Cooperative News



he appeal of electric vehicles continues to gain momentum, and the industry continues to push for greater miles per charge.

Most of today's electric vehicles have a driving range-per-charge between 50 and 330 miles. Range refers to the number of miles an EV will travel before the battery needs to be recharged.

Electric cars typically have a shorter maximum range on a charge than fossil-fueled cars. However, EVs can be charged at home, and the overall operation cost is typically less than a gasoline-powered vehicle.

If your daily commute is under 250 miles per day, there is likely an affordable EV model that will fit your needs. However, long road trips can present challenges for today's electric vehicles. Public charging infrastructure and battery technology is continually improving, but planning is still required for long trips. There are many EV models available with a range-per-charge of 150 to 250 miles. There are some highend EVs that can get over 330 miles on a single charge.

CONTACT US

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

Phone

757-787-9750 • 800-431-2632

Payments 855-386-9921

Website

Office Hours

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

President & CEO Butch Williamson

Local Pages Editor Jay Diem

Thinking About Purchasing an Electric Vehicle?

OPERATIONAL COST SAVINGS

Electricity is less expensive than gasoline and EVs are more efficient than gas-powered vehicles. Electricity prices are also generally much more stable than gasoline prices. On a national average, it costs less than half as much to travel the same distance in an EV than a conventional vehicle. Your savings could be far more substantial if your current gas-powered vehicle gets poor mileage.

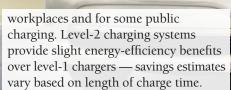
In addition, EVs require less maintenance than conventional vehicles because there are fewer fluids to change, and far fewer moving parts. EVs require minimal scheduled maintenance to their electrical systems, which can include the battery, electrical motor and associated electronics. Because of regenerative braking, brake systems on EVs typically last longer than those on conventional vehicles. EVs do not require oil changes, spark plug replacement and have no exhaust system, which can be costly to replace on a conventional gas-powered vehicle.

Keep in mind that an EV's battery will eventually require replacement and should be considered in the vehicle's operational cost and maintenance.

EV CHARGING OPTIONS

Level 1 – Provides charging through a 120-volt AC plug and does not require installation of additional charging equipment. Level 1 can typically deliver 2 to 5 miles of range per hour of charging. Level 1 is most often used in home applications, but is sometimes used at workplaces. A full charge may take up to 24 hours with level-1 120-volt charging.

Level 2 – Provides charging through a 240-volt plug and requires the installation of additional charging equipment by a qualified electrician/ installer. Level-2 chargers typically deliver 10 to 20 miles of range per hour of charging. Level 2 is used in homes,



DC Fast-Charge - Provides charging through a 480-volt AC input and requires specialized, high-powered charging equipment and special equipment in the vehicle itself. DC fast-charging can deliver an 80% battery charge or 60 to 100 miles of range for most EV models in about 20 to 30 minutes of charging. This format is used in public charging stations, especially along heavy-traffic corridors. Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles typically do not have fast-charging capabilities.

Depending on how far you drive each day, you may be able to meet your driving needs with basic level-1 charging at home. To reduce charging time, a member may want to install a level-2 charging system. A level-2 charger is an added expense and may require substantial electrical upgrades to your home. Be sure to consult with an electrician and/or the cooperative before purchasing a level-2 charger.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

A&N Electric Cooperative's website provides an in-depth EV guide under the "Manage Energy Use" tab - just select the "Electric Vehicles" option. Page features include electric vehicle model information, a cost comparison calculator, a charger finder and more.



Committed to Community Through COVID-19

&N Electric Cooperative and its employee nonprofit, Lighting the Way, remain committed to our community throughout the COVID-19 outbreak.

Since early 2019, Lighting the Way has partnered with the Foodbank of the Eastern Shore to provide volunteers who assist with packing bags for the organization's warehouse distribution program and backpack program.

"Although the pandemic has limited Lighting the Way's outreach abilities, our partnership with the Foodbank has allowed us to continue positively impacting the lives of those we serve throughout this time," says Mandy Montalvo, Lighting the Way's president.

Out of an abundance of caution, Lighting the Way suspended its regular monthly Foodbank volunteering at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak.

With a growing need for volunteers and strong health and safety protocols implemented at the Foodbank's Tasley facility, Lighting the Way returned to volunteering weekly in June.

Lighting the Way continues to volunteer monthly, assisting with packing nonperishable bags of food to help our community.

"A&N employees dedicating their time to volunteer allows us to connect with our community and give back to our members in a meaningful way," Montalvo says. "I'd like to thank all A&N employees who have volunteered

and contributed financially. These efforts are a reflection of their commitment to our community."

BACKPACK PROGRAM

This nationally recognized program distributes food to children at the end of the school day, before weekends and/or school breaks.

Students are identified by school personnel as being food insecure by a variety of criteria.

The program consists of bags filled with food that children take home on weekends. Food is child-friendly, nonperishable and easily consumed. Bags are discreetly distributed to children on the last day before the weekend or holiday vacation.

