

Beat the Peak

Peak is Based on Community Use

Electricity “peak” periods occur at times when electricity use is the highest, which is usually on weekdays in the afternoon to early evenings. When many residents use power at the same time, the amount of electricity produced or bought must increase to meet this demand. This results in increased energy costs.

Cash in on the Savings

The Hastings Utilities Department can help you beat the peaks:

- Run the dishwasher, clothes washer and dryer early in the morning or late at night.
- Cooling costs can often account for most of your total utility bill. For every degree you set the thermostat below 78 degrees, you use 2 – 5% more electricity.
- Turn off lights in any room you’re not using. Consider installing timers or sensors to reduce the amount of time your lights are on.
- Remember to clean the coils on your refrigerator.
- Clear outdoor air conditioning units and heat pumps of debris and shrubbery to increase efficiency and remember to change your system’s air filters regularly.
- You will conserve energy by turning off or using sleep mode for any computer not in use for two hours or more.
- Lower the temperature on your water heater. A setting of 120 degrees Fahrenheit provides comfortable hot water for most uses. Installing an insulating blanket on your electric water heater should pay for itself in less than a year.

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Severe Weather

Severe weather can happen quickly, and we want you to be prepared. If you lose electricity or another utility service, report your outage online from your smartphone at cityofhastings.org/huoutages. This will let us identify and respond to your outage while keeping our phone lines clear for those who are unable to use the online service. To report an outage by phone, call 402-463-1371.