

JULY 2021

THE CURRENT



Energy news from around Philadelphia and beyond



In this month's newsletter -

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- **Learn about an alternative to drilling and fracking - July 13**
- **Annual Member Meeting recap**
- **Make new friends and make a difference as a Member Ambassador**
- **Tell us what's happening with your local EAC**

Member Services –Easy, Social, & Fun!

A happy July to you, fellow members! As we move into the latter half of 2021, it's a good time to take note of the initiatives The Energy Co-op team has enacted this year to make membership more easy, social, and fun for our members. We encourage all members to stay informed and get involved with all that's happening at The Energy Co-op. The more engaged you are, the more valuable your membership will be!

Among the new events we launched this year are quarterly New Member

Orientation webinars. Led by Member Recruitment Lead Meryl Sands and me, these interactive sessions assist those new to The Energy Co-op, and those looking to become reacquainted, to better understand our member benefits. Whether you joined recently or want to better understand how The Energy Co-op is a different kind of energy supplier, please join us at the [next webinar on August 24, 2021](#).

Also new this year, The Energy Co-op's Member-to-Member webinar series provides unique opportunities to come together and learn about timely sustainable energy topics. Already this year, we've hosted engaging and well-attended discussions led by Energy Co-op members on the Green New Deal and electric vehicles. This fall, learn from other members about [Sustainable Home Design](#). And be sure to get in touch and let us know if you'd like to present a Member-to-Member webinar of your own.

[Fanta Koita](#) and [Zach Lytle](#), our Member Services Interns, have been providing outstanding assistance to those contacting The Energy Co-op office. The Member Services Internship program provides participants with an opportunity to apply what they learn during their time here in their careers and in their communities. If you or someone you know is interested, [we are currently hiring two new interns to join us in September](#).

A recent re-tooling of our website event listings has resulted in an easier to navigate index of everything happening at The Energy Co-op. We've split our listings into [upcoming](#) and [past](#) events pages, and improved the layout and sequencing of both.

Our team continues to develop a more robust series of member journey communications that are issued to new members. Keeping our community informed is a critical focus as we continue to make strides in providing member value.

Through a series of discussions, surveys, and polls, we've asked for your feedback regarding our programs and communications, and you've responded in a big way! This is YOUR cooperative, and we will continue to ask for your opinions and welcome your suggestions regarding your membership experience.

We've got more exciting developments to tell you about soon, but in the meantime, read on for important updates and details about what's coming right up this summer.

Take care,

Noah Swistak
Member Services Lead

[Renewable Natural Gas Webinar – July 13, 2021](#)

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

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 CO₂ 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.

Join us on July 13, 2021 at 5:30pm for an informative webinar to learn about what RNG is, why you should use it, what you can do to get involved, and more! It's free! [Register here](#).

Thank You for a Successful Annual Member Meeting

Thanks to all our members who joined us virtually and voted in our Annual Member Meeting on June 24th! [A recording of the proceedings is now available on our website](#). Though we're already looking forward to reconvening in-person in 2022, we are appreciative to all our members for your help and cooperation with this process.

We are pleased to announce that all six of our candidates for the Board of Directors - Glenn Bergman, Rebecca Devine, Damali Harding, Joanna Hecht, James Reynolds, and Eloise Young - were elected with over 93% of the vote. Congratulations to them – let's get to work!

Following the Annual Member Meeting, members stuck around for fun and games led by Energy Co-op staff. Attendees got a chance to meet and learn more about one another, to stump the staff on a number of energy topics, and to play renewable energy Quizzo. The victorious Quizzo team and raffle winners received door prizes—a \$50 credit on an upcoming energy bill. Congrats to the winners!

Member Ambassador Training - July 16, 2021

The Energy Co-op's [Member Ambassador training series](#) is a fun and easy way to make new friends, make a difference, and learn more about renewable energy. Don't miss this unique opportunity to develop the skills you might need to connect The Energy Co-op to your neighborhoods and communities.

