

# AUSTIN UTILITIES NOW

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CITY SERVICES



AUG-45382

August 2022

## Easy ways to lower your energy use

Energy and water use typically hit a peak in August and September. This can lead to higher utility bills as customers use more energy and water to keep cool and maintain their lawns. Read on for easy ways to lower your energy and water use and save during extreme heat.

### Lower your electric use

- » Sign up at [coautilities.com](https://www.coautilities.com) to help manage your electric use.
- » Change your AC filter every month in the summer to improve air flow and air quality.
- » Set your thermostat at 78 degrees or higher when possible.
- » Use fans when you are in the room to feel about 4 degrees cooler.
- » Keep curtains and blinds closed on windows hit by direct sunlight.

### Lower your water use

- » Take shorter showers — five minutes, tops.
- » Replace bathroom faucet aerators and showerheads with water-saving models.
- » Don't let water run while shaving, brushing your teeth or shampooing or conditioning your hair.
- » Water your lawn on your assigned day and times.
- » Use drip irrigation for bedded plants, shrubs and trees.



Visit [austinenenergy.com/go/summer](https://austinenenergy.com/go/summer) and [austinwater.org](https://austinwater.org) for more ways to save.



## Improving Austin streets, one lane mile at a time

Austin streets get a lot of wear and tear from regular use. To proactively keep roads in good, usable condition, Austin Public Works runs a street maintenance program every year when the weather gets warmer.

Find out which streets will be repaved by visiting [austintexas.gov/streetmaintenance](https://austintexas.gov/streetmaintenance).

If a street in your neighborhood

is getting paved this summer, here's what you need to know:

- » Loose rock is common and takes time to fully settle.
- » Avoid sharp turning and hard braking to prevent spreading loose rock.
- » Park vehicles away from streets for two days while work is being done.
- » Be on the lookout for signs and door hangers with more specific timing.



## Don't bag recyclables

While plastic bags and film are technically recyclable, we ask that you NOT put them in your blue recycling carts. They jam up the machines at the recycling center and are considered contamination. Plastic bags, wrap and other stretchy packaging can be taken to the Recycle and Reuse Drop-off Center or back to retail stores to be recycled.

Visit [austintexas.gov/whatdo](https://austintexas.gov/whatdo) and use the "What Do I Do With...?" tool to find out how to dispose of an item. Keeping contaminants out of your cart keeps waste workers safe. Help people and our planet by curbing contamination in your curbside cart!

Remember, don't bag your recyclables. Leave them loose and dry in the blue cart.

# Get to know your Mayor and Council Candidates

The City of Austin and the City's Ethics Review Commission will sponsor live candidate forums for the November 2022 City Council and Mayoral elections. The League of Women Voters Austin Area will moderate the forums. Individuals can attend in person or watch the forums in English and Spanish at ATXN.TV or streaming apps. The forums will also be provided in English on cable TV channel 6 and KAZI FM 88.7. Teleconference is available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Chinese. For other language interpretation

requests, please call **3-1-1** at least five business days before the forum you wish to attend. Below are the details for each candidate forum:

- » **District 1: Thu, Sept. 8 at 6 p.m. at Asian American Resource Center (8401 Cameron Road)**
- » **District 3: Thu, Oct. 6 at 6 p.m. at Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center (808 Nile St.)**
- » **District 5: Thu, Sept. 22 at 6 p.m. at South Austin Senior Center (3911 Menchaca Road)**

- » **District 8: Thu, Sept. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at South Austin Senior Center (3911 Menchaca Road)**
- » **District 9: Thu, Oct. 20 at 6 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers (301 W. 2nd St.)**
- » **Mayor: Thu, Oct. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers (301 W. 2nd St.)**

Visit [austintexas.gov/candidateforums](https://austintexas.gov/candidateforums) to learn more. Email questions to [forum@lwvaustin.org](mailto:forum@lwvaustin.org) or call **512-451-6710**.

## Join Power Partner to save energy and money



On the hottest summer days, the voluntary Power Partner<sup>SM</sup> program helps keep energy costs low for your home and our entire community. During Power Partner events, Austin Energy briefly adjusts participating customer thermostats by a few degrees, only as needed, during times of peak energy use.

Earn up to \$115 in smart thermostat rebates and incentives, including:

- » **An \$85 bill credit for each eligible smart thermostat you enroll in Power Partner.**
- » **A \$30 rebate on new, eligible smart thermostats.**

Learn more about Power Partner and available smart thermostat incentives at [austinenergy.com/go/powerpartner](https://austinenergy.com/go/powerpartner).

## Pet waste poo-llutes

Leaving a pile of pet waste behind may seem like no big deal, but Austin is home to more than 250,000 dogs. This adds up to about 150,000 pounds of dog poop created every day! If not removed, the parasites and pathogens in pet waste can live in grass and on trails for months, possibly making pets and people sick. Dog waste left on the ground also washes into local creeks and lakes, causing reduced oxygen for fish and an overgrowth of algae and aquatic weeds. When you walk your pup, remember to bring a bag, scoop the poop and toss it in the trash. Doo your duty — Leave No Pile Behind! Learn more at [scoopthepoopaustin.org](https://scoopthepoopaustin.org).

### CROSSING GUARDS NEEDED

\$15 / HOUR | PART-TIME

**APPLY TODAY!**

[AustinTexas.gov/Crossing-Guards](https://AustinTexas.gov/Crossing-Guards)



## Apply today!

### Crossing guards needed to help students safely get back to school

Help your community and get to know your neighbors as a crossing guard! The Safe Routes to School Program is looking for crossing guards to help young students get to school safely. Safe Routes to School makes it easier for students to walk or bike to school through education, infrastructure projects and the employment of crossing guards.

The hourly wage for crossing guards is \$15 per hour for 2.5 hours per weekday. View a job description and learn how to apply at [austintexas.gov/crossing-guards](https://austintexas.gov/crossing-guards).

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

East Austin Utility Customer Service Center (Walk-in Center): 2800 Webberville Rd.

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



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