

Annual Meeting is Aug. 25 at ESCC's Workforce Development Center

A&N Electric Cooperative will hold its Annual Meeting of the Membership on Thursday, Aug. 25.

The meeting will be held at Eastern Shore Community College's Workforce Development Center beginning at 7 p.m.

There will be no registration gifts or door prize drawings at the meeting. All members who return a valid signed designated proxy by Aug. 22, 2022, for this year's director election will be eligible to win one of several bill credits ranging from \$50 to \$250. Return the completed proxy, which will accompany your July billing statement (members who use paperless billing will be mailed a proxy form), to A&N Electric Cooperative either by mailing it

back to the cooperative or by returning it in person to the cooperative's office in Tasley.

The Workforce Development Center's large meeting room has a seating capacity. If you would like to attend, please contact the cooperative at 757-787-9750 and select option 3, or fill out the web form under the "Annual Meeting" tab on the cooperative's website to register your attendance and to receive information concerning meeting requirements and updated information.

A recorded broadcast will be made available after the meeting. Look for more 2022 Annual Meeting details online at anec.com and on the cooperative's Facebook page.



OFFICE CLOSING

A&N Electric Cooperative will be closed on Monday, July 4, 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. We hope you have a safe and happy Independence Day.

CONTACT US

21275 Cooperative Way, P.O. Box 290
Tasley, VA 23441-0290

Phone
757-787-9750

Payments
855-386-9921

Website
anec.com



Office Hours

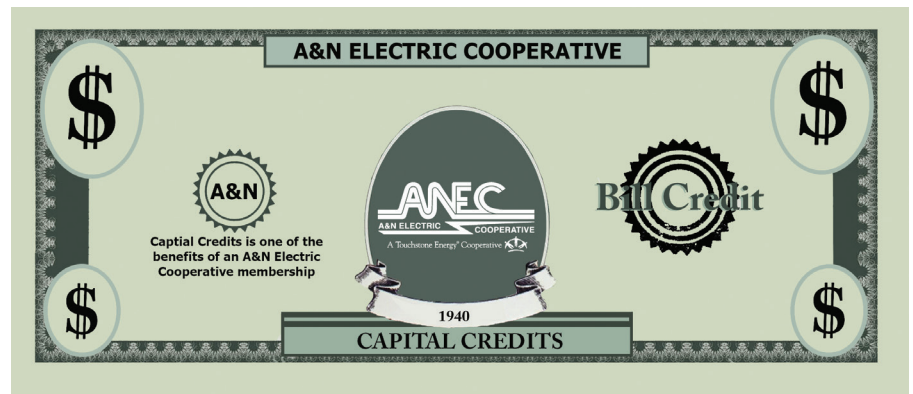
Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

President & CEO
Butch Williamson

Local Pages Editor
Jay Diem

*A&N Electric Cooperative is an
Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

Capital Credits Retirement is This Month



Eligible A&N Electric Cooperative members should notice their capital credit retirement on this month's billing statement.

As a not-for-profit utility company, A&N Electric Cooperative works hard to provide affordable and reliable service. Each year, margins are returned to members in the form of capital credits.

The cooperative recently began returning capital credits to its members in June. Refunds will be shown as a credit on an active member's June bill statement. A total of \$2.79 million in capital credits will be returned to eligible cooperative members.

The commitment to our members has led to the return of over \$31 million in capital credits since the cooperative was established.

HOW DO I RECEIVE MY CAPITAL CREDITS?

Credits will be shown as a credit on active members' bills. Checks are mailed to inactive accounts.

WHEN DO I RECEIVE MY CAPITAL CREDITS?

This year, due to the coronavirus outbreak, capital credits will be applied to co-op member bills in June.

HOW MUCH WILL I RECEIVE?

The amount will vary from member to member based on how much electricity you used in the particular years retired.

Summer Rates Begin This Month

Summer rates will go into effect on June bills and will run through the end of September. These rates are different than the non-summer rates co-op members experience, beginning in October and running through May.

Summer electricity use drives the wholesale cost of electricity. A&N Electric Cooperative's highest peak demands for electricity are during the summer and have helped determine the cost of electricity year-round.

Cooperative members 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 use during peak times is an important tool to help control wholesale power costs.

The cooperative pays a monthly demand charge based on peak hourly use; this accounts for a large percentage of the cost of electricity for our members.

Recent changes to how demand charges are calculated have increased the importance of peak demand energy reduction particularly for Beat the Peak periods called in summer months.