You'll meet other members of our cooperative community while growing our local, green energy economy. And you'll be able to – literally! – give the gift of renewable energy to friends and neighbors.

Participants will meet from 12pm-1pm on Fridays, July 16th, 23rd, and 30th. [Register today](#) or send an email to Member Recruitment Lead Meryl Sands at meryl@theenergy.coop if you have any questions.

Involved with your local EAC? Tell us about it!

[Environmental Advisory Councils \(EACs\)](#)

assist local officials in Pennsylvania to make policy decisions about natural resource conservation and other environmental issues. In recent months, these groups have become wonderful collaborative partners of The Energy Co-op.



Ronald Fisher presents at renewable energy speaker series presented by West Pikeland EAC - June 5, 2021.

In February, Energy Co-op members on the Swarthmore EAC led an effort to power the Borough's municipal buildings with renewable natural gas (RNG). Last month, the West Pikeland Township EAC invited Executive Director Ronald Fisher to present as part of their renewable energy speaker series. And Energy Co-op staff is currently engaged with several other EACs to assist them in advancing their town or borough's renewable energy goals.

If you're involved with your local EAC or know someone who is, please get in touch with us at info@theenergy.coop. We'd love to hear about your community's efforts and discuss how can we work together to advance its sustainability and renewable energy goals. To find out if there's an active EAC in your town, WeConservePA maintains a [listing on their website](#).

Coming Events

[Renewable Natural Gas Webinar](#)

Tuesday, July 13 @ 5:30pm

Join us to learn about the benefits of Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) and what you can do to get involved!

[Member Ambassador Training](#)

Fridays, July 16 – 30 @ 12:00pm

Meet other members of our cooperative community, learn about renewable energy, and help grow our local, green energy economy.

Philadelphia OIC Smart Energy Class

Monday, July 26

Ronald Fisher and Alexandra Kroger will present to [Philadelphia OIC's Smart Energy program](#), which offers customized job training and job placement services for those who are interested in energy-oriented careers.

[New Member Orientation](#)

Tuesday, August 24 @ 6:30pm

This webinar will highlight the benefits associated with Energy Co-op membership and explain how to best take advantage of them.

[Member-to-Member Webinar - Passive House + Zero Energy 101: Design/Build FAQ for Homeowners & Realtors](#)

Thursday, September 16 @ 6:30pm

Join a designer to learn about certifying safe, healthy, affordable, quiet, pest + dust free homes.

What We're Reading

[Philly firm CES helps make wind and solar power work: It's the 'FedEx of the energy business'](#)

CES plays a critical behind-the-scenes role integrating renewable power systems into the electric grid. Founder and outgoing Energy Co-op Board member Stephen Fernands went from PECO temp to CEO.

Philadelphia Inquirer

[As Philadelphia works to tackle climate change, a question emerges: Is PGW on board?](#)

An examination of efforts to strategize around legislation that would block municipalities from limiting fossil fuel use and promoting electrification - potentially undermining the city's own climate goals and the officials and elected representatives tasked with coming up with solutions.

State Impact / NPR

[Delaware County passes C-PACE Resolution](#)

The Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program will help owners of commercial property with energy and water conservation projects.

delcopa.gov

[Rebuild the economy by unlocking power of solar energy](#)

Here in Pennsylvania, our renewable energy goals are in serious need of modernizing. The wind and solar sectors currently boast the fastest growing jobs thanks to higher clean energy demand, dropping technology costs, and supportive policies and investments, as seen in our neighboring states.

Williamsport Sun-Gazette

Blog Entries

[Faces of The Energy Co-op: Noah Swistak](#)

By Operations Manager Hillary Bedeian

[Faces of The Energy Co-op: Nora Fulvio](#)

By Staff Accountant Bryan Hutchinson

[Electric Vehicles – Accelerating Toward a Cleaner Future](#)

By Member Services Lead Noah Swistak

**Want to learn more about
The Energy Co-op's past?**

**Past newsletters
are now archived here!**



THE ENERGY CO-OP

Leading the Energy Evolution

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