

# GreenPower

from Santee Cooper



## Green Power was a Go!

### ...at Darlington Raceway's Bojangles' Southern 500 race Labor Day weekend.

As more and more special events throughout South Carolina begin using alternative energy resources to meet their electrical needs, two NASCAR races raised the green flag for sustainability at the Darlington Raceway this past Labor Day weekend. By using 100 percent Green Power to fuel their electric needs, the NASCAR XFINITY Series VFW Sport Clips Help a Hero 200 and the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Bojangles' Southern 500 joined festivals and golf tournaments held throughout the Palmetto State that have utilized Green Power to power their events. Distributed by Pee Dee Electric Cooperative and generated by state-owned utility Santee Cooper, Green Power is energy generated by renewable resources such as solar, wind and even decomposing garbage in landfills. These resources are replenished naturally and minimize harm to the environment.

Since it was introduced by Santee Cooper, Pee Dee Electric Cooperative has been a champion of Green Power, offering it to both residential member owners as well as business members like the Darlington Raceway. Buying Green Power is a direct way that residential and business members can do something positive for the environment on race day and any other time of the year.

"Growing up in the Pee Dee, everyone always got excited as race weekend grew close," said Jeff Singletary, Pee Dee Electric Cooperative vice president of marketing. "At Pee Dee Electric, we're proud to team up with Santee Cooper and the Darlington Raceway to bring this exciting Green Powered event to the area. The clean, renewable energy produced by sustainable methods is, once again, going to power the 'Granddaddy of 'em all,' the Bojangles' Southern 500."

Santee Cooper has 28 megawatts of clean, renewable Green Power from sources including six landfill methane gas generating stations, three solar arrays and one wind turbine. Santee Cooper Green Power is Green-e Energy certified, and meets the environmental and consumer protection standards set forth by the nonprofit Center for Resource Solutions. Learn more at [www.green-e.org](http://www.green-e.org). In fact, Santee Cooper is the only utility generating Green Power in South Carolina that is on the state's electric grid, and Pee Dee Electric Cooperative promotes Green Power sales to its 30,000 members.



"To be able to say that our Labor Day weekend NASCAR races are 100 percent powered by Green Energy courtesy of Pee Dee Electric Cooperative and Santee Cooper is a wonderful achievement. Darlington Raceway takes great pride in being a facility that is powered by renewable energy. We appreciate our strong relationship with our electric cooperative, who played a part in making the Bojangles' Southern 500 race a great weekend."

—Kerry Tharp  
President, Darlington Raceway

## "Lady in Black" Fun Facts!

- Darlington Raceway is the granddaddy of superspeedways, having opened its gates in 1950 when most NASCAR races were held on short dirt tracks. The big oval has a slightly egglike shape because the original owner wanted to preserve a minnow pond that sat outside what is now turn four.

- Jeff Burton and Ward Burton represent the only pair of brothers to have won the Southern 500. Jeff won it in 1999 and Ward in 2001.

- From 1995 through the 1998 race, Jeff Gordon won the Southern 500 an unprecedented and still unmatched four times in a row.

- Darlington acquired the "Lady in Black" label because it was the first paved track in NASCAR and the sport's original superspeedway.

- The fact that the corners at each end have a different radius makes it tough to set up a car's suspension so that it handles well all around the track, and newer drivers who misjudge a turn and scrape the wall are said to have earned their "Darlington stripe."

- The first race was scheduled for Labor Day 1950, and when the day finally came the stands overflowed. No one expected more than 10,000 fans, but the crowd of over 25,000 shocked everyone. Fans practically stood on top of each other and they scaled the fence just for a glimpse of the action.

- No one mastered the 1.366-mile track better than David Pearson, who won a record 10 times on it and is known as the "Darling of Darlington."



# Green Power



## Landmarks Around the World ...using solar panels for energy.



### **Sundial Building— Dezhou, China**

Named the world's largest solar-powered office building in 2009, the 807,000 square-foot Sundial Building located in Dezhou, in the Shandong province of China was designed to look like a massive sundial.



### **National Stadium—Kaohsiung, Taiwan**

The National Stadium in Kaohsiung opened in July 2009 to host the World Games, constructed at a cost of \$150 million and covered by thousands of solar panels in a semi-spiral shape resembling a serpent.

### **Burj Khalifa—Dubai, United Arab Emirates**

Rising 2,717 feet above the Dubai skyline, the tallest building in the world uses solar panels to help meet its sky-high demand for energy, with 384 solar panels saving the equivalent of 3,200 kilowatts of energy each day.



### **Eiffel Tower—Paris, France**

Paris' iconic Eiffel Tower has been fitted with solar panels, wind turbines, glass floors, and rainwater collection equipment in an effort to make the building more environmentally friendly. The energy generated from solar panels alone heats half of the hot water used in the Eiffel Tower.



## Letting the sunshine in... with rooftop solar

Since the passage of the Distributed Energy Resource (DER) Program Act by the General Assembly in 2014, solar has become not only more accessible but the renewable resource of choice to many South Carolinians.

### **Several pointers if you are considering rooftop solar:**

- ★ **Contact your local electric cooperative.** They are experienced and can help walk you through the solar process. It's important for the homeowner to have an understanding of their cooperative's policies and procedures with regard to solar. Finally, you will need their approval in order to connect to the grid.
- ★ **Use a qualified licensed contractor.** If you believe solar is right for your home, the most critical step is working with a reputable solar PV contractor. Your electric cooperative does not endorse a specific solar PV system type or installer, but does recommend a solar PV contractor who is certified by the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners in South Carolina. <http://www.nabcep.org/certified-installer-locator?state=SC>. Ideally, the contractor handles most of the steps to install your solar PV system and connect it to the grid, but homeowners should take an active role to understand each step of the process.
- ★ **Get several bids.** Call several companies from the pool of qualified candidates, get multiple quotes, and ask for references. With competition on the rise, it is to your advantage to compare prices among comparable, qualified contractors.
- ★ **Ask questions.** Don't shy away from asking questions. No question is too insignificant. Rooftop solar is a 25-year investment in your home so it's to your advantage to ask questions. A qualified solar installer will be ready to answer any questions that a homeowner may have.



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contact a Customer Service  
representative at  
your local  
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