When members cut back on their electric use during a Beat the Peak period, 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 hot or extremely cold outside. During these times, members are asked to use energy wisely and follow these guidelines:

- During the summer months, keep your home as warm as comfortably possible while maintaining a healthy environment. Raising your thermostat setting a few degrees can help.
- Postpone the use of major appliances, such as stoves, clothes washers, dryers and dishwashers.
- Delay using hot water during peak periods.
- Turn off all unnecessary lights.

Know Families Struggling to Pay Their Electric Service Bill?

Give to Members Helping Members

Members Helping Members is one way to help community members who are struggling financially.

Members Helping Members, Inc. is a community non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and was established to assist families needing assistance in paying their electric service bills.

Over 2,500 members are currently contributing over \$3,100 monthly in amounts ranging from under \$1, with the program's round-up option, to over \$10.

Members who are eligible to receive funding from Members Helping Members should contact their county's Department of Social Services.

A&N Electric Cooperative, in cooperation with Members Helping Members, Inc., secures funding through voluntary donations through the cooperative's electric service bills. Members of the cooperative who would like to donate to the program can check the Members Helping Members box on their electric service bills. Cooperative members



AN A&N ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION

can also log onto anec.com/content/members-helping-members and fill out the online form there. Eligibility requirements are also listed there. Donations to the program are tax deductible and 100% of the funding goes to members in need.

To date, the program has helped just over 2,200 local co-op members with more than \$460,000 in assistance.

Office Lobby, Drive-thru Temporarily Closed

The A&N Electric Cooperative lobby, drive-thru and overnight drop box will be closed during renovations to the cooperative's Tasley building.

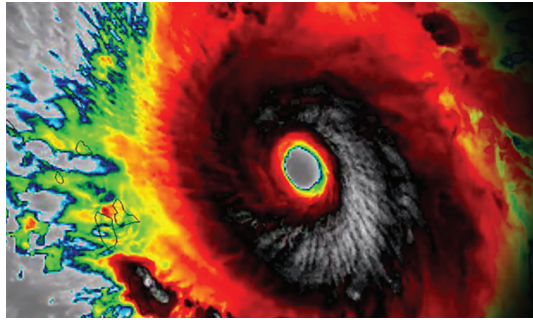
In-person payments will still be accepted at a temporary trailer established behind the cooperative's drive-thru kiosk.

The cooperative has a number of alternative payment options in addition to in-person.

MoneyGram, Western Union and InComm are viable cash payment options, which do not require a member to visit the cooperative. Each payment service has a number of local locations on the Eastern Shore.

MoneyGram and Western Union are secure money transfer services that go to moneygram.com or westernunion.com to preform a location search. Incomm allows a member to pay their electric service bill at the check out line of local retailers using a bar code located on your paper bill statement or by accessing it on your SmartHub Mobile. Go to pay.vanilladirect.com for participating locations.

In addition, the cooperative accepts payments through mail, through it's IVR phone service and with SmartHub.



HURRICANE GUIDE

PREPARING FOR SEVERE WEATHER

Hurricane season officially starts June 1, with the peak threat for the United States being between August and October. While we've been fortunate to avoid a major hurricane in recent years, we've experienced more than our share of severe storms, which can down trees and limbs, knocking out power.

At A&N Electric Cooperative, we are always prepared for major storms and are ready to respond to any outages. Our line crews, engineers and right-of-way crews work year-round to strengthen and protect the electric system to prevent outages before they can occur. But as we enter hurricane season, we urge all cooperative members to prepare for the possibility of major damage and long-term outages.

The cooperative offers some services that could assist members during prolonged outage situations resulting from major storm damage.

Download the cooperative's free SmartHub app, which allows you to report outages and monitor outage restorations.

Look into the cooperative's GenerLink emergency transfer switch program for the safe connection of a portable generator. (anec.com/content/generlink)

In the case of a major storm, visit anec.com and look under the Outage Tools tab. Check the cooperative's social media for updates during a power outage.

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 weeks' 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.

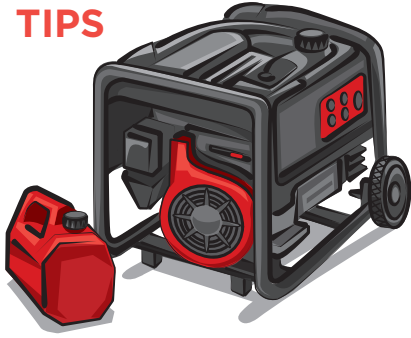
DURING A HURRICANE

- Make sure to get inside a building and stay away from the windows.
- Avoid using candles if possible.
- If you have to use candles, never leave them unattended and keep them away from furniture, draperies and other flammable materials. Make sure to keep children away from open flames.
- 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/cooling systems.
- If you use a portable generator, make sure you follow the proper safety protocols and ensure it is properly connected to avoid dangerous backfeed for our lineworkers. (See Generator Tips on page 18.)

