

Help defeat the peak



Why? Wholesale electricity costs increase significantly on hot summer afternoons when electricity demand is at its highest. Lower your own electricity demand during high demand periods to help our community lower the overall cost of electricity.

How it works: On hot summer afternoons, air conditioning needs and appliances contribute to the highest electricity demand of the year — often known as "peak demand" periods. At these times wholesale electricity costs are their highest. High usage during peak periods impacts all customers in terms of higher electricity prices.

Step by Step: A small reduction in energy consumption can have a measurable impact on helping reduce wholesale electricity costs. Some simple actions you can take to reduce energy usage during peak demand periods include:

- Set your thermostat to 78° when you are at work or away.
- Make your home cooler and reduce your air conditioning needs by drawing curtains and shades. For a longer term solution, plant shade trees or install awnings or window shades outside south- and west- facing windows.
- Running appliances and electronics adds heat to your home, making your air conditioner work harder to maintain your desired temperature. Unplug electronics or put them on standby mode, and consider replacing old, inefficient appliances with new ones.

Tip Details

Up-front costs: Free