



April 2025

Embrace savings and sustainability with Austin Energy

As we celebrate Earth Day, it's a great time to think about how we affect the environment and what we can do to make it better. Austin Energy offers resources and incentives to help our community live more sustainably.

Make your home energy efficient

An energy-efficient home is a smart investment for your wallet and our planet. That's why we're committed to helping you enhance your home's energy efficiency. From rebates to resources, our programs help make your home operate more smoothly while decreasing your energy bills. Take the first step toward a more efficient home by checking out austinenergy.com/tips.

Power your home or business with renewable wind energy

Austin Energy is proud to be a leader in renewable energy solutions. Our GreenChoice® program is Texas' longest-running voluntary renewable energy initiative, demonstrating our commitment to clean energy. By choosing GreenChoice, you are not only using renewable energy but also playing an active role in reducing carbon emissions. Discover more about how you can switch to wind energy at austinenergy.com/greenchoice.

Harness the power of the sun with solar solutions

The sun is shining — let's put it to work! Austinites are embracing solar as a clean, green, alternative source of

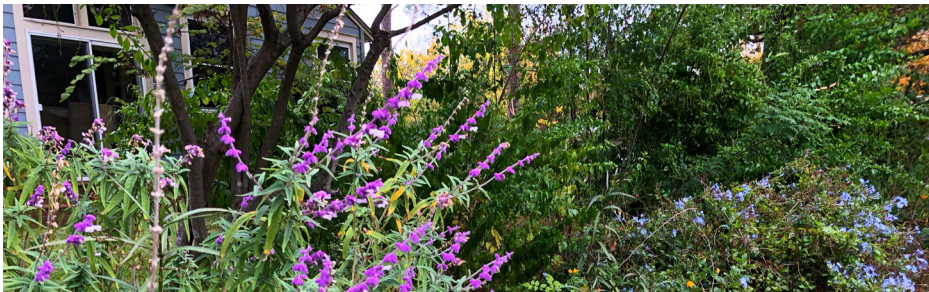


power. Learn more about the benefits of solar and explore incentives at austinenergy.com/solar.

Join the EVolution

Electric vehicles (EVs) are more than just a trend. They're a step toward a cleaner, more sustainable mode of transportation. With our EV Buyer's Guide, finding the right electric truck, cargo bike or car for test driving is simpler than ever. Start your journey toward cleaner transportation today by visiting ev.austinenergy.com.

Your choices can move us toward a more sustainable and efficient future. Whether you're improving your home, choosing renewable energy or transitioning to electric vehicles, your actions have an impact. Join Austin Energy in these initiatives and enjoy the benefits of living in a more sustainable world.



Spring into action with Grow Green

Did you know that garden chemicals wash from landscapes to our creeks and lakes? Help reduce pollution and harmful algae blooms in the water by using earth-friendly gardening practices on lawns and gardens!

- » **Avoid using synthetic weed and feed products**, their ingredients can cause widespread water pollution.
- » **Instead of fertilizers**, improve soil and plant health with nutrient-rich compost.
- » **Select native and adapted plants**, which reduce the need for harmful landscaping chemicals, like pesticides.

To get more simple tips for Central Texas gardening, visit growgreen.org.

NOW HIRING LIFEGUARDS

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AFTER 80 HOURS WORKED



[LIFEGUARDAUSTIN.COM](https://lifeguardaustin.com)

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Distractions are the primary factor in one out of six Austin traffic crashes that result in death or serious injury — and that's likely an undercount. Distracted driving is dangerous, and no crash is worth a glimpse at your phone while driving.

Putting your phone in park while your vehicle is in drive is an easy way to save a life. Become familiar with your phone settings for Do Not Disturb or Driving

Mode before your next trip. Then simply activate that setting before you get behind the wheel so you, your passengers and others can arrive safely!

Vision Zero is the Austin community's goal to reduce people hurt or killed by crashes to zero with street improvements, policy changes, enforcement and education. For more on this effort, visit our austintexas.gov/visionzero.



Don't throw it all away: reduce food waste and help the planet

Many people probably don't think much about tossing out leftovers or food past its "sell-by" date. Unfortunately, an estimated 1.24 million pounds of food is wasted every day in the Austin area.

Unused food decomposes in landfills and generates methane, a hazardous greenhouse gas. Scientists estimate that nearly 10% of all greenhouse gas emissions are caused by food waste in landfills.

Here are tips to prevent good food from going to waste:

- » **Cook** only what is needed for specific meals. Be intentional about the portions you are cooking and the ingredients you are buying.
- » **Properly store** fruits and vegetables to make them last longer. Some items prefer cool, dark spots while others can stay on your counter.
- » **Compost** food scraps. Composting gives your food another life as rich soil that benefits our community.

Learn more about curbside composting at austintexas.gov/composting.



Tax holiday April 26-28

Stock up and save during the sales tax holiday on emergency preparedness supplies. Shop online or at local retailers April 26-28 and save on portable generators, emergency ladders, batteries, flashlights, smoke detectors, first aid kits and more! For more info and a complete list of tax-free items, visit comptroller.texas.gov.

Alarm systems 101: stay permitted and prevent false alarms

Got a security alarm system? Make sure it's properly permitted. If you operate, maintain, or own an alarm system as described in the City of Austin's Alarm Ordinance, you're required to have an alarm permit.

The Development Services Department's Alarm Administration team is your go-to for all things related to alarm permits. They administer the City of Austin's Alarm Ordinance, issue permits, and work to improve public safety through education and awareness initiatives designed to eliminate false alarms.

False alarms are alarms that issue an unnecessary call to law enforcement. They are not only a hassle; they can result in fees or penalties for you. Preventing false alarms is an important step in managing and regulating your alarm system effectively.

Common causes for false alarms include user error, unlocked or loose doors and windows, balloons, children, pets, and other visitors in your home. Help us reduce false alarms and ensure your alarm system is working and permitted in case of an emergency.

To apply for your permit, ensure your system is compliant, and get tips on avoiding false alarms, visit austintexas.gov/alerts.

Para obtener una copia en español de esta publicación, visite coutilities.com/go/utilitynews.

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

South Austin Utility Customer Service Center (Walk-in Center): 1901 W. William Cannon Drive, Ste. 100

