JUNE 2020

# THE CURRENT

Energy news from around Philadelphia and beyond



Click here to vote online for our Board of Directors!

# **Celebrating Our Partners**

The Energy Co-op has been fortunate to develop partnerships with some amazing organizations over the past year. Not only do our partners do vital work in promoting sustainability and social justice, they also connect us to communities who wouldn't otherwise know about us! This month we're highlighting just two of our amazing partnerships. Is there an organization in your community who you think we should partner with? Help us make it happen! Email <u>meryl@theenergy.coop</u>.

#### Weavers Way Food Co-op

The Energy Co-op literally would not exist without Weavers Way Food Co-op. Back in 1979, we were founded by a group of Weavers Way members who had the brilliant idea to apply cooperative principles to home heating oil, the same way they were being applied to groceries at their food co-op. Over the past year, this shared history has been rekindled between our organizations, exemplifying the cooperative value of collaboration amongst cooperatives.

For Earth Month, The Energy Co-op and Weavers Way got together to deliver a

webinar on The Power of Cooperatives in Renewable Energy. We've also partnered through promotions encouraging Weavers Way members to join our Renewable Energy programs. We are thrilled to have so many new faces in our membership coming to us from Weavers Way, including Weavers Way itself! That's right, Weavers Way has joined us as an RNG, or Renewable Natural Gas, member!

Weavers Way has managed to do all this incredible work with us while supporting their community as an essential business. Their hard work is seen and appreciated by The Energy Co-op community during this difficult time.

Thank you so much, Weavers Way!

#### Clean Air Council

The Clean Air Council is another long-time partner of ours with a closely aligned mission; using clean, sustainable energy is one of the best ways an individual can promote clean air. The Clean Air Council has done so much work to fight air pollution resulting from conventional natural gas. So with the launch of our RNG program in Philadelphia, this partnership became even more meaningful. This Earth Month, we co-presented a webinar on RNG, and encouraged their members to join our RNG program!

These are just two of many partnerships that have helped us grow through joint efforts from new member benefits to Webinars and community outreach.

We've also partnered with the Philadelphia Energy Authority to present a webinar on C-PACE, The Bicycle Coalition for their Bike to Save the Planet series, and the Energy Coordinating Agency through home energy efficiency audits. We are so grateful to our partners for all the amazing work they do.

# Annual Member Meeting—June 25<sup>th</sup> 2020, 5:30pm

It's that time of year again!

The Energy Co-op's Annual Member Meeting is an opportunity to exercise your vote as a member-owner, learn about the state of affairs, and engage with The Energy Co-op staff.

This year, the meeting will focus on Board member elections and a review of the preceding year, followed by a "Get to Know the Staff" session. We hope you'll join us - virtually!

To vote in our Board election and RSVP to the meeting, vote here using our <u>online proxy form</u>. Online voting is open to all members, including those who cannot join us for the virtual meeting.

#### What: 2020 Annual Member Meeting

When: Thursday, June 25th, 2020 @ 5:30pm

Where: Virtual meeting information is provided on the online proxy

#### and confirmation email

If you have any questions call us at 215.413.2122 or email us at <u>info@theenergy.coop</u>. Otherwise we look forward to seeing you there!

# Learn About Renewable Natural Gas

#### Find out at our Webinar on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm

Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) is comprised primarily of methane that forms naturally from the decomposition of organic waste in landfills and other waste treatment facilities. It's often flared, reducing it to CO<sub>2</sub> and wasting the energy content of its methane component. However, RNG can also be used like conventional natural gas—but without any drilling or fracking.

Concerned about drilling and fracking? Join The Energy Co-op for a webinar on an alternative - Renewable Natural Gas (RNG)!

Join us to learn about the problems with drilling and fracking, the benefits of RNG, and what you can do to get involved!

Register <u>here</u>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about how to join the Zoom meeting.

# **Member Training Series to Launch this Summer!**

Want to learn more about renewable energy so that you can tell your friends and family about The Energy Co-op with confidence? This summer, we're launching a training program to help you do just that. Make sure that you stay in the loop for this exciting new program by telling us that you're interested – just email <u>meryl@theenergy.coop</u> and we'll add you to our list.

# **PennEnvironment's 2020 Virtual Citizen Lobby Day for Climate Action**

Join PennEnvironment for PA's largest lobby day for climate action --VIRTUALLY! PennEnvironment will be bringing together hundreds of Pennsylvanians from all across the state to hold video lobby meetings from your own home on Tuesday, June 16th. They are planning over 100 meetings with state representatives and senators and their staff to advocate for legislation that will help fight climate change. So <u>sign up today</u> to make sure your local elected officials get to hear from concerned constituents!

### **Recent Blog Posts**

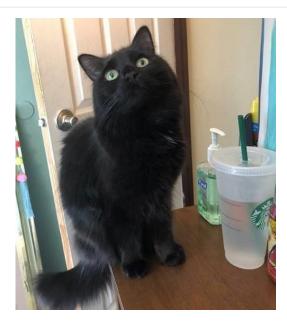
<u>11 Home Energy Efficiency Improvements You Can Do Yourself During</u> <u>Quarantine!</u>—Learn how you can improve your home's energy efficiency without hiring an expert! By Bethany Bender. (No) Love (from the Feds) for Clean Energy in the Time of Coronavirus--- A new federal ruling raises electricity prices and threatens the development of clean energy in Pennsylvania and the rest of the US. By Alexandra Kroger.

<u>Energy Co-op Faces: Former DEP Secretary David Hess</u>-- Learn about Pennsylvania's environmental policy history from a former PA DEP Secretary who has kept a log of state level environmental issues for 33 years. By Georgia Mae Lively.

# What We're Reading

- <u>Pennsylvanians Share Widespread Support for Clean Air and Stronger</u> <u>State Environmental Policies</u>—Clean Air Council
- <u>Bracing for the impact of climate change, local governments look to state</u> <u>for help</u>—by Cassie Miller, Pennsylvania Capital-Star
- <u>In a First, Renewable Energy Is Poised to Eclipse Coal in U.S.</u>—by Brad Plumer, New York Times

# Cats of The Energy Co-op Caption Competition!



# May Winner: "Clean Energy? That's ME!"

Congratulations to the winner of our May Cat Caption Contest, Barbara Brigham! Caption Contest winners will have a choice of \$35 gift card to Weavers Way Food Co-op, a \$35 donation to the Clean Air Council in their name, or a one-year membership in The Bicycle Coalition.

The Cat Caption Contest is taking this month off and will be back later this summer.



#### THE ENERGY CO-OP

Leading the Energy Evolution

215.413.2122 | info@theenergy.coop | www.theenergy.coop