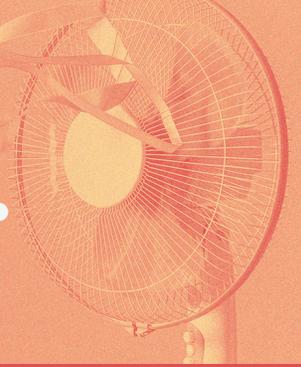


YOUR ELECTRICITY BILLS ARE SOARING THIS SUMMER. HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO.



Electricity and gas supply prices are set to be very high this summer. Energy efficiency programs can help you reduce your energy usage. Assistance programs are available to help customers pay bills or manage the increase.

HOW TO MANAGE YOUR COSTS

- Consider contacting Mass Save for an energy efficiency audit to see how you can reduce your overall energy use, which should result in lower monthly utility bills over time.
- Install a programmable thermostat.
- Enroll in budget billing with your utility.
- Adjust your AC setting – for every degree higher, the unit will use 1-3% less electricity.
- Close window coverings during hot, sunny days which can reduce indoor temperatures by up to 20 degrees.

If you are considering solar, the AG's Office has an FAQ with consumer tips at mass.gov/ago/solar.

YOUR UTILITY COMPANY CAN HELP

If you are behind on your utility bills, you should call your utility company immediately and ask about their payment plans. Utilities typically offer several customer assistance programs, including flexible payment plans (regardless of income). You will be protected from shutoff if you make payments as scheduled under the plan.

Income Eligible Assistance Programs

Don't wait to apply for income-eligible assistance programs. Contact your utility to sign up for an income-eligible rate which provides a discount on your whole bill, or to find out if you qualify for a balance forgiveness plan.

BERKSHIRE GAS
(800) 292-5012

EVERSOURCE
(866) 861-6225 (East)
(877) 963-2632 (West)
(800) 688-6160 (EGMA)

LIBERTY
(800) 544-4944

NATIONAL GRID
(800) 322-3223

UNITIL
(888) 301-7700

COMPETITIVE ELECTRIC SUPPLIERS

A study by the AG's Office found that most electric supplier customers lose money in the long run. Beware of deceptive marketing promising savings as compared to the utility's high summer electric prices. If you have a supplier, check if your rate is still competitive with your utility's. Contact the AG's Office with questions.

OTHER ASSISTANCE

If you don't qualify for income-based assistance, there may also be funds available to assist you. If your household income is between 60 to 80 percent of the state median income, you may be able to receive help from the Good Neighbor Energy Fund.

→ magoodneighbor.org/assistance

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

Attorney General's Office • (617) 727-8400 • mass.gov/ago/summerelectric
Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities • (617) 737-2836 • mass.gov/dpu