WATER NATURAL GAS ELECTRIC WASTEWATER FPUANET

FPUA Customer Connections

August 2022

Important News About the Power Cost Adjustment

On Tuesday, July 19th, the FPUA Board of Directors voted to reduce the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) on your electric utility bill by $30 per 1,000 kWh. **The PCA will be $29 per 1,000 kWh for the month of August 2022.**

Florida's electric utilities use natural gas to generate over 75% of our electricity because it is reliable, efficient and a relatively clean fuel source. Fuel is a cost that is passed on to customers as a specific line item on our bills, separate from the base rate, and is called the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA). It is separate from the base rate **When the fuel price increases or decreases, so does the PCA.**

Today's natural gas prices are very volatile. The FPUA Board and leadership are tracking fuel prices daily and revisiting it at every board meeting. If you wish to learn more or get involved, you should attend the **FPUA board meetings scheduled on the first and third Tuesday at 4pm at Fort Pierce City Hall,** or watch them live or recorded online (available at this link: https://fpua.com/board-information/board-meetings/).

FPUA is a municipal utility provider. Our mission is to provide our customers with economical, reliable, and friendly service in a continuous effort to enhance the quality of life in our community. Though the PCA is being reduced, we are still under a positive PCA while the price of fuel remains high. If you are in need of utility bill assistance, a few options are listed below. You may call our Customer Service department at 772-466-1600 ext. 3900 to learn more about special payment arrangements and utility assistance programs available in our area.

ALPI LIHEAP & LIHWAP

The Agriculture and Labor Program, Inc. (ALPI) offers programs to assist those in need in our community.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps keep families safe and healthy through initiatives that assist families with energy costs. LIHEAP provides federally funded assistance in managing costs associated with home energy bills and energy crises.

The Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) provides funds to assist low-income households with water and wastewater bills. LIHWAP Eligibility includes Seniors (60+), households with children 5 and under, and those with disabilities.

Eligibility requirements apply. For qualification guidelines, and online application, visit www.alpi.org. Information on these and many other programs can be found online at www.alpi.org or by calling 863-956-3491.

FPUA Budget Billing

Fort Pierce Utilities Authority (FPUA) Budget Billing gives you a predictable utility bill by evening out your utility costs over the year so you pay about the same amount each month. Benefits of the program include:

- no more bill fluctuations
- easier to plan for monthly expenses

It's free to enroll in budget billing and you only pay for the actual services you use. Customers interested in registering for Budget Billing must:

- have been an FPUA customer for at least the past 12 months
- have an account balance of zero prior to the effective budget date
- bring any delinquent accounts to current status
- register using the attached authorization form or online at www.fpua.com/account-and-billing/ .

For additional information or questions, please call FPUA Customer Service at 772-466-1600, ext. 3900.

Summer

Hot Florida summers can be challenging, especially when it comes to utilities. But, you have the power to save money and lower your utility usage by implementing conservation strategies that work for you. Use free resources to perform your own home Energy Assessment available at Energy.gov or stabilize your monthly payments with FPUA Budget Billing. Along with other resources, below are some expert tips to help you conserve energy during these hot summer months.

Energy Conservation Tips

- Use blinds, shades and draperies during the hottest hours of the day, between noon and 4:30 pm, on the sunny side of your house to prevent heat buildup.
- Use ceiling fans to keep cool, but remember to turn them off when you leave the room.
- Do not leave the fan running on your AC unit when it is off. This will increase energy costs and could shorten the life of your appliance from wear & tear.
- When cooking, turn on your kitchen exhaust fan to remove excess heat and moisture, but do not let it run for more than 15 minutes after cooking.
- Run your dishwasher during the cooler parts of the day to avoid heating up your home. Don't use the heat-dry option, that will increase energy usage.
- Set your refrigerator temperature to 37° F and your freezer at 0° F.
- Keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to prevent warm air intrusion.
- Seal cracks and openings around doors/windows to prevent warm air from leaking into your home.
- To save energy, use a programmable thermostat to keep your house warmer when you are away.
- Always use the bathroom fan when showering or bathing to remove heat and humidity from your home.
- Consider LED bulbs for the light in your home that you use most frequently. Unlike incandescent bulbs, LED's bulbs emit very little heat into your home.

Water Conservation Tips

- Check for drips and leaks. If you find one, fix it promptly Did you know that a faucet dripping every two seconds equates to over 1,500 gallons of water wasted annually? Remember to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers, and hoses for leaks.
- Water your lawn only when it needs it and never in the heat of the day when the water evaporates much faster.
- Set your lawnmower to its maximum height will help plants develop a deeper root system and it will require less watering.
- Get a rain barrel to collect rainwater for use on your lawn or garden.
- Take shorter showers and turn the water off when you soap up or shampoo.
- Only run the dishwasher when it is full and select the correct water level for the load. Do not rinse, but scrape your dishes before loading them in the dishwasher.
- Use a broom instead of the hose to clean your driveway and sidewalks.
- Wash your car at a commercial car wash where they use recycled water.
- When the kids want to cool off, use the sprinkler in an area where your lawn needs water the most.
- Upgrade your showerhead to a water-saving model.
- Turn off the water when you are brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Check your toilet for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. If it appears in the bowl, fix the leak.

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American Public Power Association

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Customer Service: 772-466-1600
Email: cs@fpua.com
www.fpua.com
Like us on Facebook - www.facebook.com/teamFPUA
206 South 6th Street
Fort Pierce, FL 34950