

Options for upgrading to a Smarter Home

If you don't have the budget to install all these devices in your home at once, consider these stand-alone items that could help you save money on your utility bill:

- **Smart thermostats** usually cost in the \$200 to \$300 range, and rebates are often available. With an estimated savings of around 10 percent on energy costs, this smart device could pay for itself in just a year or two depending on where you live and your indoor comfort preferences.

- **Smart plugs** allow you to plug in an appliance and track its energy use. Seeing how much energy your old garage refrigerator uses may motivate you to remove and recycle it. These intelligent plugs are relatively inexpensive compared to other smart devices and they allow you to control an appliance or equipment remotely.

- **Energy monitoring devices** give real-time feedback on energy consumption and track your energy stats (like a fitness tracker for your home). These typically cost between \$200 and \$300, but can make a real difference on your energy bills if you make adjustments based on the feedback.

- **Smart lighting** allows you to take advantage of higher tech motion sensors and dimmers, which means using less energy to light (or not light) your home.

- **Smart bulbs** help save money because they are internet-capable LED bulbs that allow lighting to be controlled remotely. If someone in your home is always leaving the lights on when no one is around, you can simply turn them off from your mobile phone.



Get Rebates

on Energy Efficient Appliances and Equipment.

Central Air Conditioning

Incentive per 17 SEER unit: \$150
Incentive per 16 SEER unit: \$100
Incentive per 15 SEER unit: \$75

Mini-Split System

Incentive per 21 or higher SEER unit: \$300

ECM-Equipped Furnace

Incentive per unit: \$150

ENERGY STAR® High Efficiency Heat Pump Water Heater

Incentive per unit: \$150

ENERGY STAR® Dishwasher

Incentive per unit: \$15

ENERGY STAR® TV

Incentive per unit: \$30

Please see application for full details.

mienergysmart.com



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Annual Summary Report

2018 Energy Waste Reduction Program & Renewable Energy Plan

Our Mission

The GHBLP mission is to meet our community's expectations for quality local electric utility service that returns value to our customers and the community as a whole.

This report covers some of the efforts by the GHBLP to support energy efficiency, waste reduction, conservation and renewable energy utilization.

Energy Waste Reduction Program

Annual Summary - MPSC Case Number U-18295

The GHBLP contracts with Franklin Energy through the Michigan Public Power Agency (MPPA) to provide a variety of programs aimed at helping customers use less energy.

Residential: Rebates were offered to residential customers to purchase energy efficient equipment and appliances and to recycle old appliances. Packages of LED bulbs and energy efficient educational materials were distributed to residential customers and qualified low-income customers.

Business: Incentives were provided to business customers to replace less efficient lighting and machinery with energy-saving equipment. Business customers were also eligible for prescriptive incentives or pre-approved custom program incentives that were tailored to fit their individual needs.

The specific Energy Waste Reduction and Renewable Energy Plan surcharges that were collected prior to 7/01/2016 are no longer being assessed. The program costs are now recovered through customer base rate charges.

2018 Energy Waste Reduction Program Results

Program Total	kWh Goal	kWh Savings Achieved	% of Goal
	2,021,899	3,170,889	157%

Renewable Energy Plan

Annual Summary - MPSC Case Number U-16613

In December 2016, Governor Snyder signed PA 342 into law, which amends PA 295 of 2008, increasing the renewable energy portfolio standard from 10% to 12.5% beginning in 2019 and 15% beginning in 2021. GHBLP will continue to work with Michigan Public Power Agency (MPPA) to obtain its renewable energy credits through joint projects and purchase power agreements.

For 2018, PA 342 required Michigan electric utilities to use renewable energy credits equal to 10% of their three-year annual average retail electric sales. GHBLP obtained its renewable energy credits through power purchase arrangements with MPPA for landfill gas and wind energy.

2018 Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard & Results

Renewable Energy Credits Required	Renewable Energy Credits Used for Compliance
28,481 MWh	28,481 MWh

GHBLP, through MPPA, has recently approved future power purchase agreements for additional wind and solar projects to exceed these growing renewable energy requirements.

Copies of the complete 2018 annual report for the Energy Waste Reduction Program and the Renewable Energy Plan are available at our Service Center and on the Grand Haven Board of Light & Power website at

ghblp.org

Grand Haven Board of Light & Power's **Energy Waste Reduction Program and Renewable Energy Plan** are in compliance with Michigan's Clean, Renewable and Efficient Energy Act (Public Act 342 of 2016).

Converting a 'Dumb' Home to a Smart One: Is it Worth it?

Depending on your age, your technical knowledge or perhaps your interests, you may or may not be excited at the prospect of installing smart devices in your home, but having a "smart home" can help make the many tasks we do each day less time consuming, more fun, and potentially less costly.

So what, exactly, are smart homes?

They are houses that interconnect a number of control devices and home appliances to improve their efficiency and operability.

Smart home automation allows you to program a variety of items ranging from a smart thermostat, to lights, window blinds and even items like an automatic pet-feeding bowl.

If all your devices are interconnected, you can control them from one place on your tablet or cell phone. And if you have voice-assisted technology, you can control it all with a few words, and presto! — the coffee maker starts or your lights turn on or off.

These devices monitor, control and track energy use of individual smart plugs or whole-house monitoring trackers (so you can improve your energy "fitness"), and may include smart lighting with motion sensors and phone app controls.

Smart appliances and devices can help you save money because, in many cases, they help you use less energy. They're also convenient, fun to use and can give you peace of mind and they most likely will recover the initial investment over a few short years.

Visit mienergysmart.com for a rebate application.