

July/August 2025

LIGHT Reading

STAY SAFE AND SAVE DURING THE HOT WEATHER

Summer heat can be dangerous, but with simple steps, you can stay safe and comfortable. Try these tips to help you prepare for current and future heat waves without using a lot of electricity this summer.

WHAT TO DO WHEN IT'S HOT TOMORROW

Limit heat inside your home: Avoid using ovens or stovetops. Instead, try meals that don't need cooking or use a microwave. Lights and appliances also create heat, so use them only when needed.

Keep cool: Drink cold water or other hydrating drinks. Wipe your face, neck, and wrists with a wet cloth, or take a cold shower to quickly lower your body temperature. Watch for symptoms of heatstroke, like dizziness or nausea, and act fast if you notice them.

Use fans wisely: Fans help your body cool down by moving air across your skin. Use them only when you're in the room, as fan motors can produce heat.

Close windows during the day: Before it gets hot outside, shut windows and blinds, especially on sunny sides of your home, to trap cool air indoors.

Cool your home at night: Open windows at night when the air is cooler. Use a fan to pull cool air in and push hot air out.



PREPARING FOR FUTURE HOT WEATHER

If you have time before the next heat wave, try these steps to get ready.

Seal air leaks: Hot air gets in through cracks around windows or doors. Seal these gaps with caulk and weatherstripping to keep your home cooler.

Make extra ice: Stock up on ice for drinks or cooling cloths. Store ice in bags or containers in your freezer.

Add shade to your home: Hang light-colored cloths or bamboo shades on outside windows that get direct sun. Keep the heat out before it enters your home.

LONG-TERM CHANGES FOR BETTER COMFORT

Here are some bigger changes to consider to make your home more comfortable year-round.

Add insulation: Insulation helps keep your home cool in summer and warm in winter. Air sealing also stops smoke and hot air from entering. Talk to contractors for options or ask your landlord to consider improvements.

Upgrade windows: New windows can reduce heat and air leaks, keeping your home more comfortable.

Use awnings: Install awnings over south-facing windows to block the sun and reduce indoor heat.

For more tips on staying safe, saving energy, and keeping comfortable, visit seattle.gov/city-light/energy-tips.



Seattle City Light

seattle.gov/city-light



OUR TIME OF USE RATE

We're introducing a new Time of Use (TOU) rate in summer 2025. TOU pricing varies by time of day, giving you more control over your bill and helping support a more sustainable grid. Visit seattle.gov/city-light/residential-rates to explore your energy use and compare rate options to find the best fit rate for you.

SAVE WITH THE UTILITY DISCOUNT PROGRAM

If you meet the income requirements, you may qualify for the Utility Discount Program. With this program, you can get 60% off your Seattle City Light bill. Plus, you can also get 50% off your water, sewer, and solid waste services from Seattle Public Utilities. Even if your landlord pays the utility bill, you can still benefit. To find out if you qualify, visit seattle.gov/UDP.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR ELECTRICAL SERVICE

Important disclosures about your electrical service are available for download at the following web address: seattle.gov/documents/Departments/CityLight/Electric-Billing-Practices-Procedures-Disclosures.pdf

If you would like to request a physical copy of the disclosures documents, please call (206) 684-3000.

JOIN GREEN UP!

When you join the Green Up Program, you help fund wind, solar, and other renewable energy projects. It's easy to join. You can do your part for as little as \$1 each month. Learn more at seattle.gov/city-light/GULR.

TAKE A SKAGIT TOUR

Our Skagit Tours in the beautiful North Cascades are just a scenic, three-hour drive from Seattle. Cruise the lake, learn more about where your power comes from, enjoy spectacular views, and hear stories about the local dams and powerhouses. Start planning your North Cascades adventure today at skagittours.com.



AT WORK in your neighborhood

Seattle City Light crews are in these neighborhoods, working to provide reliable service. The following projects continue across our service area:

- Updating electrical infrastructure for streetlights and floodlights.
- Replacing aging utility poles to enhance safety and reliability.

Learn more about projects in your area by visiting seattle.gov/city-light/current-projects.

SAFETY TIP FROM THE FIELD

It's hot, so stay prepared for the heat by making extra ice, unplugging electrical appliances not in use, and staying hydrated.

