OCTOBER 2022

THE CURRENT STHE CO-OP

Energy news from around Philadelphia and beyond



In this month's newsletter -

- Many member events to choose from this October, National Co-op Month
- Consider using your utility's budget billing plan
- The Energy Co-op is hiring
- Share your expertise in an Energy Co-op Member-to-Member webinar

Member Events Abound!

Happy Autumn, Members.

One of the many things that sets The Energy Co-op apart as a renewable energy supplier is that we are a member owned cooperative. This <u>National Co-op</u> <u>Month</u>, we are reminded of and full of gratitude for our members' continued commitment to accelerating the sustainable energy transition in Pennsylvania.

And, this month, we're providing plenty of fun and easy opportunities for you to get to know your fellow members and advance our mission.

<u>Please note that an RSVP / advance registration is required for all of the following events.</u>

First up is our **Energy Market Member Update** at 6pm on Wednesday, October 19. As cooler weather moves in, natural gas prices remain high. Because the price of natural gas impacts that of electricity, even wind and solar power, those prices remain high too. To learn more about what to expect in the coming months, join Energy Co-op staff and <u>submit your questions for</u> <u>discussion.</u>

The following week, we need your input as we design a new program to offer members an opportunity to address their carbon emissions while providing even more support for clean energy investment and jobs in Pennsylvania.

There are two **focus groups** scheduled in the coming weeks for you to choose from:

<u>Monday, October 24, 2022, from 5:30pm-6:30pm</u> <u>American Executive Centers - 1515 Market St., Suite 1200, Philly, PA 19102</u>

<u>Thursday, October 27, 2022, from 12:00pm-1:00pm</u> <u>Virtual - Zoom meeting room provided upon registration.</u>

Your feedback on the viability, design, and execution of this new program is essential to its development.

Then, on Tuesday, October 25, we hope to see everyone at the <u>Happy Hour</u> <u>for Clean Energy</u>, co-presented with Young Professionals in Energy (YPE) – Philly and Women of Renewable Industries and Sustainable Energy (WRISE). Join us at Independence Beer Garden in Old City, Philadelphia for a fun, casual networking happy hour.

If you can't make it on the 25th, The Energy Co-op will be hosting our own **member get-together** the evening of <u>Thursday, November 3, at Lola's</u> <u>Garden in Ardmore</u>. Meet your fellow members and Energy Co-op staff while enjoying complimentary beverages and appetizers.

The Energy Co-op has been creating cooperative solutions to energy challenges since 1979. We look forward to a promising clean energy future, driven by the guidance and participation of our thousands of member-owners. We look forward to seeing you later this month!

Sign Up for Budget Billing with Your Utility

As the weather cools off, many of our members will be using more gas and electricity to heat their homes and businesses. One way to keep costs down this winter is to consider using your utility's budget billing plan. <u>PECO</u>, <u>PGW</u>, and <u>PPL</u> all offer payment plans that allow you to average out your high winter month bills over several months.

Join our Team!

The Energy Co-op is <u>looking for qualified candidates</u> for two positions – Finance Associate and Membership Coordinator.

The <u>Finance Associate</u> will coordinate financial administration activities and maintain sound financial administration practices. In order to improve the sustainability of our financial operations, the selected candidate will establish more sophisticated internal financial administration procedures and develop best practices for internal controls.

The <u>Membership Coordinator</u> will focus primarily on member services and communications, interacting daily with a variety of member audiences, as well as external parties and stakeholders.

If you or someone you know has relevant experience and who may also have an interest in renewable energy, help us spread the word about these openings. And if this sounds like you, we welcome you to <u>apply today</u>!

Present a Member-to-Member Webinar in 2023

Not only does The Energy Co-op draw together thousands of southeastern Pennsylvanians to purchase sustainable energy, but the cooperative also facilitates exchanges of knowledge. Education is central to our mission, and we're grateful for members that are so willing to <u>enlighten others about topics</u> <u>that are familiar to them</u>.

