

Connections

Our monthly newsletter for residential customers



June 2024

Powering forward. Together.

Save money and energy this summer

Summer rates are June 1 through September 30 and peak hours are from 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. There are ways to save all summer long without sacrificing comfort. Air conditioners are the biggest energy user. Stay comfortable and help the environment by reducing your air conditioner usage from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. All day weekends and holidays are off-peak hours.

Here are some more tips to help:

- Try setting your thermostat to 78 degrees or higher. For every 2 degrees that you turn your thermostat up, you can save 5-10% on cooling costs. Make this easier with a programmable or smart thermostat.
- Use fans instead of central air conditioning whenever possible. A fan costs about 90% less to operate.
- Close blinds on windows that get direct sun.
- Change your air filter regularly. An air conditioning unit with dirty filters can use 5-10% more energy.

If your home cools easily and can maintain a consistent temperature, try precooling to keep your home comfortable between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Here's how:

- If your normal temperature setting during the summer is 78 degrees, try setting your thermostat at 76 degrees from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Then, raise your thermostat setting to 81 degrees from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and use fans to help you feel cooler.
- Set your thermostat back to 78 degrees after 8 p.m.

Visit smud.org/TimeOfDay to find more ways to reduce your electricity use while staying cool and safe. •

SMUD's CleanPowerCity[®] movement is here

Hundreds of thousands of people have joined the charge to take action for a better environment. From driving electric to making clean power choices, saving money with SMUD rebates and even going paperless, the Clean PowerCity movement is changing the world. All while we keep our promise to deliver safe, reliable service and some of the lowest rates of all utilities in California.

You can be a part of the solution by signing up for Paperless Billing with us to reduce your paper waste. Plus, it's fast, secure and easy to manage your bill online with My Account. Enroll in Paperless Billing today for a chance to win 1 of 10 \$100 gift cards to use on [SMUDEnergyStore.com](https://smudenergystore.com).

Learn more at smud.org/Paperless. •



Find the professional you need with the SMUD Contractor Network

Are you ready to upgrade to an electric heat pump water heater or heat pump HVAC system? Going electric not only saves on energy costs, it's also safer, healthier and better for the environment. The first step to any home improvement project is to select a qualified contractor. The SMUD Contractor Network is an online directory that lets you easily search for a contractor by a variety of criteria like type of project, languages spoken and financing offered.

Search results will include contractors who match your needs, are familiar with our rebates and have high customer satisfaction scores. You'll also get detailed information about the contractor, a direct link to their website and a one-click email tool for direct communication.

Get started on your project today and find a contractor at [SMUDContractorNetwork.org](https://www.smud.org/ContractorNetwork.org). •

SMUD Board of Directors

Your elected Board of Directors holds regular meetings once a month on the third Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Headquarters Auditorium. Meetings are streamed live and archived on [smud.org](https://www.smud.org).

Visit [smud.org/Board](https://www.smud.org/Board) for the latest information.

Ward 1 Brandon Rose
Ward 2 Nancy Bui-Thompson
Ward 3 Gregg Fishman • Vice President
Ward 4 Rosanna Herber • President
Ward 5 Rob Kerth
Ward 6 Dave Tamayo
Ward 7 Heidi Sanborn

Customer Service: 1-888-742-SMUD (7683) or [smud.org](https://www.smud.org). Hours: Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
SMUD is located at 6301 S St., Sacramento, CA 95817. To manage your account online, pay your bill or view your energy usage, go to [smud.org/MyAccount](https://www.smud.org/MyAccount).

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Make our communities



Applications are now being accepted for our Shine awards, a fund-matching opportunity for nonprofits.

In its 8th year, Shine invests in projects that support zero carbon workforce development, environmental justice and equity, inclusive economic development and STEM education in the Sacramento region.

Shine awards are competitive and funds are limited.

Applicants are encouraged to apply before the deadline at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 31. All applicants must be incorporated nonprofit organizations within SMUD's service area.

To learn more, visit [smud.org/Shine](https://www.smud.org/Shine) and register for a Shine application webinar. •

