



Understanding Your Summer Electricity Use

By understanding your home's energy use, you can make informed choices to help stay comfortable and manage your energy bill.

Know Your Home

Start with a walk through of your home. Make a list of what you see plugged in, including in the garage where you might have a freezer or extra refrigerator. Next, check the circuit breakers in the breaker box, as well as individual appliance circuits that don't use traditional wall outlets (like an electric water heater or HVAC system) to complete your list.

Know Your Energy Use

Energy use is charged by the kilowatt-hour (kWh). A kilowatt (kW) represents the amount of electricity needed to operate equipment (one kW is equal to 1,000 watts [W]), and a kWh is the most common way to measure the amount of electricity consumed over time. Discover how many kWhs your appliances use and how much they cost each month by using our online calculator (idahopower.com/killawatt). Grab your list of appliances and enter each item's wattage (usually found on a label on the back or bottom) and how many hours it's used per day, week, or month.

Know How to Save

Below are estimated monthly electricity costs for appliances based on common usage patterns and Idaho Power's average residential rate of 13.21 cents per kWh. We've included tips to help you focus on reducing energy use for some of your highest-consuming appliances. Your costs will vary based on the specific appliances you have and how often you use them.

Top Energy Users

Central A/C or Heat Pump

A central A/C or heat pump running 8–12 hours/day, using around 900–1,200 kWh/month, could cost approximately \$120–160/month.

- **Tip:** Adjust your thermostat setting for your comfort and budget. In the warmer months, each degree you raise your thermostat can reduce cooling costs by 1 to 3%.

Electric Water Heater

An electric water heater running 3–5 hours/day, using 300–420 kWh/month, could cost approximately \$40–\$55/month.

- **Tip:** Many water heaters are set to 140 °F. Check the temperature on

yours and lower it to 120 °F at the tap to save energy and prevent scalding.

More Ways to Save Electric Clothes Dryer

Drying 15–25 loads/month, using 60–90 kWh/month, could equate to approximately \$8–\$12/month on your energy bill.

- **Tip:** Dry full loads to save energy. By waiting until you have a full load, you're maximizing the efficiency of the drying cycle and reducing energy use.

Electronics

Electronics in your house, both when in use and on standby mode, typically use about 40–80 kWh/month, costing \$6–\$11/month.

- **Tip:** Use a smart power strip to eliminate "phantom" energy use when devices are in standby or off mode. These strips shut off power automatically, reducing energy consumption.

Looking for more ways to save on your summer energy bill? Visit idahopower.com/summertips.

Finish Summer Strong with Energy-Smart Upgrades



Feeling the heat? It may be time to complete home projects that improve comfort and efficiency. Whether you're upgrading central A/C, installing whole-house fan, or exploring electric heat pumps for space heating and hot water heating, planning ahead can help you save energy and money on future bills.

Before buying new heating and cooling equipment — or scheduling a contractor — check available incentives through our Heating & Cooling Efficiency Program. Incentives range from \$50 to \$3,000, helping offset upfront costs and making efficient upgrades more affordable.

If water heating is on your project list, now is an ideal time to consider a heat pump water heater. With upcoming changes requiring electric water heaters over 35 gallons to transition to heat pump technology by 2029, early adoption can support long-term savings.

Whether replacing existing equipment or building a new home, start planning at idahopower.com/heatingcooling to take advantage of cash incentives.

Did You Know?

Customers saved 153,099 MWh of energy in 2025 through our energy-efficiency programs. That's enough to power about 14,000 average-sized homes for a year!

Please recycle this newsletter.

Get to Know Your Energy Bill

Your monthly Idaho Power bill is more than a statement — it's a roadmap to understanding your home's energy habits. Spending a little extra time reviewing your bill can reveal patterns, highlight opportunities to save, and help you take control of your energy use.

My Account: Your 24/7 Dashboard

When you register for My Account at idahopower.com, you gain around-the-clock access to detailed information straight from your meter. You can compare your use month-to-month, see how weather affects your consumption, and view your energy use hour-by-hour. With this insight, you're in the driver's seat — able to make choices that fit your comfort, lifestyle, and budget.



Check Out a Kill A Watt® Meter

Idaho Power has partnered with libraries across southern Idaho and eastern Oregon to offer energy efficiency kits that feature a Kill A Watt meter. Plug the meter into an outlet, plug an appliance into the meter, and watch how much energy it uses. It's an easy way to spot energy hogs, decide what to unplug, or determine whether it's time to upgrade to a more efficient model.

Keep an Energy Diary

A calendar or quick household diary can help explain unexpected changes in your bill. Hosting guests, running extra loads of laundry, or even canning salsa on a hot day can all cause temporary spikes.

Ask Yourself the Right Questions

Weather, household changes, new appliances, or seasonal habits can all affect your bill. While some fluctuation is normal, large unexplained increases may signal issues with equipment in your home worth investigating.

Learn more about your energy use at idahopower.com/myaccount.

From the Electric Kitchen Sparkling Fruit Punch

- 2 cups pineapple juice, chilled
- 2 cups apple juice, chilled
- 1 (12 oz) can thawed cranberry juice concentrate
- 1 (6 oz) can thawed orange juice concentrate
- 4 cups club soda, chilled

In a 3-quart pitcher, stir together pineapple juice, apple juice, cranberry juice concentrate, and orange juice concentrate. Keep chilled. Just before serving, add club soda and stir until blended.

Makes 10 servings, 1 cup each.



Recipe selected from Idaho Power's Centennial Celebration Cookbook.

August 2026
Drink

idahopower.com