

AUSTIN UTILITIES NOW

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CITY SERVICES



SEP-4-5382

September 2019

Don't be a water hog! Tips to keep money in your piggy bank

Summer can mean fun in the sun, ice cream and unwinding by the pool, but climbing temperatures can have a financial impact in your home. Weather drives electric and water use, and that use drives monthly costs and shows up on your monthly utility bills.

In fact, residential water use increased 103 percent from March to August in 2018 as the weather got hotter and drier. Residential electric use rose 122 percent for the same period.

Fortunately, you can have your (ice cream) cake and eat it, too. Austin Energy and Austin Water have teamed up to help you enjoy summer savings with easy tools and effective tips.

One helpful tip is to understand your water usage habits. You can find this information on your monthly bill. Austin Water customers can use the Dropcountr app, which creates a customized water use profile for your household and gives tips for saving water.

You can also access the Austin Energy web app to avoid surprises on your energy bill. View your home electric usage and receive alerts when your usage approaches the next billing tier.

Go to austinwater.org and austinenergy.com/go/summer to find more ways to monitor energy and water use and manage utility bills.

Five tips to save water:

- » **Check your toilet for leaks.** Put a few drops of food coloring in the tank. If color appears in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak that needs repair.
- » **Replace bathroom faucet aerators and showerheads.** Water-saving aerators use 0.5 gallons per minute and water-saving showerheads use 1.5 gallons per minute or less.
- » **Only run your dishwasher with a full load.** Scrape food from plates instead of rinsing them.
- » **Water only on your assigned day and times.** Adjust sprinklers so your lawn gets only as much water as it needs and there is no runoff.
- » **Catch rainwater.** Use a rain barrel or rainwater harvesting for your landscape.



SAFETY TIP!



Substation safety

Power lines and substations are essential components of how Austin Energy safely delivers electricity to your home or business. A substation takes high voltage power from transmission lines and lowers or “steps down” the voltage to distribution levels.

Both transmission lines and substations use high voltage, and both are inherently dangerous structures. No one is permitted to climb towers, fences or enter substation facilities unless they have undergone extensive safety training. Keep pets and children away from transmission towers and substations, and never fly kites near these structures.



Community Connections Resource Fair

Interested in knowing about resources available for low- to moderate-income residents? Join us for the Community Connections Resource Fair from **11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19 at Lanier High School (now known as Juan Navarro High School), 1201 Payton Gin Road.** This free event is fun for the whole family and includes demonstrations and information on outreach programs, medical and housing assistance, and free health screenings. For more information, visit austinenergy.com/go/communityconnections.

Montopolis Park — brownfield to butterfly

A cornerstone of East Austin for more than four decades, Montopolis Park will soon experience a metamorphosis and Austin's Brownfields Revitalization Office is doing its part to keep the development process safe.

Before the 1980s, asbestos was used in almost every public building and tests revealed asbestos in some walls of the park's timeworn Recreation Center. To ensure worker safety during demolition and

renovation, Austin Brownfields is providing the Parks and Recreation Department with a cleanup loan through an Environmental Protection Agency grant.

Environmental issues often impact project timelines and increase costs. Property owners with contamination on land or in commercial buildings are encouraged to contact Austin Brownfields for assistance. Apply for loans or subgrants at austintexas.gov/brownfieldscleanup.



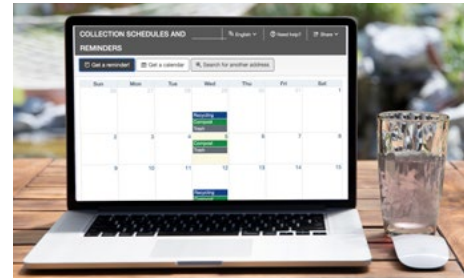
Green your yard this fall

Want to create and maintain a beautiful landscape or garden? Whether you already have a green thumb or have never picked up a garden tool, growgreen.org can help! Learn how to pick the best plants for your yard, keep bugs at bay in the least-toxic way and much more. You'll also find rebates and free items for water conservation and other landscape improvements. If you'd rather hire knowledgeable help, you can find a list of professionals who have completed our Grow Green Landscape Professional Training.

To receive notices about earth-friendly gardening classes or other



educational opportunities, sign up at eepurl.com/wrw_9 for our email alerts — approximately one email per month.



Sign up for collection reminders with My Schedule

Use the My Schedule tool to sign up for residential collection reminders so you never miss your scheduled curbside services. Choose how and when you want to receive reminders for your trash, recycling, composting, yard trimmings, large brush and bulk collections. Reminders can come as:

- » Text
- » Phone call
- » Email
- » Google calendar
- » iCal
- » Outlook
- » Print out

Visit austintexas.gov/myschedule to start getting your reminders today.

ATX FLOOD SAFETY

NOW YOU CAN KNOW THIS ROAD IS FLOODED BEFORE YOU HIT THE ROAD.

Are you prepared in the event of a flood?
atxfloodsafety.com

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



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