



Power Costs Decrease in 2020



RECNEWS

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REC Member-Owners Pay Less for Electricity

In 2020, the power bill from Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) for a typical home using 1,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) per month has gone down \$3 per month.

“This reduction is a result of REC’s long-term wholesale power contract with Old Dominion Electric Cooperative (ODEC) and its diversified portfolio of energy resources,” said Matt Faulconer, manager of external affairs. “REC’s relationship with ODEC provides access to affordable wholesale power, and that directly benefits REC’s member-owners in the form of this bill decrease.”

The reduction appears on electric bills under the line item titled Power Cost Adjustment (PCA), and started in January. The PCA, in addition to the Electricity Supply Service rate, recovers the costs to generate and transmit power, which vary from year-to-year.

While the total bill reduction will vary depending on a member-owner’s electricity use, the savings REC is passing along is .3 cents per kWh.

In addition to effectively managing wholesale power costs, REC and ODEC’s other member cooperatives are working to increase the use of renewable energy, with several solar facilities expected to soon be added across Virginia.

“This rate decrease – and the new programs we have planned for 2020 – reflect our commitment to putting member-owners first, because together, We Are REC.”

Matt Faulconer,
manager of
external affairs

Other exciting, innovative programs

- If approved by the State Corporation Commission, then starting this summer a new program would compensate member-owners who voluntarily reduce their energy use on peak-demand days during the summer. Learn more: myrec.coop/PeakRate
- REC expects to soon offer an incentive for member-owners who charge their electric vehicles during off-peak hours. Learn more: myrec.coop/EVcharging





2020 REC DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

The 2020 Director Elections open March 1. Look for additional details in the March/April issue of Cooperative Living or online at www.myrec.coop. Member-owners will elect directors for the following three regions:

- Region IV – the counties of Culpeper and Orange. Currently represented by Sanford Reaves Jr.
- Region V – Spotsylvania County. Currently represented by Jesse R. “Randy” Thomas.
- Region IX – the counties of Essex, King and Queen, and King William. Currently represented by Eugene L. Campbell Jr.

Director Elections will take place on Aug. 19, 2020, at REC’s Annual Meeting. All member-owners can participate in the 2020 Director Elections process by returning their Proxy Designation, which will become available July 1, or by attending the meeting in person.



How Weather Affects Your Bill

We cruised through a mild holiday season, but winter has burst onto the scene. If you have an electric home-heating system, your HVAC may struggle to keep up during a deep freeze. That could force auxiliary heat to kick on, which uses considerably more electricity.

The bottom line: As we enter what is traditionally the coldest time of the year, we use more electricity to keep our families comfortable.



Here are a few ways to keep your energy use in check:

- Set your thermostat to 68 degrees or lower, especially at night or when no one is home. If you have a programmable thermostat, set it to automatically make those adjustments. When raising the temperature, do so in increments of no more than 2 degrees at a time.
- Instead of turning the thermostat up, add an extra layer of clothing or grab a blanket.
- Set the temperature on your water heater to 120 degrees – and avoid long, hot showers.