



Lower your utility bills with simple steps

Warm weather is here with great news: you have the power to lower your utility bills! As a community-owned utility, Austin Energy helps you save money and energy with easy savings tips, tools and rebates for cooling systems and smart thermostats. Then, you can lower energy bills, increase indoor comfort, improve indoor air quality

and reduce your environmental impact. Austin Water shares this commitment to affordability, especially with rebates to encourage conservation as you enjoy our safe water supply.

For tips to save electricity and water this summer, visit austinenenergy.com/go/summer and austintexas.gov/summersavings.



10 tips to lower your summer utility costs:

- » Set your thermostat at 78 degrees or higher when possible. Every degree higher can decrease your summer bill by 3 percent.
- » Let someone else pay the utility bills. Go to a library, shopping center or community center and take advantage of climate-controlled activities away from home.
- » Use efficient lighting. ENERGY STAR® qualified LEDs use at least 75 percent less energy than incandescent lights and last about 50 times longer, saving both money and energy.
- » Try the Austin Energy web app to monitor your energy usage and the Austin Water Dropcounter app to learn about your water usage.
- » Unplug chargers. Turn off power strips when not in use. Electronics plugged in while “off” can account for up to 10 percent of home energy use.
- » Water your lawn on your assigned day and times. Choose drought-tolerant plants.
- » Keep curtains and blinds drawn on windows hit by direct sunlight, which can quickly raise indoor temperatures 5-10 degrees.
- » Use fans when you are in the room to make you feel 2-4 degrees cooler. Turn them off when you leave the room. Fans cool people, not rooms.
- » Check for leaks around plumbing, appliances and irrigation systems.
- » Explore Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® if your house was built before 2010. Rebates and loans help with these home energy improvements.



SAFETY TIP!

May was National Electrical Safety Month, but safety never takes time off. You can find more electric safety information at esfi.org.



Electricity and water don't mix

With the summer heat beginning to bear down on Central Texas, one of the best ways to keep your cool is by going for a swim. But your dip into cool waters may not be as refreshing as you're hoping if electricity is involved.

When an electric current goes through water, it can also go through the body, causing paralysis and maybe even drowning. Whether it's Barton Springs or your neighbor's backyard pool, here are some safety considerations from the National Fire Protection Association and Electrical Safety Foundation International before you take the plunge:

- » For marinas, lakes and ponds, obey all “no swimming” signs on docks.
- » In swimming pools, check for underwater lights that flicker before going in the water.
- » Never swim right before, during or right after thunderstorms. Lightning could strike the water.
- » If tingling occurs when you're in the water, stop immediately and swim a different direction. Get out of the water as quickly as possible. Always remember that electricity and water don't mix. You can find more information at nfpa.org and esfi.org.

Women's Entrepreneurial Luncheon

Austin area women entrepreneurs are invited to join The City of Austin Small Business Program in recognizing the significant contributions of local women business owners. The 15th annual Women's Entrepreneurial Luncheon is from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 21 at the Hyatt Regency Austin, 208 Barton Springs Road. The luncheon features an extraordinary panel sharing their insights and experiences in achieving

entrepreneurial success, followed by an opportunity to ask questions.

Bring your business cards and expand your personal network. Enjoy and be motivated by the panel's personal stories of what it took for them to reach their highest potential.

You can find more information about the event and how to register at smallbizAustin.org. If you can't make the event, you can find additional resources for small businesses at smallbizAustin.org.



We're on the roads again!

Public Works is improving 500 roads this year as part of the City's annual street preventative maintenance season.

Loose gravel is common for streets having recently received maintenance, and avoiding sharp turns is encouraged in these areas. Crews ask that vehicles parked on scheduled streets be temporarily removed for two days. This gives them time to finish the work and tidy up your street.

Be on the lookout for signs and door hangers with more specific information.



To see if your street is scheduled for maintenance this year, visit austintexas.gov/streetmaintenance.

Work zone safety awareness

Now that summertime is here, outdoor improvements to our city are in full swing. For the public, that means lots of construction zones and traffic cones. This is how Public Works is making Austin a better place to live!

In honor of our field crews who are hard at work every day improving our great city, please remember:

- » **No texting while driving.**
- » **Keep your eyes on the road.**
- » **Respect flaggers, traffic signs and construction zone speed limits.**

Being patient and careful around work zones can help keep everyone safe.

Save money by downsizing your trash cart

Austin Resource Recovery provides bundled services to manage your trash, recycling and composting/yard trimmings. Save money on your utility bill by recycling and composting as much as possible so you can choose a smaller trash cart.

Costs are based on your trash cart size. ARR offers four trash cart sizes; choose the size that best fits your household's needs. You may downsize to a smaller cart at no charge by calling **512-494-9400**.



96-gallon \$42.85/mo.*	64-gallon \$24.30/mo.*	32-gallon \$19.15/mo.*	24-gallon \$17.90/mo.*
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*Includes base fee of \$14.05.

Si gusta recibir este folleto en español, llame a los Servicios Públicos de la Ciudad de Austin al 512-972-9523.

Customer Service Phone: 512-494-9400

24-Hour Power Outage Reporting: 512-322-9100 | 24-Hour Emergency Water Service: 512-972-1000

North Austin Utility Customer Service Center (Walk-in Center): 8716 Research Blvd., Ste. 115

Rosewood-Zaragosa Neighborhood Center (Walk-in Center): 2800 Webberville Road, Ste. 110

