



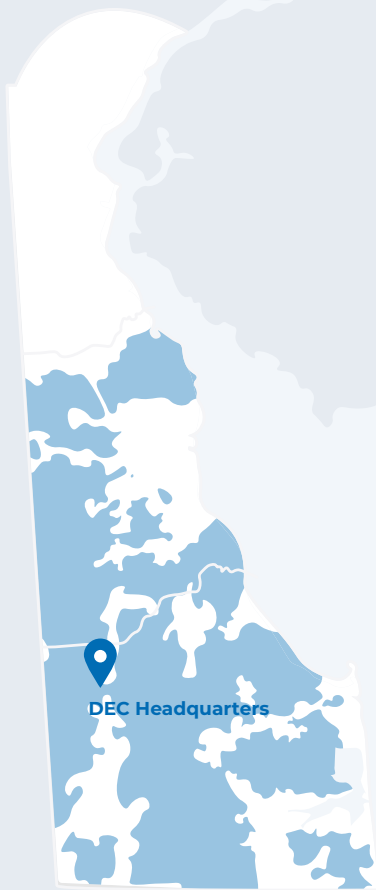
Delaware Electric Cooperative
Sustainability Report



“We are committed to
providing safe, reliable
and competitively
priced energy services
and empowering our
members to improve
their quality of life.”

About Us

Delaware Electric Cooperative (DEC) was founded by a group of farmers in 1936 to bring the life-changing benefits of electricity to rural Delaware. Farms that once sat dark at night were suddenly illuminated and the lives of thousands of Kent and Sussex County residents were changed forever. Delaware Electric Cooperative has transformed itself from a small, rural electric provider back in the 1930s, to a nationally recognized utility with a reputation for innovation. DEC is focused on the future, which promises to bring extraordinary changes to the energy industry. Co-op leaders are proud to be taking a proactive role in shaping this energy revolution and making sure members have reliable, affordable and clean energy for years to come. Economics and technology are the new drivers for a cleaner, more resilient electrical system. Cooperative leaders are dedicated to reducing energy impacts and are providing members with the tools they need to conserve energy, all while maintaining the Co-op's position as the state's lowest cost energy provider.



DEC Headquarters

Service Territory

Where Does DEC's Energy Come From?

Delaware Electric Cooperative purchases or produces the power delivered to its members from a variety of sources. DEC's power sources include nuclear, natural gas, coal, landfill gas, wind and solar generation. The Cooperative uses a diversified portfolio of energy sources to provide the greatest economic benefit to members while reducing the impact on the environment. Delaware Electric Cooperative is part owner of Old Dominion Electric Cooperative or ODEC, located in Glen Allen, Virginia. ODEC is an electric generation and transmission cooperative, which provides power to 11 electric cooperatives in Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

Our Energy Mix:

35% Purchased Power

38% Natural Gas

15% Nuclear

5% Coal

7% Renewable

New Power Plant Provides Clean, Renewable Energy to Co-op Members

In October of 2017, Delaware Electric Cooperative began powering member homes with a cleaner, more sustainable source of electricity. DEC and 10 other not-for-profit utilities opened a state-of-the-art natural-gas-driven power plant in Cecil County, Maryland. The plant, named Wildcat Point Generating Station, provides clean, affordable power to more than 390,000 homes and businesses on the Delmarva Peninsula and parts of the Mid-Atlantic. The plant has helped to stabilize the price of power, not just for DEC members, but for consumers across the entire Peninsula. Maintaining a diverse portfolio of energy sources allows our utility to offer members affordable rates, while also minimizing the impact of electric generation on the environment. The rates offered by the Co-op are currently among the lowest in the region. DEC members save hundreds of dollars per year on their electric bills when compared to the average rates charged by other utilities.



Harnessing the Power of the Sun

Clean, renewable energy is flowing to nearly 1,000 homes in rural Delaware, courtesy of Delaware Electric Cooperative's Bruce A. Henry Solar Energy Farm near Georgetown. A dramatic expansion of the facility was completed in late 2019, bringing the total size of the solar array to 40 acres. Twenty-six thousand solar panels have been installed at the site, which was constructed in two phases. The first phase of the solar farm was completed in 2013, with solar panels covering 20 acres. The 17-acre expansion will produce an estimated 5.1 million kilowatt-hours of electricity in the first year. Generating the same amount of electricity using nonrenewable sources would result in the release of more than 3,600 metric tons of carbon dioxide, or the equivalent emissions from 770 passenger vehicles annually, according to U.S. EPA estimates. In addition to our solar farm, hundreds of members have now signed up for our new community solar program, which will help us invest in even more clean energy projects. Now, every DEC member can power their home with solar energy for a premium of \$10 per month.



Helping Members Install Renewable Projects Through Grants and Community Solar

Delaware Electric Cooperative is committed to providing members with financial assistance to help cover a portion of the cost to install renewable energy systems. DEC member-owners have received over \$5 million in grants for the installation of solar electric systems, small wind turbines and geothermal heating and cooling systems. That money has helped thousands of members to install solar, wind or geothermal systems that reduce electric consumption, helping the environment. More than 1,900 DEC members have installed solar arrays on their homes through the help of grants. Those 1,900 solar systems are capable of producing 16 MW of power.



Improving Efficiency Through Innovation

Since 2007, we've been able to reduce energy consumption and losses across our system by 28 percent, helping to reduce our carbon footprint by 33 percent. This feat has been achieved through a variety of programs. We've updated electric distribution equipment, including wire and conductors to minimize electricity loss between the generating station and member homes. More than 250,000 CFL and LED bulbs have been distributed to members. Our nationally recognized Beat the Peak program helps to lower energy use during peak usage times. The program has saved members more than \$32 million since 2008. The Co-op recently launched Beat the Peak programs that utilize electric vehicle chargers and thermostats to help conserve energy. We also offer innovative programs to farmers to help them save energy.



33%

reduction
of our
carbon
footprint.



We've eliminated the same
amount of carbon that
would be absorbed by
3.8 million seedlings.



We've prevented
255 million pounds
of coal from being
burned.

Energy Savings Impact

Here's a look at the impact of our
hard work.



According to EPA estimates,
reducing our system-wide
energy use by 28 percent
is the equivalent of taking
approximately **50,000 cars** off
the road for one year.



We've saved
enough
energy
to charge
29 billion
smartphones.

Commitment to the Community

DEC employees are committed to making Kent and Sussex Counties a better place for everyone to live. Employees support a variety of community organizations, including the United Way, Kiwanis Clubs, Rotary and many more. Over the past seven years, DEC has returned nearly \$42 million to members in what are called capital credits. As a not-for-profit, Co-op margins are returned to those we serve. Co-op linemen and employees also frequently appear at community events and fairs to speak to children and their families about electrical safety and smart energy consumption. For more than a decade, DEC crews have helped provide habitat for ospreys living along Delaware's coast by installing nests on utility poles away from power lines.



