

Pet Safety

A cord is not a chew toy

Q: What's the most common type of electrical injury for household pets?

A: Electrocutation from chewing on an electrical cord

Take Action:

Pet proof your home by covering or enclosing electrical cords and taking steps to prevent other electrical hazards.

Although any pet may chew on a cord, puppies are the most likely culprit. Active pups may chew on an electrical cord without anyone realizing it. If you see burns, singed hair or whiskers in or around your pet's mouth or you notice shortness of breath or other respiratory issues, seek immediate medical attention for your pet and locate and repair where the pet may have damaged electrical wiring.

Learn more about pet safety at:
SafeElectricity.org



Holiday Hours

Thanksgiving

Closed November 28 & 29, 2019

Christmas

Closed December 24 & 25, 2019

New Years

Closed December 31, 2019 & January 1, 2020

If you need to make a payment, visit ghblp.org
or call 1-844-749-3055.

If you need to report a power outage, visit our
Outage Center at ghblp.org or call 616-846-6250.



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Grand Haven Board of Light & Power

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616.846.6250 | ghblp.org

PLUGGED IN

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



**November &
December 2019**

Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, U.S. electric utilities had approximately 86.8 million Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) meter installations in 2018. Approximately 88% of those meter installations were located at residential customers.

AMI is an integrated system of smart meters, communications networks, and data management systems that enable two-way communication between a utility and its customers. A smart meter is an

electronic device that records the consumption of electricity and communicates that information to the utility for monitoring electric demand or outages for billing and operational purposes.

Installation of this improved technology, which meets industry standards for electrical metering, will result in a reduction in operating costs, improved safety for employees, and collects real time data for the utility and our customers.

We will begin installation of the backhaul equipment this winter, which includes antennas and repeaters. Software will also be installed over the winter and installation of smart meters will begin early spring 2020. This project is expected to be complete by fall or early winter 2020.

To ensure we are prepared to meet the requirements of this new technology, we are restructuring and retraining our Technical Services team for their new roles, and Customer Account Representatives will be trained on the new software following installation.

AMI BENEFITS

- **Reduced Operating Costs**
- **Collects Real Time Data**
- **Improved Safety**
- **Accurate Meters**
- **Meets Industry Standards**

By 2020 more than 90 million Smart Meters will be in use in the United States.



research collected from the
Electric Company Smart Meter
Deployments Foundation for
A Smart Energy Grid

**Safe
Electricity.org**

Winter Energy Saving Tips

Cover Drafty Windows

Use a heavy-duty, clear plastic sheet on a frame or tape clear plastic film tightly to the inside of your window frames during the cold winter months.

Find and Seal Leaks

Add caulk or weatherstripping to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows.

Adjust the Temperature

When you are home and awake, set your thermostat as low as is comfortable. When you are asleep or out of the house, turn your thermostat back to save on your heating bill. A smart or programmable thermostat makes it easy to manage the temperature.

Maintain Your Heating System

Schedule service for your heating system and replace your filter once a quarter.

Reduce Heat Loss from the Fireplace

Keep your fireplace damper closed unless a fire is burning. Keeping the damper open is like keeping a window wide open during the winter; it allows warm air to go up the chimney.

Lower Your Water Heating Costs

Turn down the temperature of your water heater to the warm setting (120°F). You'll not only save energy, you'll avoid scalding your hands.

Lower Your Holiday Lighting Costs

Use LED holiday light strings to reduce the cost of decorating your home for the winter holidays.

Source: energy.gov/energysaver/fall-and-winter-energy-saving-tips