Now, we need your help to develop our 2023 Member-to-Member events. If you would like to present to your fellow members on a topic that relates to renewable energy, sustainability, or any facet of The Energy Co-op's work, we want to hear from you! Please send an email to Member Services Manager Noah Swistak at <u>noah@theenergy.coop</u> with a description of the topic you have in mind and your related credentials or experience.

Some 2023 Member-to-Member events are likely to take place in-person or in a hybrid in-person/virtual setting. Our staff will handle all the logistics, including technical guidance, invitations, and the support needed to help you present an engaging and informative session.

Next Community Spotlight: Philadelphia

Throughout 2022, *The Current* has been focusing on different communities in southeastern Pennsylvania, highlighting member activity as well as news about renewable energy and sustainability.

To produce these features, we need your help! Has your clean and green neighborhood group been particularly active in recent months? What green building features did you incorporate into your home design? Is there a new renewable energy project or installation in your community? What is your local government doing to promote the use of renewable energy? In the November issue, we'll turn our attention to neighborhoods in Philadelphia.

So, all you Energy Co-op members who call the City of Brotherly Love home, please share with us what's new or interesting with renewable energy or sustainability in your community. Email us at <u>info@theenergy.coop</u> – we'd be grateful for your contribution.

Coming Events

Energy Market Update

Wednesday, October 19, 2022, 6:00pm - 7:00pm *Virtual - Zoom meeting room to be provided upon registration*. Energy Co-op staff will discuss what to expect in the coming months.

Mariposa Food Co-op Open House

Saturday, October 22, 2022, 11:00am - 3:00pm *Cedar Works - 4919 Pentridge St., Philly, PA 19143* The Energy Co-op will be present, chatting with attendees about renewable energy.

Member Focus Group

Monday, October 24, 2022, 5:30pm - 6:30pm *American Executive Centers - 1515 Market St., Suite 1200, Philly, PA 19102* Member feedback is essential to the development of a new Energy Co-op program.

Happy Hour for Clean Energy

Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 5:30pm - 7:30pm Independence Beer Garden - 100 S. Independence Mall West, Philly, PA 19106 Join The Energy Co-op, Young Professionals in Energy (YPE) – Philly, and Women of Renewable Industries and Sustainable Energy (WRISE) for a fun casual networking happy hour.

Member Focus Group

Thursday, October 27, 2022, 12:00pm - 1:00pm *Virtual – Zoom meeting room to be provided upon registration.* Member feedback is essential to the development of a new Energy Co-op program.

Energy Co-op Member Get-together

Thursday, November 3, 2022, 5:30pm - 7:00pm *Lola's Garden - 51 St. George's Rd., Ardmore, PA, 19003* Socialize with fellow members and staff - food, libations, and lively discussion await!

What We're Reading

Pennsylvania gives millions to boost EV adoption

Pennsylvania is aiming to give a boost to electric vehicles with a wave of new funding. The Wolf Administration is putting \$3.4 million toward building electric vehicle charging stations across the state. *StateImpact*

Ideas We Should Steal: Decarbonize All the Buildings

Ithaca, New York is on track to become the first city in the nation to transition all of its buildings from fossil fuels to renewable electricity, reducing their carbon emissions by 400,000 tons per year. Can we do it in Philly too? *The Philadelphia Citizen*

Amid a massive American clean energy shift, grid operators play catch-up

Grid operators face bottlenecks that are holding up thousands of projects that could help create a cleaner and more resilient grid and tripping up state clean power goals.

Pennsylvania Capital-Star

Will the Inflation Reduction Act spur clean energy manufacturing in the US? Tax experts say yes.

The Inflation Reduction Act attempts to grow domestic manufacturing through direct tax credits and by attaching a domestic content requirement to the full value of tax credits for wind and solar installations. *Utility Dive*

Blog Entries

We've Won this Battle, but Let's Not Lose Focus of the Larger Climate War by Alexandra Kroger

Faces of The Energy Co-op: Colin Teague By Noah Swistak

How Natural Gas Prices Impact Renewable Electricity by Ronald Fisher



THE ENERGY CO-OP

Leading the Energy Evolution

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