

# Connections

Our monthly newsletter for residential customers



May 2026

Powering forward. Together.



## Save money and energy this summer

Summer rates run June 1 through Sept. 30, with peak hours from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday. A great way to save without sacrificing comfort this summer is to reduce your usage during peak hours when electricity costs the most. You can also save by shifting your usage to mid- and off-peak hours, before 5 p.m. and after 8 p.m. on weekdays. Weekends and holidays are always off-peak. Here are some tips to help you save:

- Air conditioners use the most energy. Stay comfortable and help the environment by reducing air conditioner usage from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Try setting your thermostat to 78°F or higher. For every 2° 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 before 5 p.m. when peak hours start.

Visit [smud.org/TimeOfDay](https://smud.org/TimeOfDay) for more ways to reduce your electricity use while staying cool and safe. •

## Powering you for life

We know the Sacramento region is your home. It's where families grow, neighbors connect and life happens. It's where the energy behind your most meaningful moments begins. As your community-owned, not-for-profit electric service, you can count on us to power you safely and reliably, with clean energy, programs to lower your bill and some of the lowest rates in California. Because every connection builds the future of this place we call home. Together, we're powering the moments that matter.

Learn more at [smud.org/Community](https://smud.org/Community). •





## Go electric and save

Households that switch from gas to electric save an average of more than \$500 per year on utility bills. We have rebates to help you upgrade to energy-efficient, all electric heat pump systems and appliances, including:

- Heat pump water heater rebates up to \$4,000.
- Heat pump HVAC rebates up to \$3,000.
- Induction cooktop rebates up to \$750.

Don't wait! Go electric and start saving today.

Learn more and check out our other rebates at [smud.org/GoElectric](https://smud.org/GoElectric). •

## Find an approved contractor with our SMUD Contractor Network

Looking to upgrade or replace a broken HVAC system or water heater? The first step is picking a qualified contractor. Our SMUD Contractor Network is an online directory that lets you easily search for a contractor by a variety of criteria, including type of project, languages spoken and location. You can find contractors that match your needs, are familiar with our rebates and have high customer satisfaction scores. You can also get detailed information about contractors, a direct link to their website and a one-click email tool for direct communication. Plus, participating contractors handle submitting the paperwork for eligible rebates, so you don't have to.



Start your project today and find a participating contractor at [SMUDContractorNetwork.org](https://SMUDContractorNetwork.org). •

## Tips to save energy and money

Join us to learn easy, DIY ways to save energy and money. Visit [smud.org/Learn](https://smud.org/Learn) for a wide range of free, educational classes, and workshops about energy savings tips and clean energy technology. Explore videos and learn how to save money on your bill at [smud.org/EnergyVideos](https://smud.org/EnergyVideos). •

### 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://smud.org).

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

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

Customer Service: 1-888-742-SMUD (7683) or [smud.org](https://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://smud.org/MyAccount).

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