

Connections

See your energy dollars at work

Do you ever wonder what's behind your energy bill?

We've put together a few videos of recent projects that give you a behind-the-scenes look at what can impact your bill.

Avista is investing in our system today to continue to responsibly deliver safe and reliable energy tomorrow.

Visit myavista.com/energydollars to watch the videos.



How cold weather impacts your home energy bill

As the weather gets colder, you might notice your energy bill going up. This happens when your heating system works harder to keep your home warm. When it's cold outside, heat escapes from homes more quickly, so heating systems run more often to maintain comfortable temperatures inside.

Four ways to lower your energy usage without sacrificing comfort:

- 1. Seal Drafts:** Check for gaps around windows and doors. Use weather stripping or caulk to seal these gaps and keep warm air inside.
- 2. Use a Programmable Thermostat:** Set your thermostat to a lower indoor temperature when you're not home or when you're sleeping. Lowering it by three degrees can reduce your heating costs by ten percent.
- 3. Insulate Your Home:** Make sure your home is well-insulated. Good insulation keeps the heat inside, so your heater doesn't have to work as hard.
- 4. Let the Sun In:** Open your curtains during the day to let sunlight warm your home naturally. Close them at night to keep the heat in.

By following these tips, you can help reduce your energy usage all winter long. Remember, small changes can make a big difference.

Visit myavista.com/winterbill to find tips and learn more about how cold weather impacts your bill.





Holiday lights

Twinkling lights are one of the joys of the season. Whether they're hanging from your home or strung on trees, those cheerful little lights are a delight for many, but improper use can cause fires, falls or electrical shocks.

To keep the holidays safe and fun, follow these safety tips while decorating:

- When decorating outside, use lights and extension cords that are **approved for outdoor use.**
- **Inspect all light strands** for damage and burned-out bulbs before decorating. Discard any strands with frayed insulation, exposed wires, or broken plugs. Always unplug the strand before replacing bulbs.
- **Opt for miniature or LED lights.** They use less energy and last longer. LED lights are also shatterproof and present less fire risk.
- **Consider a timer** to avoid leaving your lights on more than desired. Make sure the timer can handle the total wattage of your lights.

Visit myavista.com/electricsafety for more safety tips. Have a safe and happy holiday season!



Need help with your energy bill?

We have long-standing relationships with local community action agencies across our service territory.

Together, we offer financial assistance programs and energy-saving home upgrade services to help people manage their home energy usage and costs.

Both Idaho and Washington customers can find billing, payment, and home energy-saving programs through their local community agencies.

Washington customers can also see if they qualify for an ongoing monthly bill discount through our **My Energy Discount** program. It lowers energy costs for two years. Eligibility guidelines were recently updated and, in most counties, include even higher household income levels.

Visit myavista.com/assistance to learn which options are available to you.

Connect with us

Mailing Address: 1411 E. Mission, PO Box 3727, Spokane, WA 99220-3727

Toll-Free: (800) 227-9187 | Web Site: myavista.com | Email: ask@myavista.com