

December 2025

Winter Energy Usage

Energy Assistance
Energy Efficiency Programs

Engage Arundel Webinar

December 2025

Winter Usage & Bill Options

**Pamela Querio-Brennan: Supervisor Community Relations
Community Engagement**

Winter Energy Usage

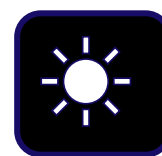
Your home uses **more energy** in the winter. The colder it is outside, the more energy it takes to stay warm inside — so in the winter **your home is working extra hard** to keep you warm.



Heating accounts for a significant portion of your energy use



Air leaks around doors, windows, and insulation



Decreased daylight means lights and electronics are on for longer periods of time

Increased energy usage during winter

High Usage Driving
High Bills

Extreme Temperatures Can Lead to Higher Energy Bills

- Even if your thermostat setting stays the same, **heating and cooling systems work harder** during very cold or hot weather to maintain that temperature.
- Without taking steps to reduce energy use, bills will reflect this increased demand and will likely be higher than during months with moderate temperatures.
- When customers use more energy, the variable costs on their monthly bill go up



Monitor Your Energy Usage

Monitor your energy usage in your BGE MY Account on bge.com or in the BGE Mobile app

- Get real time, customized information to help you manage your energy use with My Account
- View My Usage: enables customers to visualize and explore their patterns of energy consumption and associated cost
- Bill Comparison: compares a customer's current bill with previous bills to identify trends in energy fluctuations
- What Uses Most: breaks down a customer's top three energy use categories and provides personalized tips
- High Usage Alerts: allow customers to stay up to date on important account details
- Benefits:
 - Customers can avoid bill surprises with high usage alerts
 - Customer can receive a text, email or a push notification through BGE mobile app when energy usage is trending higher





December 2025

For More Information: [BGE.com/winter](https://www.bge.com/winter)

How can BGE help?



TIP 1

Extension

Request a payment extension on your energy bill



TIP 2

Payment Arrangement

Request a payment arrangement and pay off past due charges in monthly installments



TIP 3

Apply for Energy Assistance

Customers can apply at the OHEP office



TIP 4

Budget Billing

Sign up for Budget Billing to receive predictable bills based on your historic usage

December 2025

Energy Assistance Programs

**Shayla Smith: Energy Assistance- Community Relations Specialist
Community Engagement**

Here to Help

Energy Assistance Programs

- **OHEP Energy Assistance:** Through the Maryland Office of Home Energy Programs, income-qualified customers can access a variety of energy assistance grants.
- **Fuel Fund of Maryland:** This nonprofit organization that provides financial assistance to income-qualified customers who need help paying their utility bills.
 - BGE residential customer
 - NOT received grant from Fuel Fund in the last 365 days
 - No POWER in their home & active BGE turn off notice
 - Must have made four (4) SUCCESSFUL payments to their BGE account in the past 365 days.
- **BGE Assistance Finder:** BGE's Assistance Finder is easy to use and delivers personalized recommendations on what programs and benefits will work best for you. [BGE.com/heretohelp](https://www.bge.com/heretohelp)

FY26 Income Guidelines for MEAP and EUSP

Household Size	Monthly Income Limits
1	\$2,608
2	\$3,525
3	\$4,441
4	\$5,358
5	\$6,275
6	\$7,191
7	\$8,108
8	\$9,025
9	\$9,942
10	\$10,859
11+ Contact your Local OHEP Office	

Energy Assistance at Your Local CAP Centers

Our Ambassadors Are Here to Help!

Fully skilled for service restorals

Payment arrangements

Energy assistance applications

Date	Location
December 11	Northwest
December 15	Eastern
December 18	Northwest
January 13	Eastern
January 15	Eastern
January 20	Northwest
January 22	Northwest
January 27	Eastern
January 29	Eastern

December 2025

Residential Energy Efficiency

Amey Bayes: Sr. Energy Efficiency Program Manager
Clean Energy Solutions



Energy Efficiency Programs

EmPOWER
MARYLAND



EmPOWER Maryland programs are funded by a charge on your energy bill. EmPOWER programs can help you reduce your energy consumption and save you money. To learn more about EmPOWER and how you can participate, go to BGESmartEnergy.com.

Energy Efficiency Programs for BGE Customers



Home Energy Audits

QHEC: Takes about an hour, a certified contractor conducts a visual inspection of the home, provides energy saving tips, and installs energy saving items at no additional cost. Leaves a personalized report.

Home Performance with ENERGY STAR: A 4-hour, \$100 comprehensive audit with incentives for insulation, HVAC, and water heater upgrades



HVAC Tune-Up

HVAC Tune-Up includes a system performance check of the HVAC system, contractor will inspect and clean the coils, inspect the electrical components, check the refrigerant levels, and cleans the condensate drain. Eligible customers may receive a smart thermostat at no additional cost and can join BGE's Connected Rewards Program



Appliance Recycling

Incentives available for customers to turn in their older less efficient working refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, and room air-conditioners



Appliance Rebates

Rebates are available on dehumidifiers and smart thermostats, helping you save money while reducing energy use



MD DHCD Programs

DHCD help income-qualified customers improve home efficiency with free upgrades like insulation, water system improvements, furnace repairs, and refrigerator retrofits

What can customers do to use less energy during the winter and summer months?



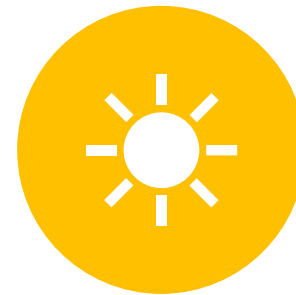
Schedule a HVAC Tune Up to help keep HVAC equipment operating efficiently



Set your water heater temperature to 120 F



In the winter, open the blinds during the day to provide natural light and warm up the room. In the summer, be sure to close the blinds to keep the hot sun out.



Adjust your thermostat to a level that is still safe and comfortable – typically around 78 F in the summer and 68 F in the winter – while adjusting slightly when sleeping or away.

DIY Winter Energy Saving Tips



Get real-time, customized information to help you manage your energy use with My Account



Convert to smart thermostats to help save approximately 8% of heating and cooling while maintaining comfort



Lowering your water heater's temperature to around 120°F can help save energy



You may save energy by following these tips!



About 90% of your washing machine's energy consumption goes towards heating the water, so switch to washing in cold and save



Seal gaps with caulk, weather stripping or door stops to prevent air leaks and reduce demand on your heating system



Change your HVAC filter every 90 days for peak efficiency

December 2025

Thank You

For More Information: BGE Smart Energy

