

# Keep Your Cool and Lower Your Bill



## RECNEWS

May 2021

We made it! Winter's ice, snow and sleet are in the rearview mirror, but summer's sizzle is just around the corner.

As the heat and humidity dig in for the long haul, you can take steps all summer long to keep your home comfortable and your electric bill in check.



### The best thing you can do to lower your electric bill this summer? **Increase your thermostat setting.**

"We know all member-owners won't be comfortable with the same setting, and that's OK," said Louis O'Berry, an energy adviser at Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC).

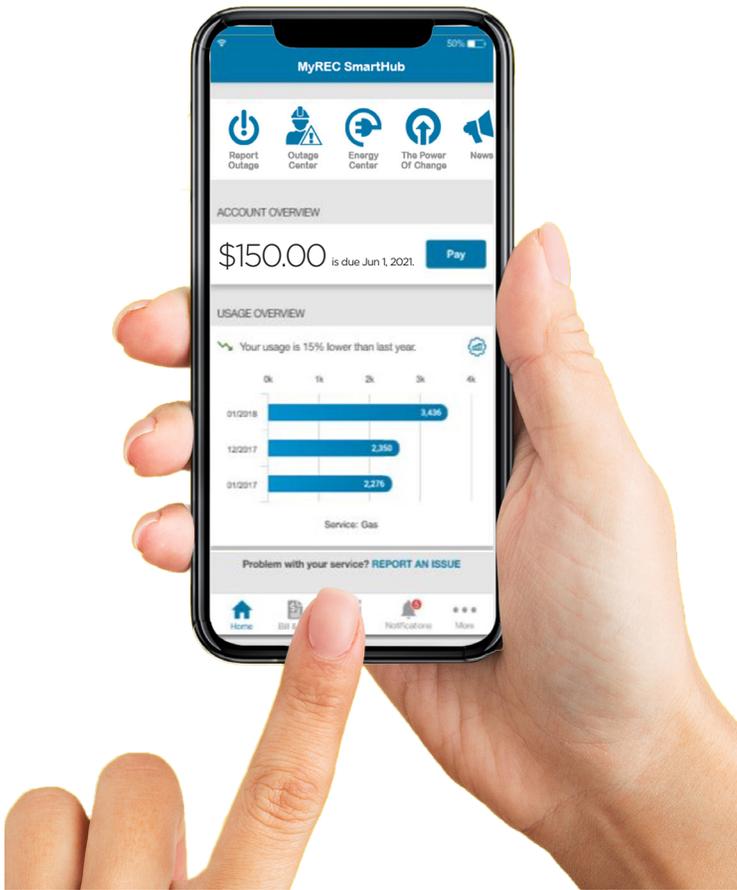
"Just find the magic number that works best for you and your family, nudge that setting up just enough to keep your family comfortable and keep your overall energy use down."



**Tech Connection:** If you have or plan to purchase a programmable thermostat, set it to increase a few degrees when you are away from home. Then you can program it to return to a more comfortable setting just before you return.

### Other **cost-saving** steps you can take:

- » Avoid placing lamps or TVs near your air-conditioning thermostat.
- » Have your cooling system serviced annually.
- » Check your air filters monthly and replace when dirty.
- » Don't block your supply or return air vents with furniture or other objects.
- » Have your cooling system's ductwork inspected to ensure that it is well insulated.
- » Close drapes, curtains and blinds to keep the sun out during the day.
- » Check all windows and doors to be sure they seal tightly when closed.
- » Add insulation if yours is below recommended standards.
- » Run ceiling fans only in occupied rooms.



## Take Control: Track Your Energy Use

Want to see what difference it makes to change your thermostat setting or reduce your time in the shower?

### With the My Usage tool you can:

- Track spikes in energy use.
- View hourly, daily, monthly and annual energy use.
- Compare energy use over time to make adjustments as needed.
- Access the Home Energy Calculator to find energy savings.

With My Usage, you can literally see the impact of each adjustment to your energy use. As you change your energy habits, watch the savings add up.

**Check My Usage today in MyREC SmartHub!**

# BE SMART. GET ALERTS.

STAY INFORMED DURING POSSIBLE POWER OUTAGES.

Sign in and get started today at [MyREC.SmartHub.Coop](https://MyREC.SmartHub.Coop)!

RECEIVE A TEXT WHEN:

- REC knows power is out in your area.
- A crew has been dispatched.
- Power has been restored.
- The cause of the outage is known.



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