AFTER A 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 at 757-787-9750 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 it comes in contact with, such as a metal fence, a pond or standing water. Even the ground can be energized near fallen power lines.
- 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.
- 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

Energy Cost Increase Clarification

In the May 2022 edition of *Cooperative Living*, A&N Electric Cooperative notified co-op members of an energy cost increase affecting purchased power from Old Dominion Electric Cooperative, the co-op's power supplier.

The portion of the notice regarding the direct effects for residential co-op members should read "residential A&N Electric Cooperative members will see their Power Cost Adjustment credit reduced from \$0.00509 per kWh to \$0.00292 per kWh. An average home using 1,000 kWh will experience an increase of \$2.17 over the cost of electricity from Jan. 1, 2022 to April 30, 2022."

Area High School Seniors Earn Electric Co-op College Scholarships

Three high school seniors from the service territory of A&N Electric Cooperative have each received \$1,000 college scholarships awarded by the Education Scholarship Foundation of the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives.

The 2022 scholarship recipients are:

- Hannah Bradford
- Jordan Crockett
- Taylor Thornes

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

"These scholarships reflect the strong commitment of electric cooperatives to advancing educational opportunities among our youth," said Russell G. "Rusty" Brown, chair of the Education Scholarship Foundation Board and chair of the board of directors of the VMD Association. "We commend these students on their academic success, knowing they represent a future generation of leaders in their communities."

The Foundation awarded Worth Hudson Scholarships of \$1,000 each to 50 students. They are named in honor of Hudson, the first chairman of the VMDAEC Education Scholarship Foundation.

A Gertrude Winston Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 was awarded to Alyssa Robson in the Rappahannock Electric Cooperative service territory. The program was established in memory of the mother of longtime REC board member Richard Oliver.

The C. D Hypes Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500 was awarded to Julianna Stephenson in the Craig-Botetourt Electric Cooperative service territory. Hypes was an educator and a board member at New Castle, Va.-based CBEC.

Cook Scholarships of \$1,000 each were awarded to five students in the Delaware Electric Cooperative service territory. The recipients are Madison Short, Auden Jones, Laurel Hudson, Mason Cathell and Hannah Bird. The scholarships are donated by DEC members Larry and Leslie Cook.

A Roberta Harlowe Scholarship

was awarded to Brenely Hackett in the territory of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative. Harlowe is a past chair of the scholarship fund and is a member of the CVEC board of directors.

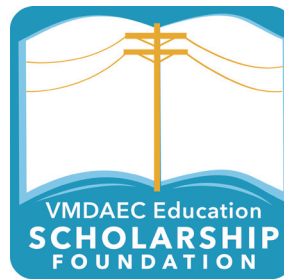
Emma Sperry and Kendahl Parsons of Choptank Electric

Cooperative, and Brett Holmes of Community Electric Cooperative were awarded \$1,000 scholarships in memory of Bill Sherrod, the former editor of *Cooperative Living* magazine. Those students plan to pursue a career in journalism, English, communications or related fields.

"We're extremely proud to be able to help these deserving young people from electric cooperative service areas continue their education, whether at a college or university, or in learning a trade," said Brian Mosier, president and CEO of the VMD Association.

Since 2001, the Foundation has provided approximately 840 scholarships totaling more than \$860,000 to aspiring college students as well as to the next generation of electric lineworkers.

The Foundation is supported through tax-deductible donations and bequests from individuals, proceeds from fundraising events and CoBank's Sharing Success Program. One hundred percent of donations go to students for scholarships. For information on donating to the Foundation, visit vmdaec.com/scholarship.



Safety Tips for Before, During and After the Storm

by Abby Berry

Storm season is in full swing. Many summer storms have the potential to produce tornadoes — they can happen anytime, anywhere, and can bring winds over 200 miles per hour.

In April, a video of NBC Washington chief meteorologist Doug Kammerer went viral. During a live broadcast, Kammerer called his teenage son to warn him of a tornado that was headed straight for their home. Knowing the kids were likely playing video games and not paying attention to the weather, he told them to head straight to the basement. Kammerer debated if he should call his family on-air, but he knew it was the right thing to do. Luckily, the kids made it safely through the storm.

As adults, we understand the importance of storm safety, but younger children and teens may not realize the dangers storms pose. That's why it's so important to talk to your family and have a storm plan in place. Here are several tips you can share with your loved ones.

