



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is *Evergreen*?

A. *Evergreen* is a green power program that gives electric cooperative members an opportunity to voluntarily contribute to the increased use of renewable energy. Electricity for green power programs is generated from solar, wind, biogas or hydro renewable resources. Private ownership of renewable energy does not work for everyone. A member's property may not support it or the upfront costs and maintenance may be too great. *Evergreen* is an easy way for any cooperative member to do their part to "be green." Participation in *Evergreen* is separate from any federal or state requirements.

There are many ways to power a home, farm or business through *Evergreen*. In addition to supporting renewable energy, members can choose which opportunity is best for their lifestyle:

- ***Evergreen Everyone:*** Members can support renewable energy in increments of 100 kilowatt-hour (kWh) blocks for just \$1 per block per month (\$0.01 per kWh).
- ***Evergreen Everyday:*** Members who enroll in a storage strategy for their electric water heater will receive up to four *Evergreen* blocks to help keep their water hot.
- ***Evergreen Everywhere:*** Members who charge an electric vehicle during off-peak hours can receive up to four *Evergreen* blocks.
- ***Evergreen Everything:*** Being 100 percent powered by renewable energy isn't just for large corporations. Through *Evergreen Everything*, members can choose to have 100 percent of their electricity use generated by renewable energy for \$1 per 100 kWh block. The average cooperative home uses around 1,000 kWh per month, which equals \$10 per month to be a *green* home.

Q. Where does *Evergreen* renewable energy come from?

A. Each *Evergreen* block is tracked by our wholesale power provider Dairyland Power Cooperative. Dairyland's renewable energy comes from regional solar, wind, hydro and biogas generation resources.

Q. Aren't power providers required to produce a certain amount of electricity from renewable energy resources?

A. Some states require a specific percentage of a utility's energy sales come from renewable energy sources. Dairyland is exceeding those directives. The *Evergreen* blocks members are assigned are above and beyond those requirements.

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Q. What are the benefits of participating in the *Evergreen* renewable energy program?

A. It is affordable. *Evergreen* is voluntary and designed to fit any lifestyle. With blocks starting at just \$1 per 100 kWh per month, it allows members an opportunity to be “green” and support renewable energy to the extent their budget allows. It is easy. Private ownership of renewable energy generation equipment can be limited by cost and location. *Evergreen* doesn’t require any upfront costs for equipment or future maintenance. It provides an option for your home, farm or business to be “green” without solar panels or wind turbines physically on the property.

Q. How do I know I am getting my electricity from renewable energy sources?

A. Dairyland’s own generation facilities and other generation resources within its service territory send their power onto the power grid. The actual electricity that serves your home, farm or business may or may not come from renewable sources. However, when members enroll in *Evergreen*, each member increases the amount of renewable energy flowing into the grid. Dairyland must match the demand for renewable energy from the *Evergreen* program.

Q. How are *Evergreen* program funds used?

A. Renewable energy from regional renewable energy resources is procured to meet *Evergreen* subscriptions.

Q. How can I participate in *Evergreen*?

A. Contact your local electric cooperative.

