



Sustainability Report

Delaware Electric Cooperative





**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) is a unique utility, and our business model is strikingly different from investor-owned utilities. Our main goal is to do what's best for our members. Our utility was founded by a group of farmers in 1936 to bring the life-changing benefits of electricity to rural Delaware. Our Co-op was built by and belongs to those we proudly power. Nearly 90 years after we energized our first home, our commitment to improving the lives of those we serve is steadfast. While we are incredibly proud of our past, DEC is also 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 are dedicated to making sure members have reliable, affordable, safe and sustainable energy for years to come. We're working hard to reduce our carbon footprint and are building a more sustainable and resilient network of power lines and substations. Our goal is to decarbonize the energy we provide to hundreds of thousands of Delawareans while also offering some of the lowest electric rates in the region.



Kent - Sussex Counties Electric Service Areas

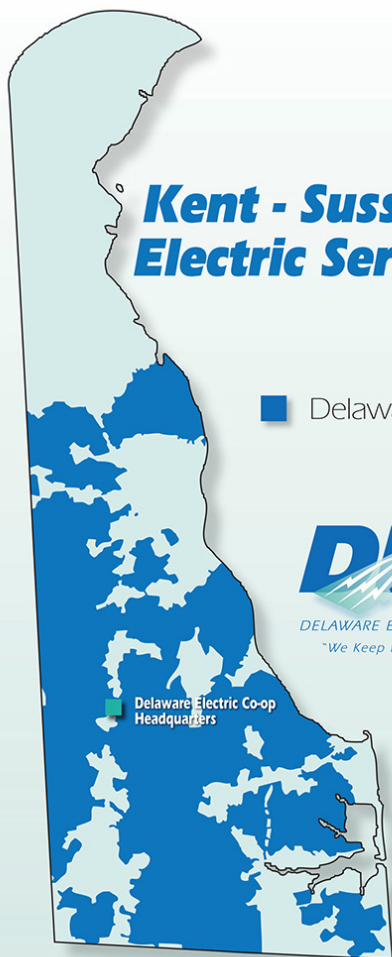
■ Delaware Electric Co-op



DELAWARE ELECTRIC CO-OP

"We Keep the Lights On"

■ Delaware Electric Co-op
Headquarters



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. DEC has committed to reducing its carbon footprint 75 percent by 2050 compared to 2005 levels. Our Co-op is also 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. ODEC has committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by 2030 and is one of the first generation and transmission cooperatives in the nation with a goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

Our Energy Mix:

39% Purchased Power

36% Natural Gas

13% Nuclear

2% Coal

10% Renewable





Beneficial Electrification

As part of the energy industry transformation, DEC is focused on finding innovative ways to utilize new technologies to help local communities. Recognizing a major consumer shift, DEC is also positioning itself as a leader in the decarbonization of the transportation sector. We are investing resources in building infrastructure supporting residential and commercial charging stations, along with public charging stations. Among these investments, DEC has installed chargers at its headquarters in Greenwood for use by members and employees and is working to determine future investments in infrastructure that will prepare our distribution system for additional EV charging. We are also supporting state agencies towards electrifying the state's public transportation fleet. This work has included the build-out of electric infrastructure to support the Delaware Transit Corporation in their deployment of six electric public transit buses serving the state's beach areas. The collaboration will result in significantly reducing carbon emissions and noise pollution and improving air quality to communities in southern Delaware. Through partnerships and grants, DEC also offers LED lighting programs to local businesses and farmers as well as home energy audits and other efficiency incentives to members.

Harnessing the Power of the Sun

Delaware Electric Cooperative is the only utility in the First State to own its own solar generating facility. The Bruce A. Henry Solar Energy Farm near Georgetown was constructed in two phases from 2012-2019.

Twenty-six thousand solar panels spanning 40 acres generate enough clean energy to power 1,000 homes.

DEC is also purchasing power produced at several additional solar farms in central and southern Delaware that are generating enough electricity to power 1,200 homes. Over the coming years, the Cooperative expects to purchase power from four additional solar farms that are expected to be built across Kent and Sussex Counties that will power thousands of homes, farms and businesses. Co-op leaders are committed to expanding the utility's portfolio of renewable energy resources.

Co-op CEO Rob Book says DEC's continued investments in clean generating facilities built in Delaware will reduce reliance on fossil fuels produced off the Delmarva Peninsula that are costly to transmit to our area.





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 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 3,000 DEC members have installed solar arrays on their homes through the help of grants. Those 3,000 solar systems are capable of producing 16 MW of power. Additionally, hundreds of members are powering their homes with clean energy through our community solar program. Members can purchase blocks of renewable energy for just \$10 per month, helping the Co-op further decarbonize the energy it delivers to Delaware homes.

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 46 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 \$40 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 and EV owners to help them save energy.



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 prevented **255 million pounds** of coal from being burned.



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



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



46% reduction of our carbon footprint.



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 decade DEC has returned roughly \$60 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 lineworkers and employees also frequently appear at community events, parades and fairs to speak to children and their families about electrical safety and smart energy consumption. DEC is also focused on helping shape the future leaders of our wonderful state. The Cooperative offers a summer youth tour program for high school students, scholarships to high school seniors and an immersive internship program to connect the best and brightest young Delawareans with real-world experience.

