

Light Reading



Seattle City Light

September / October 2026



Seattle City Light Rate Ordinance

In July, the Seattle City Council approved City Light's 2027–2028 Rate Ordinance. The established rate path includes an increase that will go into effect on January 1, 2027 to address the increasing costs to deliver safe, reliable, and environmentally responsible energy. Visit powerlines.seattle.gov/2027rateincrease to learn more.

Prepare for Storm Season

Fall is a beautiful time of year, but it's also a time when bright and sunny weather can change to dark and stormy in a flash. Windstorms and heavy rain often bring power outages in our area. Here's how to get ready for storm season before it arrives:

- Assess your trees for branches that could fall in a windstorm.
- Have an emergency kit ready with enough food and water for at least a week: ready.gov/kit
- Give portable generators a quick tune-up and remember to keep them outside so they can properly ventilate.

Sign up for emergency notifications in your area at alert.seattle.gov and kingcounty.gov/ALERTKingCounty.

Visit seattle.gov/city-light/outage-safety for more information and resources.

Plant a Tree this Fall

When planting a tree, remember to look up, down, and around. With proper planning and planting, the tree you plant today can thrive for decades and provide lasting benefits.

Trees offer many advantages. They absorb stormwater, provide shade in hot months, and their leaves help clean the air. To maximize these benefits, choose your tree and location carefully. Make sure to select the right tree for the right place, especially near power lines.

Do you need help getting started? Contact a registered tree service provider at seattle.gov/trees/service-providers. Many offer free consultations and estimates to help you make informed decisions.



Enroll in the Utility Discount Program

We invite all income-eligible residents to join the Utility Discount Program. By enrolling, you can get a 60% discount on your City Light electricity bills. If you receive water, sewer, or solid waste services from Seattle Public Utilities, you'll get a 50% discount on those bills too. On average, customers can save \$120 to \$205 each month through the Utility Discount Program. Even if your landlord pays the utility bills, you may still qualify. To see if you're eligible, visit seattle.gov/UtilityBillHelp. If you do not qualify today, check back next year. With expanded income eligibility beginning in 2027, more customers will be eligible for utility assistance.

Our Time of Use Rate is Available!

A new way to manage your energy bill is here. Our Time of Use (TOU) rate gives you more choice in how you manage your bill while also helping reduce strain on our energy system. With TOU pricing, the amount you pay depends on when you use electricity, not just how much you use. Visit seattle.gov/city-light/TOU to learn more and see if TOU is right for you.

Join Green Up

Are you interested in supporting clean and renewable energy? Join the Green Up Program!



It's a low-cost way to support clean energy.



It's a green thing you can do to help add clean, renewable energy to the regional and local power grid.



It increases access to clean energy and jobs, improving the health and economy of our local communities and the region.

You can join for as little as \$1 each month. Learn more at seattle.gov/city-light/GULR.



At Work in Your Neighborhood

Seattle City Light crews are always 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: seattle.gov/city-light/current-projects



Safety Tip from the Field

Fall storms can lead to downed power lines. If you see a power line on the ground, assume it is electrified. Stay at least 30 feet away and call 911. For more safety tips, visit seattle.gov/city-light/outages/outage-safety.



**Seattle
City Light**

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Questions, comments or suggestions? Email us at SCL_ExternalComms@seattle.gov
Language assistance available, call (206) 684-3000.



The mark of
responsible forestry