



Belmont Municipal Light Department

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www.belmont-ma.gov/electric

SUMMER ENERGY CONSERVATION TIPS

Below are some summer energy conservation tips to help reduce Belmont's electrical load:

- Run appliances such as washing machines, dryers, ovens, and dishwashers in the early morning or late at night.
- Turn off lights, appliances, and electronics that are not in use.
- Keep cool with fans, air conditioning, and cool showers. You can make your own air conditioner by placing a bowl of ice in front of a fan and letting it blow on you.
- Replace or clean clogged air conditioner filters so they operate more efficiently. If possible, install room air conditioners on north-facing walls or on the shady side of the house. Close all windows and doors when operating an air conditioner.
- Keep shades or curtains pulled down on the sunny side of the house and during the hottest parts of the day.
- When the temperature cools, open the windows. Window fans work best when blowing air out, so put your fan on the sunny side of the house and let it pull the hot air out while pulling in cool air from open windows on the shady side.
- Use a microwave to cook. A microwave uses less energy than a stove or oven and will add less heat to the room.
- Reduce the operating time of swimming pool filters and automatic cleaning sweeps. When possible, run pool filters and automatic cleaning sweeps in the early morning or at night.

Protect your electronics and appliances in the hot weather. Voltage instability caused by brownouts, lightning strikes, momentary power fluctuations and/or storm-related blackouts can damage appliances and electronics. Using Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) systems, surge protectors, and surge suppressors will best protect your electrical equipment. These protective devices can be purchased locally.

For more energy savings tips and weather related updates, please visit the BMLD web site at www.belmont-ma.gov/electric or call **617-993-2800**.