

Here are easy ways renters are saving energy and money.



BGE's Smart Energy Savers Program® provides many options for saving energy at home—and it's never been easier! We offer numerous programs to help you reduce your energy use, save money and protect the environment.

Quick Home Energy Check-up

BGE's Quick Home Energy Check-up is a fast, easy way to increase energy efficiency and save money. An energy efficiency expert will walk through and inspect your home to make recommendations on how to improve energy efficiency. The inspection will look at your heating and cooling systems, windows, doors, lighting, appliances and more.

The energy efficiency expert will help you understand your energy use, and you'll receive a checklist summarizing recommended improvements and opportunities to reduce your energy usage and costs while improving your home's comfort.

With your approval, up to 22 applicable energy-saving items will be installed at no additional cost:

- Up to 12 CFL bulbs
- One LED bulb
- Four faucet aerators
- Two efficient-flow fixed or handheld showerheads
- Water heater pipe insulation (installed on hot and cold pipes for six feet from water heater)
- Smart power strips
- ShowerStart™ showerhead adapter

Note: In order to participate in the Quick Home Energy Check-up and have the energy-saving items installed, you must have permission from your landlord.

Lighting Discounts

Switch to energy-efficient LEDs and save with discounts up to \$7 on select bulbs. Plus, get discounts up to \$2.25 on select energy-efficient CFLs and \$10 on select light fixtures. Compared to traditional incandescent light bulbs, LEDs and CFLs use 70–90 percent less energy and last up to 25 times longer! Replacing a standard bulb with an LED or CFL can save \$30 to \$80 in electricity costs over the bulb's lifetime. For participating retailers and information about recycling your old CFLs, visit BGESmartEnergy.com.

PeakRewardsSM

PeakRewards helps ease demand during periods of “peak” electricity usage. Earn bill credits while helping reduce the likelihood of power outages. If your central air conditioner, electric heat pump or electric water heater is in good working order, you can enroll in PeakRewards and receive:

- A/C Program Bill Credits—When you enroll, you'll get a professionally installed PeakRewards device that allows BGE to cycle your A/C during peak periods, resulting in bill credits from \$100 to \$200.
- Electric Water Heater Program Bill Credits—When you enroll, BGE will install a PeakRewards switch to cycle off the electricity to your water heater during peak periods, resulting in up to \$50 in bill credits.
- Multifamily A/C Program Bill Credits—When you enroll, all the units in your community will get a professionally installed PeakRewards device that allows BGE to cycle each unit's A/C during peak periods, resulting in bill credits between \$100 to \$200.

The savings really add up!

A/C Program Participation Level	Summer Credits Per Month: June, July, August, September	First Year Bonus Per Month†	First Year Total (Credits Plus Bonus)
50%	\$12.50/month	\$12.50	\$100
75%	\$18.75/month	\$18.75	\$150
100%	\$25.00/month	\$25.00	\$200

†The first-year matching bonus credits are only intended for the initial customer enrollment and device installation. A new move-in customer will receive ongoing bill credits, if they continue to participate in the program, but will not receive the first-year matching bonus. A customer moving into a participating community with an existing PeakRewards device will be defaulted to 50% cycling level.

Note: As a renter, you must have permission from your landlord to participate in PeakRewards.



Energy Savings Days

Energy Savings Days are very hot summer weekdays when BGE anticipates high electricity demand, especially through air conditioning. They're also your opportunity to save.

Here's how it works:

- 1. We'll notify you.** BGE will notify you by phone, email or text the day before an Energy Savings Day.
- 2. Reduce your use.** Between 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. on an Energy Savings Day, simply use less electricity by such actions as reducing air conditioning use, delaying the use of large appliances or turning off lights.
- 3. Earn Rewards.** Within a few days, we'll notify you by phone, email or text to let you know how much you saved. You'll earn bill credits of \$1.25 for every kilowatt-hour saved compared to your typical usage on days with similar weather. Your credits will appear on your next bill.

To learn more, visit [BGE.com/EnergySavingsDays](https://www.bge.com/EnergySavingsDays).

Energy-Saving Tips for Renters

Air Leaks and Insulation

Look for dirty spots on your ceiling paint and carpet, which may indicate air leaks at interior wall/ceiling joints and wall/floor joists, and have your landlord or building manager caulk them.

Heating and Cooling

Have your landlord or building manager tune up your heating and air conditioning systems annually. Clean or replace filters once a month or as recommended.

Set the temperature on your programmable thermostat as low as is comfortable in the winter and as high as is comfortable in the summer, as well as when you're sleeping or away from home. The ideal temperatures are 78°F in the summer and 68°F in the winter.

Turn off kitchen, bath and other exhaust fans within 20 minutes after you finish cooking or bathing.

Water Heating

Take showers instead of baths to use an average of 50% less water. Don't run the water while brushing your teeth—that can save as much as 3,000 gallons per year!

Have your landlord or building manager repair leaky faucets promptly. A leaky faucet can waste gallons of water in a short time.

These programs support the EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act.

Windows

During the summer, keep window coverings closed during the day to block the sun's heat. During the winter, keep them open on south-facing windows during the day to let the sun in, and close them at night to help keep cold air out.

In the winter, use a heavy-duty, clear plastic sheet on a frame or tape clear plastic film to the inside of your window frames to reduce drafts.

Lighting

Keep your curtains or shades open to use daylighting instead of turning on lights. For more privacy, use light-colored, loose-weave curtains to allow daylight into the room. Also, decorate with lighter colors that reflect daylight.

Turn off lights when you leave a room or when they're not needed.

Appliances

Set your refrigerator's temperature between 35°F and 38°F and clean the coils regularly.

Use your dishwasher's energy-saving cycle and clean only full loads, then open the door to air dry. If handwashing, use a basin and don't leave the water running.

Wash clothes in cold water whenever possible and do only full loads, since a small load uses just as much energy. Clean your dryer's lint filter after every load, and clean the air vent annually for increased efficiency and safety.

Don't over-dry your clothes. If your machine has a moisture sensor, use it.


Match your pots to your stove's burners. Using a 6-inch pot on an 8-inch burner wastes more than 40% of the heat. Use lids to keep heat in and help food cook faster.

Home Office and Electronics

Turn off TVs, computers and other electronics when not in use. Better yet, plug them into a smart power strip so when you turn it off, devices don't use power in the standby mode.

Get smart with your energy efficiency.

Learn more about the BGE Smart Energy Savers Program at [BGESmartEnergy.com](https://www.BGESmartEnergy.com) or by calling **877.685.7377** today. For PeakRewards, call **888.309.PEAK (7325)**.

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