NRECA Cybersecurity Resources for Cooperatives
Updated Summary

NRECA has a variety of cybersecurity resources and engagement opportunities available for members to gain understanding of cyber threats to our industry and take steps to advance cybersecurity preparedness.

The following list provides a summary of resources currently available and the corresponding website links. Visit cooperative.com for more information and updates.

Overarching Efforts

NRECA Cybersecurity Program

The NRECA Cybersecurity Program provides a variety of measures aimed to help our members advance their cybersecurity posture. Initiated with NRECA's **Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities (RC3) Program,** a former 3-year collaborative partnership between NREA and the U.S. Department of Energy, we provide resources and actionable advice to our members to establish fundamental cybersecurity measures, educate staff and leadership, and collaborate on threat mitigation, detection, reporting and recovery. Together, we strive to protect cooperatives' organizations and the industry grid.

Topic Websites on cooperative.com:
- **Cybersecurity Overview and Key NRECA Contacts Link**
- **Featured Cybersecurity Resources, Fact Sheets and News**

Contact our team at: membersecurity@nreca.coop

NRECA Research

NRECA Research, a not-for-profit entity, was established in 2019 to complement the resources and services provided by NRECA to address the needs of electric cooperatives. Through NRECA Research, our members can leverage extensive internal expertise and established industry partnerships to develop and demonstrate new technical capabilities that directly address challenges and opportunities of the future electric grid.

Tools and Guides

Co-op Cyber Goals Program
NRECA's Co-op Cyber Goals Program defines specific cybersecurity goals aimed at helping co-ops work toward achieving high priority security measures and creating a benchmark for the implementation of basic cybersecurity fundamentals. It provides clear guidelines and resources for basic security integration and actionable steps to advance your cybersecurity posture.

Cybersecurity Self-Assessment
NRECA's RC3 Self-Assessment tool (available in online and hardcopy versions), help co-ops understand

their cybersecurity posture. Results of the self-assessment can be used by the co-op to prioritize mitigation actions and develop a cybersecurity action plan for their organization.

Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise Toolkit

The NRECA TTX Toolkit provides relevant cybersecurity incident scenarios with real world implications. There are three categories of scenarios designed to meet a broad range of cooperative skills.

- **Toolkit Request Form**

Communication Toolkits and Research

NRECA has conducted research and developed the following toolkits in consultation with its members and outside experts. In some cases, samples have been provided by cooperatives, and they are credited. Please use these materials as a starting point for developing your own plans and products.

- **Co-op Cybersecurity Lexicon – A roadmap to communicating on cybersecurity**

Reputation Management and Cybersecurity Crisis Communications: A Proactive Guide

Cybersecurity events are dominating news headlines with growing frequency. NRECA has a guide to help co-ops navigate these events. This is designed as a proactive tool to support electric co-ops as they work to implement effective communications and reputation management strategies.

RC3 Cybersecurity Guidebook Series

Like safety, cybersecurity is a concern for everyone at a cooperative. However, each job role in a co-op may have unique cybersecurity responsibilities. RC3 is developing a series of cybersecurity guidebooks to provide information pertinent to specific job roles within a cooperative.

- **Guidebook for Electric Cooperative CEOs and General Managers**
- **Guidebook on Incident Response for Electric Cooperatives**
- **Guidebook for Electric Cooperative Board Members**
- **Guidebook for Electric Cooperative Attorneys**
- **Guidebook for Human Resources and Benefits Administration Professionals**

Advisory: Managing Your MSP Vendor for Cybersecurity

This advisory reviews the role of Managed Service Providers and key issues cooperatives should consider when selecting and contracting with MSPs.

Along Those Lines Podcast: What Does an Electric Co-op Look Like to a Hacker?

Advisory Series: Cybersecurity Information Sharing

This series of Advisories explains cybersecurity information sharing – what it is, how it should be done, and why it is important. In addition, the various personal, organizational, and technological barriers cooperatives face regarding information sharing are discussed in-depth, along with key strategies to overcome them.

RE Magazine Infographic: Cybersecurity Threats and Defenses

Waves of new, connected system technologies bring enhanced capabilities to electric cooperatives, but also broader vulnerabilities. These threats are driving changes around what it means to build a "resilient" grid, involving key areas like IT/OT convergence, core business policies and procedures, governance and the burgeoning concept of Cyber-Informed Engineering. This infographic reviews various cyberthreats and defenses.

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Threat Analysis and Reporting

NRECA Threat Analysis Center (TAC)
TAC is a tool and community that enable co-ops to focus on the cyber threats that matter, respond quickly with the necessary expertise, and engage with the wider threat intelligence community without sacrificing privacy.

Engagement and Learning Opportunities

Cybersecurity Update Webinar Series
Join NRECA's cybersecurity team for this free quarterly webinar series as they provide a high-level overview of the latest information related to cybersecurity risks, as well as current opportunities within our industry to advance your cooperative's cybersecurity posture. Each session will also highlight specific NRECA cybersecurity offerings for members—with details on new opportunities and instruction on how interested members can participate.

Co-op Cyber Tech
This annual 3-day technical conference is for all NRECA members and supporting organizations with the goal of addressing cybersecurity in the cooperative space. Conference content specifically highlights co-op cyber and is designed to provide opportunities for peer-to-peer and industry-to-peer collaboration, skills development, and advancement.

ICS-REC: Industrial Control Systems for Rural Electric Cooperatives
In November 2022, NRECA was awarded $15M from the Department of Energy (DOE) to help our member electric cooperatives expand their cyber monitoring capabilities of their industrial control facilities. With the award funds, NRECA is looking to partner with member co-ops to identify and deploy industrial control system monitoring technologies that will provide cyber visibility, detection and response capabilities for energy delivery systems.

Cyber Incident Response Plan Development Workshop
Need a cyber incident response plan but don't know where to start? This free, hands-on, 4-hour workshop will cover various response plan standards that can help you get started. You will need to consider the mission critical assets you have, what the threats are to those assets, and how to recover those assets when something goes wrong.

Infrastructure Resource Hub and Federal Funding – Cybersecurity Consortia
NRECA secured important wins for electric cooperatives in the $1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure package. To support our members, NRECA established co-op consortia to maximize potential access to certain funding opportunities and build momentum behind co-op efforts.

- Federal Funding Opportunities Webinar Series
  Monthly free webinars providing updates on federal and other funding opportunities.

- Cyber and Physical Security Consortium
  - Cyber and Physical Security Webinars
  - DOE Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity (RMUC) Information
    - RMUC Grant and Technical Assistance Program

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[**Cybersecurity Member Advisory Group (CSMAG)**](#)

The Cybersecurity work group is focused on investing in research and products that help co-ops: identify cybersecurity issues, protect data and systems, detect problems, respond to cyber incidents, and recover quickly. Our Member Advisory Group provides valuable input into the work group planning and activities.

Co-op Peer to Peer Learning

- **The Impact of a Cyber Incident on an Electric Cooperative**

  Delta-Montrose Electric Association shares its experience with a ransomware attack in November 2021, including the impacts to their network and systems and valuable lessons learned.

  - [Webinar: Available On Demand](#)
  - [*Along Those Lines* Podcast](#) – featuring DMEA Chief Information Officer Bob Farmer and IT Manager Jay Suckey

Our Team

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Contact for Questions

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