Backpacks are distributed at Chincoteague Elementary, Kegotank Elementary, Metompkin Elementary, Accawmacke Elementary, Pungoteague Elementary, Kiptopeke Elementary and Occahanock Elementary schools.

WAREHOUSE DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

This program includes all food and grocery products from food drives, purchases, and donations from manufacturers and supermarkets. This is the heart of the Foodbank.

For questions related to the Foodbank's Eastern Shore Branch or to volunteer, call 757-787-2557.



GenerLink Pilot Program Offers Safe Generator Installation

A&N Electric Cooperative's goal is to provide safe, reliable service to our members and to the community we serve. While the cooperative is committed to maintaining a high level of service reliability, outages are inevitable.

A generator can be a wonderful tool during an outage, but it can also be extremely dangerous. If used incorrectly, a generator can cause serious harm, property damage or even death.

To aid members in safely connecting a portable generator to their home's electrical system, the cooperative will begin a GenerLink emergency transfer switch pilot program for co-op members.

The GenerLink is installed behind the electric meter and does not require rewiring of a member's electrical system. It includes an interlocking power cord for connection of a portable generator. The device detects when the generator is operating and automatically disconnects from A&N's distribution system, eliminating a dangerous backfeed.

It can be used with compatible generators listed at generlink.com.

The program is open to a limited number of co-op members.

For more information or to sign up for the pilot program, call the cooperative at 757-787-9750 or log onto anec.com.





September 22, 2020



OFFICE CLOSING Monday, Sept. 7

The A&N Electric Cooperative Tasley office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7, in observance of Labor 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.

Our office will reopen for regular business hours on Tuesday, Sept. 8. Please have a safe and happy holiday!



Delgado Wins Co-op Christmas Card Contest

egotank Elementary School's Jacob Delgado is the winner of the 2019 A&N Electric Cooperative Christmas Card Contest. Jacob's drawing, seen here, will be featured on the upcoming cooperative Christmas card this holiday season. Delgado was also awarded a \$50 gift card for submitting the winning art.

Congratulations, Jacob!

This year's Christmas Card Contest will begin in November. Look for more details in the November-December edition of *Cooperative Living* magazine, online at anec.com or on the cooperative's Facebook page.

Combine AutoPay and Budget Billing for Added Convenience

Combining our Budget Billing and AutoPay programs is a convenient way for members to simplify their monthly electric service payments. Our Budget Billing program is designed to avoid large fluctuations on your monthly bills, often seen with winter and summer electricity use. Each month a new bill is calculated based on the average of the prior 12 months of use, so you can expect to see a small variance from month to month. Qualifying members may sign up at any time throughout the year. To qualify, you must have a zero balance, be at the service location for at least 12 months and have an acceptable payment history.

For added convenience, we recommend participating in AutoPay. The cooperative will automatically charge your credit card or draft your bank account for the calculated budget amount for your monthly electric bill. Save time and money when you pair Budget Billing and AutoPay together.

There are no sign-up fees associated with AutoPay or Budget Billing.

For more information or to sign up, visit anec.com or call to speak with one of the cooperative's member service representatives.

Advanced Metering Infrastructure Update

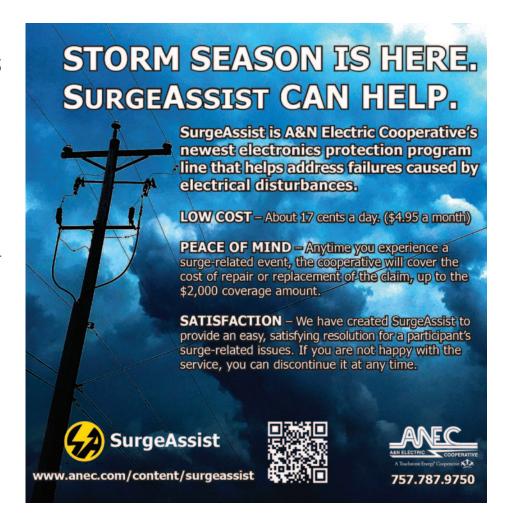
A&N Electric Cooperative has completed the deployment of its Advanced Metering Infrastructure system upgrade. The upgraded meter system will enable the cooperative to perform several functions, such as remotely reading meters, assisting with outage restoration and will support additional value-added services, such as prepaid billing, for our members.

Cooperative Returns to Non-Summer Rates on Oct. 1

he cooperative's non-summer rates will go into effect on Oct. 1 and will run through the end of May 2021. These rates are lower compared to the summer rates co-op members experience beginning in June and running through September.

Summer electricity use drives the wholesale cost of electricity. Recently for A&N Electric Cooperative, the highest peak demands for electricity during the summer 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 been established in the eight non-summer months (October through May).

The cooperative's seasonal rates were approved by the Virginia State Corporation Commission in the autumn of 2018.









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!