What's the difference between capacity and energy?

What is Capacity?

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) refers to capacity as the **maximum output of electricity that a generator can produce** under ideal conditions. Capacity levels are normally determined as a result of performance tests and allow utilities to project the maximum electricity load that a generator can support. Capacity is generally measured in megawatts (MW) or kilowatts (kW).

J.B.Sims Generating Station has a net capacity of approximately **70 MW.**

What is Energy?

Energy is the **amount of electricity that is produced and consumed over time.** Energy is measured in megawatt-hours (MWh). Each of us consumes or uses energy. When you turn on a light, plug in a computer or cool a home, you consume energy.

J.B.Sims Generating Station produced approximately **273,300 MWh** of energy in 2017.

Capacity Markets

GHBLP's local generation and remote renewable energy entitlements provide adequate installed capacity to meet the necessary reserve requirements of the regional Independent System Operator (ISO) and to sell a small amount of excess capacity to others in the regional market.

Future Power Supply Planning

In its 5-year Strategic Plan, the BLP has committed to transition to a "**more sustainable, economical, and diversified power supply portfolio,**" to ensure we meet the energy and capacity needs of our community.

Earth Day Lakeshore Fair
SATURDAY - April 21, 2018
1pm - 4pm

Grand Haven Community Center
421 Columbus, Grand Haven

Come visit our booth at the **EARTH DAY FAIR**.
We will be giving away deciduous trees on a first come first serve basis.

Your Board of Directors:

Jack Smant, Chairperson
Gerald Witherell, Vice Chairperson
Larry Kieft, Director
John Naser, Director
Jim VanderMolen, Director

PLUGGED IN is a publication of the Grand Haven Board of Light & Power.

Questions and comments may be submitted to our
Customer Service Department at:
1700 Eaton Drive, Grand Haven, MI 49417
p 616.846.6250 | f 616.846.3114
Emergency: 616.846.6250| E-Mail: customerservice@ghblp.org

The BLP is excited to host a booth at the **WAWL 3rd Annual Home/Garden/ Lifestyle Show**.

Stop by our booth for your free gift!

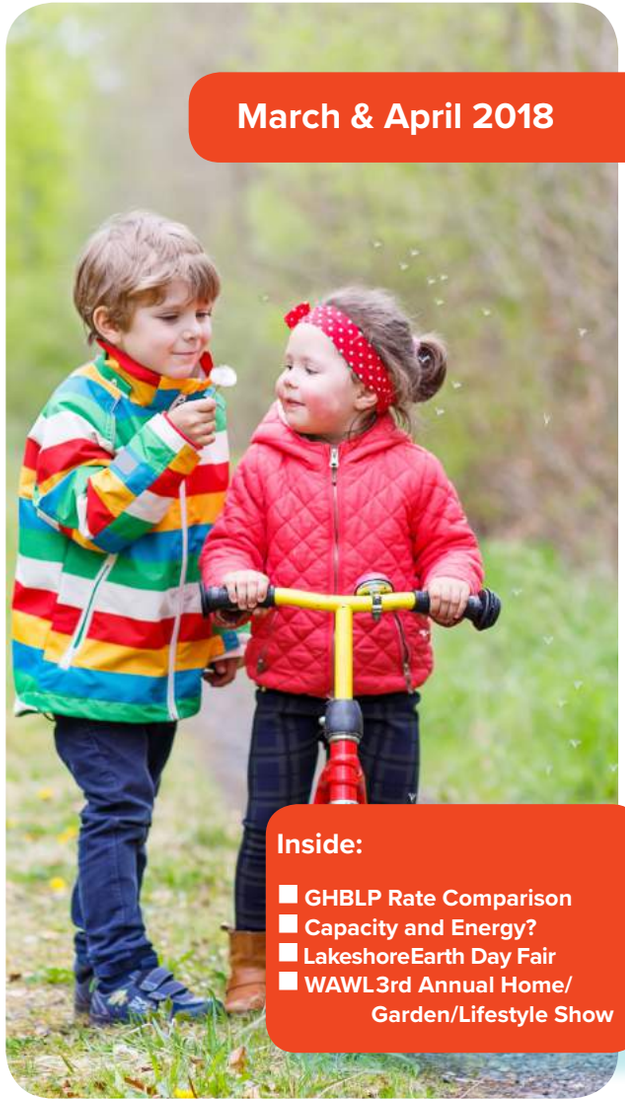
Saturday, April 21, 2018 9am - 6pm
Sunday, April 22, 2018 12 Noon - 5pm

D. Baker and Son Lumber
720 Pennoyer Street Grand Haven MI.

PLUGGED IN

News and Information from your Community-Owned Electric Utility
Grand Haven Board of Light & Power

