-op members about proper tree planting and tree-based energy conservation."

Check the A&N Electric Cooperative website at anec.com and social media pages for more details.







WHAT: Seedling Giveaway

WHEN: Saturday, April 25th from 9 a.m. to noon

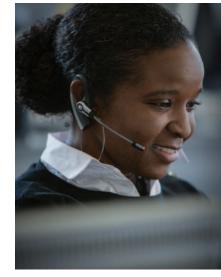
WHERE: Eastern Shore Community College (Melfa) or Historic Courthouse Green (Eastville)

#### COST: Free

Sponsored by The Virginia Department of Forestry, Eastern Shore Soil and Water Conservation District and A&N Electric Cooperative

### **Energy Efficiency** Tip of the Month

Placing hot food in the refrigerator makes the appliance work harder than necessary, using more energy. Allow food to cool down before you place it in the fridge.



# Member Satisfaction Surveys \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in March\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A&N Electric Cooperative will be conducting member satisfaction surveys in March with the help of TSE Services.

Surveys will be conducted by phone and by email.

Survey calls will originate from a call center in the "919" area code.

Those who receive a survey by email will have an online survey link embedded in the email message.

# Solar Made Easy



COOPERATIVE SUNSHARE<sup>®</sup>

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.

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# How the Census Impacts Your Community



Every 10 years the United States conducts a census of the population to determine how federal funds and aid are distributed equitably.

Federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on population totals. A community benefits the most when a census is accurate. When you respond to the census, you help your community get its fair share of the more than \$675 billion per year in federal funds spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.

In rural counties, like the ones served by A&N Electric Cooperative, inaccurate census numbers could cost localities much-needed funding.

Detailed population information is critical for emergency response in the wake of disasters. First responders and disaster-recovery personnel use census data to help identify where and how much help is needed. Similarly, demographic details from the census assist public health personnel in everything from tracking disease outbreaks, to combating the opioid epidemic, to improving child health.

# AMI Update

A&N Electric Cooperative has completed over half of its Advanced Metering Infrastructure system upgrade.

The cooperative completed residential meter exchanges in Northampton County in late 2019. At this time, the cooperative has passed the midway point for meter exchanges. Those exchanges will continue northward 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, assisting with outage restoration and will support additional value-added services for our members.

