



# IRECNEWS

March 2018

## Rate Change Effective on March Bills

In February 2018, Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) announced that the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC) has approved a rate adjustment. A residential member using 1,300 kilowatt-hours (kWh) will see less than a \$3 increase on the March bill due to the new rates.

“This change is the result of careful consideration by your Cooperative’s board and management,” explained Kent D. Farmer, president and CEO. “The need to adjust rates was first mentioned by me at REC’s 2016 Annual Meeting, and has been communicated in numerous ways since then. In May of 2017, REC sought permission to adjust rates. After seven months of extensive review of REC’s operations and expenses, and after considering the input of REC members and other case participants, the SCC approved the new rates.”

The March 1 change will help REC recover the cost of building, upgrading, maintaining,

and repairing the system of local substations, poles, wires, and meters that bring electricity into your home and community. Despite aggressive cost-containment efforts, this change is now necessary in order to continue providing safe, reliable electric service.



## Summary of Rate Changes

- The Access Charge on your electric bill is a flat fee that covers a portion of the costs associated with serving you. This charge will increase from \$10 to \$14. This is the first change to the Access Charge in more than 25 years.

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- There will be a slight increase to the Kilowatt Hour (kWh) Charges in the Distribution Costs section of your bill. These charges cover the remaining costs of operating the electric system.
- Summer electricity use drives a significant portion of REC's power supply costs. To better align the rates with the costs, REC is implementing summer and non-summer rates. This change is reflected in the Generation/Transmission Costs section of your bill.
- During the eight non-summer months, and for the first 800-kilowatt hours of each summer month, the Electric Supply Charges rate will be lower.
- Every summer (June through September), the Electric Supply Charges rate for electricity use over 800 kilowatt-hours per month will be higher.

Need more info? Visit the 2018 Rate Adjustment section online at [myrec.coop](http://myrec.coop).

## Always call 811 before you dig



Planning a landscaping or other project in your yard that involves digging? Your safety is the top priority to us. If you don't know where underground utility lines are located, digging can be dangerous and costly.

**ALWAYS** call 8-1-1 at least three days in advance (not counting weekends and holidays) to have your underground

utilities marked. Then, allow time for utilities to be marked. Respect the marks. And excavate carefully.

One call helps ensure your safety and prevent damage to underground lines. Visit [va811.com](http://va811.com) for more information.

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