

Florence Energy News

HOW ELECTRICITY SAVES YOU TIME AND MONEY



Electricity is one of the few things that we use first and pay for later. We cannot see electricity; therefore, it is difficult to understand its value.

Take a look at what we can do for just a few pennies with the help of electricity:

- Use a 75-watt lamp for 14 hours for about seven cents
- Refrigerate food for a day for about 20 cents
- Operate a window fan for about one cent an hour
- Cook a meal on an electric range-using all the burners and the oven for about 84 cents an hour
- Use the self-cleaning feature on the oven for a total of 35 cents
- Wash a load of dishes in a dishwasher for about seven cents

Electricity really is a bargain. What else can we buy that costs pennies and does so much work? We definitely could not do this amount of work or hire someone else to do it for the same value.

We pay for electricity in kilowatt-hours (kwhs). One kilowatt-hour is the equivalent of using 1,000 watts for one hour or using a 100-watt light bulb for 10 hours.

According to statistics, the average family's use of electricity is increasing at a rate of four to seven percent per year. If we become more aware of how we use these kilowatt-hours, we can learn how to use them more efficiently.

To calculate the exact use of your appliances use the following formula:

$$\text{amps} \times \text{volts} = \text{watts}$$

$$\text{watts} \times \text{hours} = \text{watt-hours}$$

$$\text{watt-hours}/1000 = \text{kilowatt-hours (kwhs)}$$

$$\text{kwh} \times .07 \text{ (7 cents)} = \text{estimated cost of using appliance}$$

For a larger appliance, such as a water heater, remember that it is only running when it is actually heating water. The time our water heater is on varies according to how much we do laundry, take baths, or run the dishwasher. Let us say our water heater is on for three hours on a particular day (the national average):

$$4,500 \text{ watts} \times 3 \text{ hours} = 13,500 \text{ watt-hours}$$

$$13,500 \text{ watt-hours}/1000 = 13.5 \text{ kwh}$$

$$13.5 \text{ kwh} \times 7 \text{ cents} = 94.5 \text{ cents}$$



If you need help choosing an energy efficient appliance, contact Florence Utilities Energy Section at 740-6058 or go to www.florenceutilities.com.

ATTENTION FLORENCE UTILITIES

WILL BE CLOSED

NOVEMBER 12

VETERANS DAY

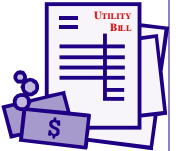
NOVEMBER 22-23

THANKSGIVING

FLORENCE UTILITIES

REDESIGNS UTILITY BILL

Florence Utilities has redesigned your utility bill to make it more informative and easier to locate information. Listed below are a few of the new features.



LAST STATEMENT BALANCE

This is the balance due from your previous bill prior to any applicable late fees.

ADJUSTMENTS

This is the total of adjustments to your account, including any applicable late fees and billing corrections made to your account since your previous bill was processed.

PAYMENTS

This is the total of payments to your account since your previous bill was processed.

LAST MONTH'S USAGE/# DAYS

This is the usage and the number of days for the previous period for each utility service.

LAST YEAR'S USAGE/# DAYS

This is the usage and the number of days on the same billing period last year for each service shown.

Look for your new bill to be delivered to you soon. This is just another way Florence Utilities strives to better serve our customers.

Please call our Customer Service Department at 760-6512 for utility service assistance.

GAS LINE INSPECTIONS ENSURE SAFETY AND RELIABILITY



As part of the City of Florence Utilities Natural Gas Department's ongoing efforts to ensure safe, reliable delivery of natural gas to your home or business, we inspect all customer service lines and our own gas mains on a regular basis.

The instruments that check for outside leaks are extremely sensitive. They are capable of detecting one part per million of gas in the air. You might see one of our Leak Survey Technicians using a wand-like instrument in your neighborhood.

If a leak is found, it might be necessary to interrupt your gas service temporarily until repairs are made. If there is a leak in the gas main or service line, we will perform repairs and restore the site as quickly as possible to avoid any inconvenience to you.

If you think you have a leak, please call the City of Florence Utilities Gas Department at 767-3430.

ENERGY SAVING TIPS

1. Use the microwave whenever possible.
2. Keep your heating and cooling filters clean.
3. Wash full loads of dishes and clothes.
4. Clean out the clothes dryer lint filter after each load.
5. Turn off lights and appliances when not needed.
6. Install a reduced-flow showerhead.
7. Do not leave water running while washing your car, brushing your teeth, or washing dishes.

The public is invited to attend the

MAYOR'S 3RD ANNUAL STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS NOVEMBER 15

**Florence-Lauderdale Coliseum
Exhibits 5:30 pm - Program 6:30 pm
Contact 760-6400 for more details**

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Florence ENERGY

NEWS YOU CAN USE FROM FLORENCE UTILITIES

Electricity is one of the few things that we use first and pay for later. We cannot see electricity; therefore it is difficult to understand its value. Take a look inside to see how electricity can save you time and money for just a few pennies.

Florence Utilities has redesigned your utility bill to make it more informative and easier to locate information. New features have been added that will help you compare current energy usage to past usage. More new features are listed inside, and look for your new utility bill to be delivered to you soon.

You are invited to attend the Mayor's 3rd Annual State of the City Address held on Thursday, November 15, at the Florence-Lauderdale Coliseum. Mayor Irons, along with Department Heads, will give an update on the status and future of the City of Florence. Department Heads will be available to field questions from residents, and several pieces of City equipment will be on display for your viewing.

www.florenceutilities.com