

Manage Increasing Costs and High Usage with Budget Billing

Natural Gas Prices On The Rise

Hastings Utilities would like to inform customers that natural gas prices have skyrocketed in 2022, having reached the highest level seen since 2008. While the price of natural gas is high right now, we want you to be aware that these price increases will become evident to you if natural gas is your source of fuel for heating this fall and winter.

Your utility bill includes a “Purchased Gas Adjustment”, or PGA for natural gas. This adjustment is utilized to accurately charge for natural gas costs, especially when price volatility results in sharp increases. As you begin to use more natural gas for heating, the impact of the PGA will be the driving factor for increases you see in your natural gas bill.

Summertime Usage

More recently, you may have experienced a larger utility bill during the late summer months. Extremely warm temperatures add to the use of electricity for air conditioning, and water for lawn irrigation. Increased electric and water usage can come as a surprise when your bill is delivered, especially in comparison to your bills in spring or early summer.

Budget Billing

We understand that maintaining a household budget has been extremely challenging in recent years, with costs increasing for food, gasoline and so much more.

To help you moderate the upward swing in your monthly utility bills from higher summertime consumption or the anticipated increase in natural gas cost, we recommend utilizing Budget Billing. This payment plan can help you establish more predictable and leveled monthly billings.

When you opt into Budget Billing, your annual utility costs will be divided into 11 equal payments. The 12th month will be used as a settlement month to adjust for any differences throughout the year.

You can apply for budget billing after being in service with Hastings Utilities for one full year at your current address, and when your account has a zero balance. Contact our Customer Services Department at 402-463-1371 for more information, or to enroll.

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