## National Electric Safety Month Pool & Spa Safety ~

Electric shock drowning occurs when swimmers are exposed to electric currents in the water. In some cases, the shock itself is fatal because the person will suffocate when their diaphragm is paralyzed, while in others the electric current incapacitates the swimmer causing them to drown. The main cause of electric shock drownings is faulty electrical wiring that causes electric current to leak into the water.

## HOW TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK DROWNING



ESFI.org

## Sign Up for SmartHub An easier way to manage your GHBLP electric bill. Through SmartHub you can: • Access multiple accounts • Update contact information • Pay your bill in real time • Set recurring payments • Compare monthly bills

## Get Plugged In! Sign up to receive news and

information electronically at ghblp.org



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# PLUGGED IN

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



## May & June 2019

# SUMMER IS COMING PREPARE YOUR HOME NOW

Don't Let Summer Heat Up Your Utility Bill



Seal cracks around the house with weather stripping or caulk to keep warm air out.



Change the air filter on your cooling unit.



Wash your outdoor AC unit and have your HVAC unit inspected.



Clear the air vents throughout your house.

Install a programmable thermostat. Leave it on a higher temperature when you are away, and set it to cool the house half an hour before you return home.



Update your insulation to keep cool air in your home and warm air out.

EARN CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING REBATES when you purchase and install Energy Star® rated equipment. Incentive per 17 SEER unit: \$150 Incentive per 16 SEER unit: \$100 Incentive per 15 SEER unit: \$75 Visit mienergysmart.com for your Rebate Application

#### Comparing 2018 to 2017

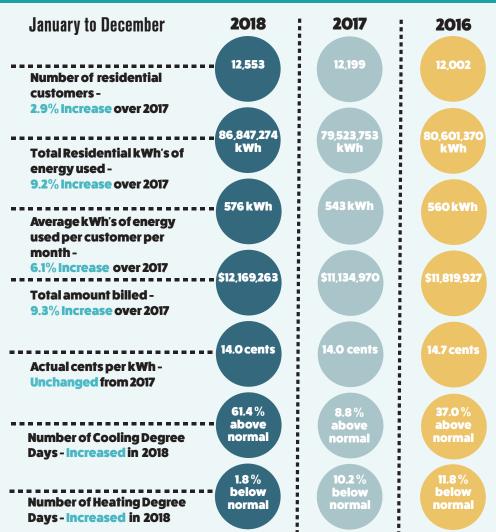
The AVERAGE amount billed to each residential customer increased 6.2% year over year. This increase was due to an increase in average energy usage in 2018.

The AVERAGE energy usage of each residential customer increased 6.1% year over year. This increase was primarily due to warmer summer weather in 2018.

Adding 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) heating and cooling demands to that of the current month (or current year).

#### What is a Degree Day?

**Degree day** – Cold winter weather or summer heat can increase the cost of your utility bills. You can 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.



### In 2018, the total number of cooling degree days was 61.4% above the normal or average year.

**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).

ACTUAL Residential Energy Use & Rate Comparison

