



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Q. What is Evergreen?**

**A.** *Evergreen* is an opportunity for electric cooperative members to voluntarily contribute to the increased use of renewable energy sources. 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 65 cents (\$0.65) per block per month (\$0.0065 per kWh).
- **Evergreen Everyday:** Members who enroll in a storage strategy for their electric water heater will receive four free *Evergreen* blocks to help heat their water with green energy.
- **Evergreen Everywhere:** Members who charge an electric vehicle during off-peak hours can receive four *Evergreen* blocks each month.
- **Evergreen Everything:** Through *Evergreen Everything*, members can choose to have 100 percent of their electricity use generated by renewable energy in 100 kWh blocks. The average cooperative home uses around 1,000 kWh per month, which equals \$6.50 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 \$0.65 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 others 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. The *Evergreen* renewable energy that you purchase will be above and beyond state requirements and will replace electricity that would have been generated by conventional fossil fuels.

**Q. How are *Evergreen* program funds used?**

**A.** Renewable energy from regional renewable energy resources is procured to meet *Evergreen* subscriptions. Funds are used to procure renewable energy and administer the *Evergreen* program.

**Q. How can I participate in *Evergreen*?**

**A.** Contact your local electric cooperative.