March & April 2018



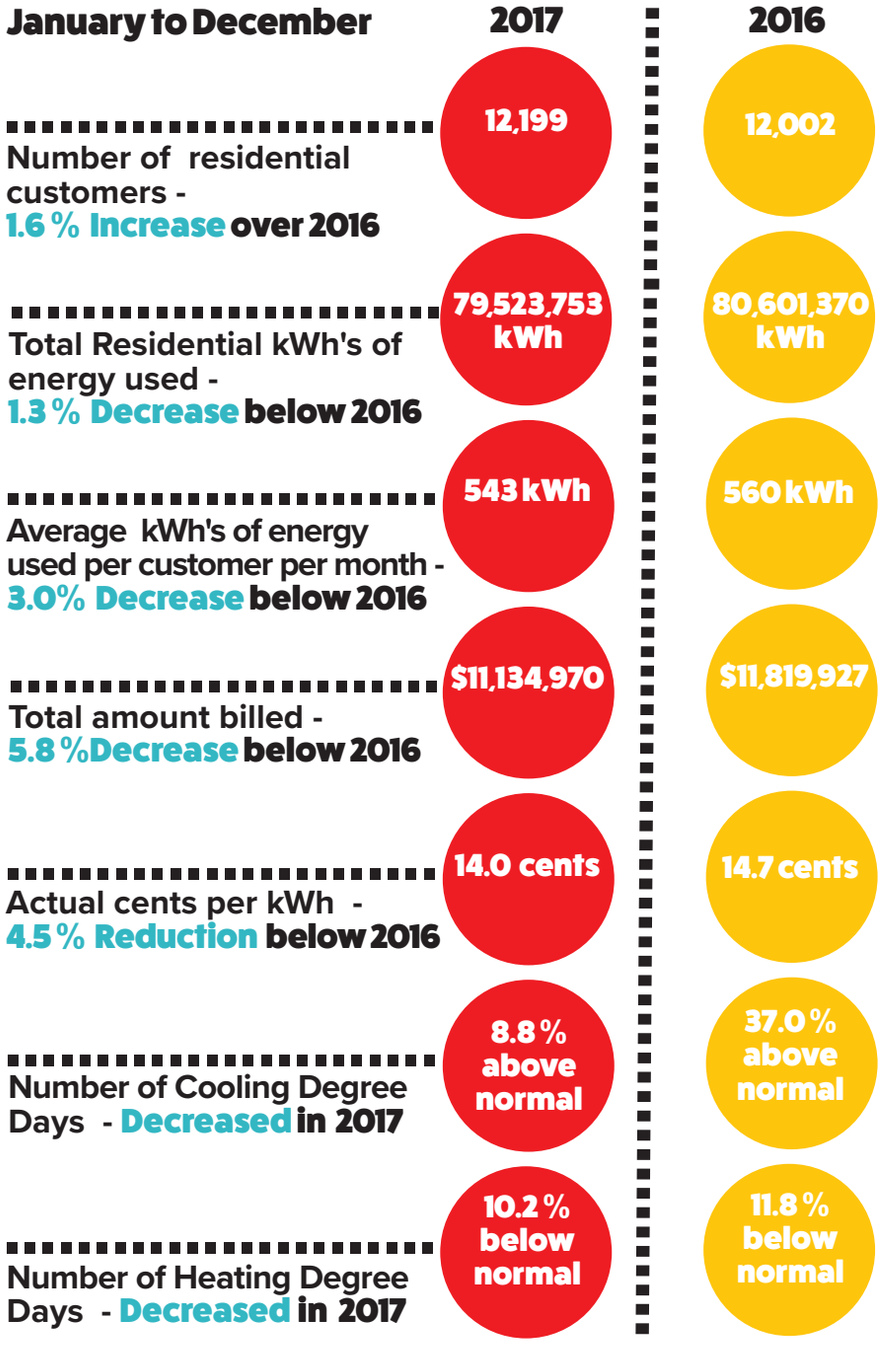
Inside:

Grand Haven
Board of Light & Power

Providing quality local electric service since 1896
ghblp.org

GHBLP Actual Rates & Energy Use Comparison - *plus a look at Degree Days.*

ACTUAL Residential Energy Use & Rate Comparison



Comparing 2017 to 2016 -

The AVERAGE amount billed to each residential customer decreased 7.4% year over year. This decrease was due to rate reductions implemented July 1, 2016 and decreased energy use in 2017. **The AVERAGE energy usage of each residential customer decreased 3.0%** year over year. This decrease was primarily due to cooler summer weather in 2017.

What is a Degree Day?

degree day Cold winter weather or sweltering summer heat can increase the cost of your utility bills. You are able to determine the weather impact by using a unit of measure called a Degree Day. **A higher number of degree days will require more energy for cooling or heating your home or business.**

2 types of degree days -

Cooling and heating. Each compares the current day's average temperature to a baseline standard of 65°F to determine the energy demands of cooling or heating your home or business. Days with an average temperature of 65°F have no cooling or heating degree days.

Hot days are measured in **cooling degree days**. On a day with a mean temperature of 80°F, 15 cooling degree days would be recorded (80-65=15).

Cold days are measured in **heating degree days.** For a day with a mean temperature of 40°F, 25 heating degree days would be recorded (65-40=25).

Adding the cooling or heating degree days together for a whole month (or year), provides a way to compare a previous month's (or previous year's) cooling or heating demands to that of the current month (or current year).

If you have questions about your bill don't hesitate to call our Customer Account Representatives at **616.846.6250** or email us at **customerservice@ghblp.org**