

## HOW CAN I SAVE?

You can save by enrolling in our program. Business customers also can sign up for TOU rates. Contact BMU for more details.



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## 2026 TIME-OF-USE RATES

NEW

### QUESTIONS?

Please call us at **218-354-2292** or email us to set up a time to meet with BMU staff to answer your questions and to get you enrolled. Or feel free to stop in the office.

[BarnesvilleMN.com/services/electric/](http://BarnesvilleMN.com/services/electric/)



## NEW 2026 RESIDENTIAL TIME-OF-USE RATE CHANGES



As a locally owned, not-for-profit utility, Barnesville Municipal Utilities (BMU) is committed to delivering safe, reliable and competitively priced electric services.

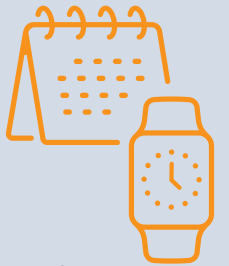
The way we generate, distribute and use energy is changing. As we work toward a cleaner energy future, we're encouraging our customers to become more engaged and take control of their electricity use. This, in turn, requires changing how we charge for electricity. BMU is now offering time-of-use (TOU) rates — which means electricity prices vary based on the time of day and the season.

TOU rates can help you manage your energy costs. By taking advantage of lower rates during off-peak hours, you can avoid higher weekday rates when energy resources are in demand. And it helps BMU better manage our wholesale power supply costs, too.

TOU rates are not available to customers that have off-peak service.

## Take Control of Your Bill

Remember, with Time-of-Use (TOU) electric pricing, **WHEN** you use electricity is as important as **HOW MUCH** you use.



### SIMPLE WAYS TO SAVE ON YOUR ENERGY BILL

You can easily save money by making a few simple changes to your daily energy use.

- Set your thermostat to about 68 degrees in the winter, and 78 in the summer.
- Use electricity-intensive appliances during off-peak hours. Wash and dry clothes or run the dishwasher after 8 p.m.
- Install a programmable timer on your water heater or dishwasher to automatically shift the time these appliances use energy.
- Use LED bulbs or turn off the lights when not in use.



# HOW DO TIME-OF-USE RATES WORK?

The on-peak hours have the highest energy rate while the off-peak hours have the lowest energy rate. The mid-peak price per kilowatt-hour (kWh) is also less than what you pay now for energy. The time periods and rates are as follows for residential customers:

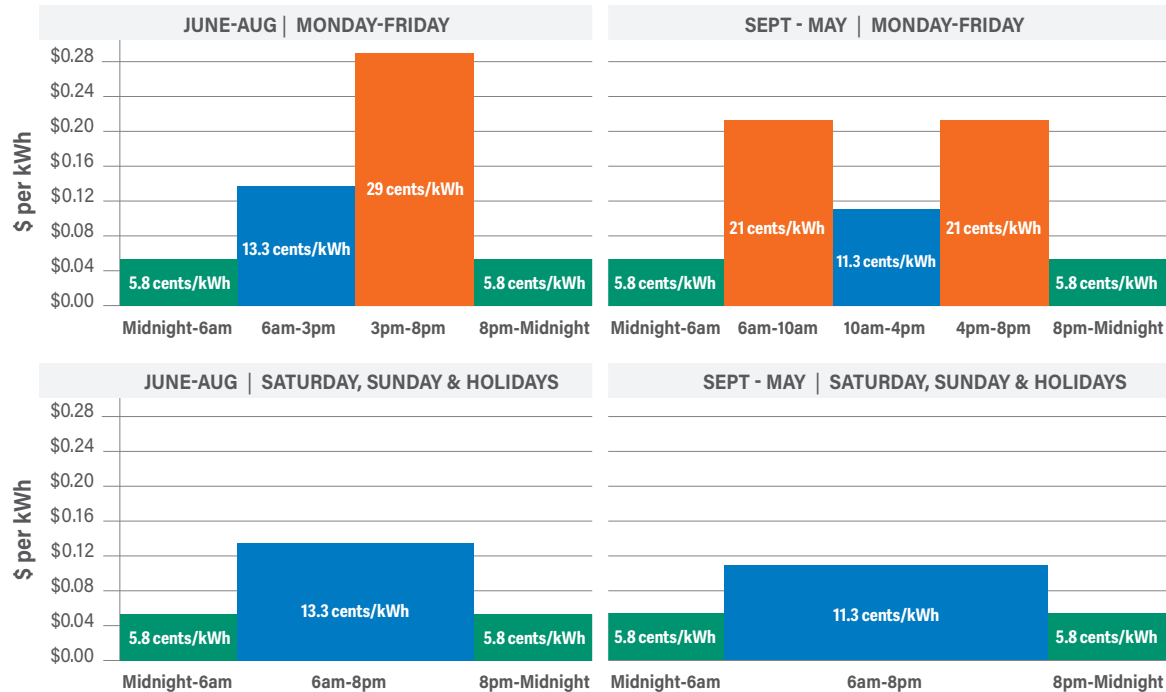
## JUNE-AUGUST

- **ON-PEAK HOURS** are 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on weekdays (Monday-Friday); the rate is **29 cents per kWh**.
- **MID-PEAK HOURS** are 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. on weekdays and 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekends and holidays; the rate is **13.3 cents per kWh**.
- **OFF-PEAK HOURS** are 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. year round, regardless of the weekday or month; the rate is **5.8 cents per kWh**.

## SEPTEMBER - MAY

- **ON-PEAK HOURS** are 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.; the rate is **21 cents per kWh**.
- **MID-PEAK HOURS** are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday and holidays; the rate is **11.3 cents per kWh**.
- **OFF-PEAK HOURS** are 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. year round, regardless of the weekday or month; the rate is **5.8 cents per kWh**.

\* Holidays are New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.



# LOAD SHEDDING AND TIME-OF-USE RATES



Have you ever heard of “load shedding”? It’s when electric utilities temporarily reduce power usage in certain areas to prevent overloading the grid and keep the power system stable. While it may sound concerning, load shedding is actually a controlled and planned process that helps avoid widespread outages.

But not all power use is treated the same during these events. Some types of electricity demand — called **essential load** — are prioritized, while others can be reduced temporarily. TOU rates work hand-in-hand with strategies like load shedding to manage electricity demand effectively while keeping the grid running smoothly for everyone.

Essential load refers to power that supports critical functions and safety. For example:

### Heating your home in cold weather:

Keeping homes warm is vital for health and safety, especially during winter months.

**Medical equipment:** Hospitals and people with medical devices at home rely on power to keep these lifesaving tools running.

**Water and wastewater systems:** Pumps and treatment systems must stay powered to provide clean water and sanitation.

Non-essential load refers to power used for conveniences or activities that can be paused without major consequences. Examples include:

- Charging devices like phones or laptops
- Powering decorative lights or non-essential electronics
- Running appliances like dishwashers or laundry machines



## WHY LOAD SHEDDING MATTERS

When demand for electricity is very high — like during a heat wave or a cold snap — the grid can become overwhelmed. Load shedding ensures that the system stays balanced and that electricity can still flow where needed most. It’s a way to prioritize essential functions while reducing strain on the power grid.