BEFORE THE STORM

- Talk to your family about what to do in the event of a severe storm or tornado. Point out the safest location to shelter, like a small, interior, windowless room on the lowest level of your home. Discuss the dangers of severe thunderstorms; lightning can strike 10 miles outside of a storm. Remember: when you hear thunder roar, head indoors.

- Make a storm kit. It doesn't have to be elaborate — having a few items on hand is better than nothing at all. Try to include items like water, non-perishable foods, a manual can opener, a first-aid kit, flashlights and extra batteries, prescriptions, baby supplies and pet supplies. Keep all the items in one place for easy access if the power goes out.

DURING THE STORM

- Pay attention to local weather alerts — either on the TV, your smartphone or weather radio — and understand the types of alerts. A thunderstorm or tornado watch means these events are possible and you should be prepared; a warning means a thunderstorm or tornado has been spotted in your area and it's time to take action.

- If you find yourself in the path of a tornado, head to your safe place to shelter, and protect yourself by covering

your head with your arms or materials like blankets and pillows.

- If you're driving during a severe storm or tornado, do not try to outrun it. Pull over and cover your body with a coat or blanket if possible.

AFTER THE STORM

- If the power is out, conserve your phone battery as much as possible, limiting calls and texts to let others know you are safe or for emergencies only.

- Stay off the roads if trees, power lines or utility poles are down. Lines and equipment could still be energized, posing life-threatening risks to anyone who gets too close.

- Wear appropriate gear if you're cleaning up storm debris on your property. Thick-soled shoes, long pants and work gloves will help protect you from sharp or dangerous debris left behind.

Practice Storm Safety

Have a plan in place and make a storm kit.

Listen to local alerts and know where to shelter.

Stay off the roads if trees and power lines are down.



Summer is a time for many fun-filled activities, but the season can also bring severe, dangerous weather. Talk to your loved ones about storm safety so that everyone is prepared and knows exactly what to do when a storm strikes.

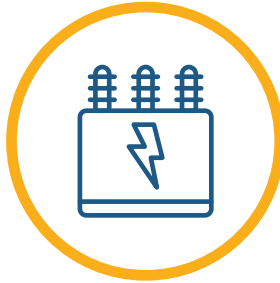
Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing electric cooperatives in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, and across the country.

The Steps to Restoring Power

When a major outage occurs, our crews restore service to the greatest number of people in the shortest time possible – until everyone has power.



1. High-Voltage Transmission Lines
These lines carry large amounts of electricity. They rarely fail but must be repaired first.



2. Distribution Substations
Crews inspect substations, which can serve hundreds or thousands of people.



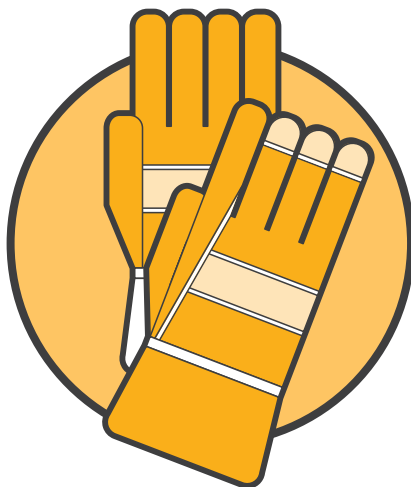
3. Main Distribution Lines
Main lines serve essential facilities like hospitals and larger communities.



4. Individual Homes and Businesses
After main line repairs are complete, we repair lines that serve individual homes and businesses.

Five Tips for Hiring an Electrician

A licensed electrician can help with a variety of home projects from lighting upgrades to full renovations. Keep the following tips in mind if you're looking to hire an electrician.



- 1. Hire a licensed, qualified electrician for the job.**
Look for a master electrician to manage the project. Master electricians have the most experience and will often oversee the work of a journey-level electrician or apprentice.
- 2. Make sure the electrician is insured.**
Seasoned electricians know the importance of protecting themselves in case of an accident.
- 3. Read all the reviews.**
Hire an electrician that has several positive reviews — not just one or two. Read reviews on different sites, like Nextdoor, Yelp and HomeAdvisor, and consider asking your neighbors for recommendations.
- 4. Determine your budget. Get two quotes.**
Knowing your budget upfront helps move the process along. Prices can greatly vary, so get multiple quotes (at least two).
- 5. Talk timeline.**
Some electricians accidentally overbook projects. If your job is time-sensitive, convey that early on and discuss a realistic timeline with the electrician.