



# SUSTAINABLE WESTCHESTER

## 1. WHAT IS WESTCHESTER POWER?

Westchester Power, a program of Sustainable Westchester, enables participating Westchester communities to join together to purchase electricity supply in bulk. Westchester Power offers two power options: 100% renewable NYS hydropower and standard, which is a mix of fossil fuels and renewable energy.

## 2. WHAT IS THE BENEFIT OF THE PROGRAM?

The program offers access to affordable clean, renewable power through a not-profit program vetted by your municipality. It's a safe and easy way for municipal residents and small businesses to participate in market supply options without having to navigate the confusing world of Energy Service Companies (ESCOs).

## 3. DOES IT REPLACE MY CURRENT UTILITY?

No, your existing utility (Con Ed) will continue to deliver your power, maintain lines, and respond to service outages. Your utility is required by law to provide the same customer service to all residents regardless of enrollment in this program. You will receive only one bill from Con Ed/NYSEG on it; you will see separate lines for the electricity **supply** (via Westchester Power's ESCO supplier) and electricity **delivery** (via Con Ed/NYSEG).

## 4. WILL I SAVE MONEY?

The program **FIXED RATES** provide rate protection and insurance against utility rate spikes as well as higher energy rates from Con Ed/NYSEG, which may result from the volatility and unpredictable nature of energy trading prices. However, **savings cannot be guaranteed**, and can only be reasonably assessed over the term of the contract or period of individual participation, not on a short-term basis. In any given month, Con Ed/NYSEG rates can be higher or lower than our fixed rate.

## 5. WHY WAS I ENROLLED?

Your municipality has designated Westchester Power as the default power in your town to leverage its buying power in order to access the benefits noted above and help increase the amount of renewable electricity on the grid. The program's opt-out structure follows the rules set out by the NYS Public Service Commission. Prior to enrollment, all residents receive direct mail communication and are provided opt-out instructions. **You are free to opt-out at any time, and choose another supplier or revert to Con Ed/NYSEG without any fees or cancellation charges.**

**Sustainable Westchester** is a consortium of Westchester County member municipalities that facilitates effective collaboration of environmental sustainability initiatives. Sustainable Westchester brings cutting-edge, first-to-market innovation and resource conservation to create socially responsible, environmentally and economically sound solutions with the goal of creating healthy, vibrant and sustainable communities.

Your participation  
has made a  
positive impact

since 2016, we have  
offset **605,000 metric  
tons of carbon dioxide**  
equivalent to:



**128,450**

**cars taken off the road  
for 1 year**

or



**10 million**

**tree seedlings  
grown for 10 years**

MORE ▼

## 6. WHAT ARE THE CURRENT RATES?

Current fixed program rates are 7.96 cent /kWh (100% renewable) and 7.71 cents/kWh for standard supply, both less than the 2015 Con Ed average. In NYSEG utility areas the current fixed rate programs are 6.93 cents/kWh for 100% renewable and 6.61 cents/kWh for standard supply.

Con Ed/NYSEG rates fluctuate and currently their **supply** charges have been uncharacteristically low and has resulted in an average monthly deficit in some residents utility bills, since the beginning of 2019.

It is important to note that over the first three years of the Westchester Power Program, rates have outperformed the utility, and customers saw savings.

Given that energy prices are dependent upon market factors, predicting what the prices will be in the coming months is not possible. We have seen rate spikes as high as 11 cents/kwh in the past. Specific to Con Ed, over the same period, we've seen increases of 15% in Con Ed rates for **delivery** of electricity. These higher delivery charges, along with general seasonal usage spikes, are significant contributors to the increases some residents are experiencing.

## 7. HOW IS THIS DIFFERENT FROM AN ESCO?

Westchester Power is a nonprofit program (not a commercial endeavor) that has been vetted and sanctioned by your local elected officials and is part of a portfolio of community energy solutions. [Click here for more comparative information about Westchester Power vs. ESCOs](#)

## 8. HOW CAN I LEARN MORE OR HAVE MY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ANSWERED?

Sustainable Westchester is a part of the community, and we stand behind our commitment to the program and its long- term benefits. If you have questions or want further information, please give us a call, we will happily spend as much time as you need.

CONTACT US: 914.242.4725

<http://www.westchesterpower.org/>



LOOKING TO INCREASE YOUR UTILITY SAVINGS NOW?

SUSTAINABLE WESTCHESTER  
*presents*  
COMMUNITY SOLAR

Enjoy the benefits of "greener" energy with your community

- Up to 10% guaranteed savings on your bill's solar credit
- No panels on your home
- No upfront installation costs
- No fee to join or cancel
- Takes 5 minutes to join

[For more information, click here.](#)