

May AROUND TOWN CALENDAR

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Drive-Thru Country Ham and Fried Chicken Dinner

Noon to 5 p.m. Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, 27108 Mt. Zion Church Road, Mechanicsville.

301-884-4132
mtzionmech.org

Sponsor: Mt. Zion United Methodist Church and The United Methodist Men

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Parish Seafood Dinner/Festival

Noon to 5 p.m. Immaculate Conception Church Parish Center, 28297 Old Village Avenue, Mechanicsville.

240-538-6728
ICChurchmd.org

Sponsor: Immaculate Conception Church

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Golf Tournament

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. 21935 Society Hill Rd, Leonardtown.

717-491-4044
sishollywood.org/wordpress2

Sponsor: St. John's School

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Annual Golf Classic

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Swan Point Yacht and Country Club

301-609-4132
crmcfoundation.org

Sponsor: Charles Regional Medical Center Foundation

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Card Party

7 to 9 p.m. 9611 Trinity Church Road, Newport

301-643-0191

Sponsor: Trinity Episcopal Church

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Memorial Day

SMECO offices closed.

The Customer Care Center is available 24/7.

1-888-440-3311
smeco.coop



Upcoming events and deadlines

Board of Directors candidate applications to be submitted to the Nominating Committee are due by **May 10, 2019**. Contact Terrie Barringer for details at 240-528-9747 or terrie.barringer@smeco.coop.

The 17th annual Gaff-n-Go Rodeo will be held **May 11, 2019**. This event is free to the public and it is held at the Meadow Event Park in Doswell, Virginia.

gaff-n-go.com • 804-968-4073

The deadline is close!

Register for the eighth annual SMECO 75 Bike Ride by May 2, 2019, to save money and ensure you receive a commemorative giveaway. The ride is scheduled for June 1, 2019.

Visit www.smeco.coop/smeco75 for more information and to register!

Stay in touch with SMECO

Report outages, view the up-to-date outage map, review and pay your bill—all with the touch of a finger. Download the SMECO 24/7 app and make doing business with SMECO even easier. Free from Apple iTunes or Google Play.

Prefer texting? Just text REG (for register) to 76326 (SMECO). With SMECO's easy-to-use texting service, you can report outages, get updates, and pay your bill.



smeco.coop/SMECO247

Simplify bill paying

Avoid late fees and the hassle of writing your monthly check by signing up for AutoPay. Once you have signed up for AutoPay, your SMECO bills are paid automatically each month.

Why should you enroll?

- It's quick, easy, and convenient.
- It saves on the cost of stamps and checks.
- It saves you from writing a check each month and you never have to worry about being late with your electric bill payment.

How does AutoPay work?

The AutoPay program permits SMECO to deduct money from an account at your financial institution or your Visa, MasterCard, or Discover credit or debit card to pay your monthly electric bill.

Each month you will receive a message on your bill with the date the payment will be withdrawn from your bank or charged against your credit card and the amount of the payment.

If you should need to temporarily suspend your AutoPay, just contact SMECO four working days prior to the payment date on your bill. You can then pay by cash or check. You can also discontinue your participation in the program by contacting SMECO at 1-888-440-3311.

All SMECO members with accounts in good standing are eligible to join the program.

How do you enroll?

Fill out the online form at smeco.coop/account/enroll-in-auto-pay. You can also enroll, update, or cancel your participation using the Notification Preferences in Account Manager.

If you're already on AutoPay and you want to update your credit card or bank account information, just call SMECO at 1-888-440-3311.



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- 2 The 2019 SMECO Annual Members' Meeting is coming up soon. Are you ready to vote?
- 3 Check out upcoming events and deadlines for SMECO.
- 4 Avoid the hassle of manually paying your bill every month by signing up for AutoPay.
- 5 Stay in touch with SMECO when you download the free SMECO 24/7 app.



Find more events at smeco.coop/aroundtown.

SMECO Sponsors 30th Southern Maryland Computer Bowl

SMECO marked 30 years of sponsoring its annual Southern Maryland High School Computer Bowl on March 2.

The competition underscores the importance of computer skills for students who plan to become proficient in technical and industrial fields. With information technology firmly embedded in daily life, electric utilities like SMECO depend heavily on computerization to help keep the lights on for their customers. The experience of competing in the Computer Bowl can help prepare students for careers such as software development and cybersecurity.

This year's Computer Bowl, held at North Point High School in Charles County, featured 80 young computer experts in a test of their coding skills and technical knowledge. Sponsors for the annual competition are SMECO, the College of Southern Maryland, Booz Allen Hamilton, and the public school systems of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties.

Twenty teams from 10 high schools in Southern Maryland faced the challenging literacy and programming tests in the Computer Bowl. In the first round of the competition, students took a written test of their knowledge of computer history, hardware, and software. In the second round, teams of three to four students created computer programs to solve specific problems, using programming languages such as Java and Python.

The technology used in the Computer Bowl has evolved dramatically since the first event in 1990. SMECO hosted the bowl that year, offering large, terminal-type computers for the programming portion of the competition. Organizers loaded the problems onto the machines from floppy disks. For the 2019 competition, Charles County Public Schools equipped each team with two laptops along with modern software for writing code.

Winners received plaques and trophies, and SMECO awarded gift cards to the top four teams.



First-place team, Huntingtown High School

From left, Brayden Archer, Nick Matthews, coach Tom Currier, Quintin Hilton, and Ethan Hilton.



Second-place team, Great Mills High School

From left, coach Nora Blasko, Nicholas Zhou, Finnegan O'Neill, and Zoe Coughlan. Not shown is team member Sam Wilson.



Third-place team, North Point High School

From left, Caleb Griffith, Christian Parrales, coach Melody Stahl, Matteo Marchi, and Erik Henson.

The 2019 SMECO Annual Members' Meeting is coming up soon. Are you ready to vote?

About SMECO's annual meeting

Every year, SMECO conducts its members' meeting for the purpose of electing directors and voting on bylaw changes. As a member, you have the right to vote.

SMECO has 15 directors, and every year, five directors are elected to three-year terms.

This year, elections will be held to fill one position in Calvert/Anne Arundel counties, two positions in Charles County, one in St. Mary's County, and one in Prince George's County.

The annual meeting ballot also includes proposed amendments to SMECO's bylaws. Bylaws govern the way an electric cooperative does business.

Updating your address

All ballots are mailed to members. In order to receive your ballot, it's important that SMECO has your correct mailing address.

To update your mailing information, you can call 1-888-440-3311 or you can use Account Manager online. To use Account Manager, click on "Sign In" at smeco.coop. Log in with your password and user name. (Click Enroll New User to begin the setup process if you are a new user.) Select "View/Update Account Info" at the top right and update your information.

If you have multiple account addresses, you can designate the one where you would like to receive your annual meeting ballot by calling and speaking to a Customer Care Representative.

Voting

Ballots will be mailed to all SMECO members by around July 22.

- SMECO members can vote by mail or online. (No voting onsite.)
- Members can vote for candidates in each county.
- Ballots must be received by August 22, 2019. Voting results will be announced at the meeting.

Meeting

The annual meeting is a business meeting. Ballots cast by mail and online will be included to make a quorum of 500. To make a quorum, at least 50 members are required to attend the meeting in person.

- **Location:** Middleton Hall
4045 Renner Road, Waldorf, MD 20602
- **Date:** August 29, 2019
- **Time:** 6 p.m.

