

May

AROUND TOWN CALENDAR

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Drayden African American Schoolhouse Open House

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Drayden African American Schoolhouse.

Sponsor: St. Mary's County Museum Division

Drayden African American Schoolhouse

301-994-1471 smmuseumdivision@gmail.com

Facebook.com/DraydenSchool

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Golf Tournament

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Breton Bay Golf and Country Club, 21935 Society Hill Rd, Leonardtown.

717-491-4044 sara.mcaloon@yahoo.com sjshollywood.org

Sponsor: St. John's School

Visit smeco.coop/aroundtown for upcoming local events or to have your non-profit event included in SMECO's online calendar and Cooperative Review newsletter.

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Dinner and a Cruise Series: Meet Dr. Thomas Gerard

4 to 8 p.m. St. Clement's Island Museum.

301-769-2222 smmuseumdivision@gmail.com

Facebook.com/SCIMuseum

Sponsor: St. Mary's County Museum Division

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Memorial Day Holiday

SMECO offices closed. Customer Care Center is available 24/7.

1-888-440-3311 smeco.coop

SMECO helps set up mass vaccination site

SMECO assisted county, state, and federal authorities by installing the necessary infrastructure to ensure the mass vaccination center at Regency Furniture Stadium in Waldorf, home of the Southern Maryland Blue Crabs, could open by March 4 and serve the public.



Energy efficiency tip of the month

Some manufacturers set water heater thermostats at 140 degrees, but most households usually only require them to be set at 120 degrees.

Consider lowering your water heater's temperature to save energy and slow mineral buildup in the heater and pipes.

Source: energy.gov

Convenient ways to pay

SMECO knows that its members want to manage their bills in ways that are convenient for their busy lives, so the cooperative offers a number of easy, free ways to pay, including:

- AutoPay
- Account Manager
- Pay Your Bill button
- SMS text
- SMECO 24/7 app
- Direct Pay line
- Pay by mail
- In person

Pay automatically

Sign up for AutoPay to have your bills deducted automatically from your bank account or charged to your Visa, Discover, or MasterCard.

Pay online

When you visit smeco.coop, you can sign in to Account Manager for fast, direct access to your account information from your computer or mobile device. You can also select the Pay Your Bill button to pay your bill without having to log in.

Pay by phone

Call the Direct Pay line 24/7 at 866-528-7757 to pay your bill, and more.

Pay by mail

Mail your check or money order to SMECO at P.O. Box 62261, Baltimore, MD 21264-2261. Be sure to include your bill stub and write your account number on your check.

Pay by text

Use the SMS texting option (smeco.coop/textme) to pay your bill right from your phone.

Pay by mobile app

Use the SMECO 24/7 mobile app (smeco.coop/smeco24/7) to pay your bill.



- 1 Prepare for SMECO's 2021 Annual Members' Meeting.
- 2 Board candidate applications are due in May.
- 3 Celebrate your lineworkers in April.
- 4 SMECO helped set up the mass vaccination site in Charles County.
- 5 Energy efficiency tip of the month—check your water heater setting.
- 6 Choose the most convenient way to make your payment.



Prepare for SMECO's 2021 Annual Members' Meeting

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, and two in St. Mary'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

Ballots are mailed to all 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 on July 20.

- SMECO members can vote by mail or online. (No voting onsite.)
- Members can vote for candidates in each county.
- Ballots must be received or submitted online by August 19, 2021. 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. In addition to the 500 ballots, at least 50 members are required to attend the meeting online or in person to make a quorum.

- **Location:** Virtual and/or in person, TBD
- **Date:** August 26, 2021
- **Time:** 6 p.m.



Members sit socially distanced at the 2020 Annual Meeting.



Board candidate applications due in May

Board of Directors candidate applications to be submitted to the Nominating Committee are due by **4 p.m., May 7, 2021**. Nominations by petition are due by 4 p.m., May 28, 2021. In order to serve as a director, you must have been a SMECO member with your name on the account for at least one year.

Interested in running for the Board?

Visit www.smeco.coop/annualmeeting for more information.

All candidates must complete an online Board of Directors Candidate Application. To submit an application, visit smeco.coop/annualmeeting.

For more information, call Terrie Barringer at 240-528-9747 or email terrie.barringer@smeco.coop.

We appreciate our line crews

When you flip the switch in your home and the light comes on, you can thank a line worker. Our line crews are the backbone of the cooperative and we value their work and commitment to keeping the lights on in Southern Maryland every day.

In April, we observe two occasions that formally celebrate the more than 236,000 lineworkers who maintain more than nine million miles of electric lines across the country.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association established the second Monday of each April as an opportunity for cooperatives to celebrate line workers. This year Lineman Appreciation Day falls on April 12.

Each year on April 18, National Lineman Appreciation Day is celebrated in honor of the men and women who keep the country powered. On April 10, 2013, U.S. Senate Resolution 95 determined that April 18 would be a day to formally recognize the hard work of our country's lineworkers.

Whichever day you pick, it's always a good day to #thankalineman.

