

FREE & EASY ways to save energy

[Spoiler Alert: Your clothes and dishes won't know the difference]

Major home appliances account for approximately 16% of an average home's energy consumption.

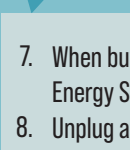
16%



1. Run full loads of laundry instead of several smaller ones.
2. Use cold water to wash your clothes.



3. Keep your refrigerator at 35° to 38°F and your freezer at 0°F.
4. Regularly defrost manual-defrost freezers and refrigerators.



5. Skip the heat-dry setting on your dishwasher.
6. Fully load your dishwasher before washing.



7. When buying new appliances, consider Energy Star versions.
8. Unplug appliances you're not using.

Time to replace that old appliance? Replacing older versions with energy-efficient models can save the average household more than \$500 per year.

Sources: National Resources Defense Council,
U.S. Energy Information Administration

Safe
Electricity.org®

Renewable Energy & Green Energy Program

The Calhoun Solar Project went online in May 2023. This project, which provides BLP with 5.85 megawatts of renewable energy, is the equivalent to power 1,700 average BLP residential customers annually. The BLP recently signed agreements for two new solar projects with estimated completion dates in 2025 which will add another 6.5 MWs of solar capacity.

For customers wanting to increase their renewable energy percentage faster, the BLP has created a Green Energy Program that allows you to buy renewable energy credits (RECs). When you participate in the Green Energy Program, BLP will purchase RECs from renewable sources like wind and solar. That means your utility payments directly support the generation of more renewable energy on the grid. These purchases extend beyond the utility's existing investments and contracts with regional renewable energy sources. Because you can participate in up to 100% of your monthly energy usage, this is one-way residents can work to reach a net zero carbon impact for their energy use.

To learn more about the BLP's Green Energy Program, please call (616) 846-6250 or access the BLP website.



Community Powered since 1896

You can report an outage 24 hours a day, seven days a week online at ghblp.org or by calling (616) 846-6250.

BLP crews are ready to help!

Start or stop service: (616) 846-6250

Report an outage: ghblp.org

Pay your bill by phone: 1 (844) 749-3055

Pay your bill online: ghblp.org

The Board of Light & Power offers a monthly discount to qualifying **Senior Citizens**. Customers who are **65 years or older** and have the electrical service in their name can receive a **\$5.00** a month discount. Call our Customer Service Office at (616) 846-6250.



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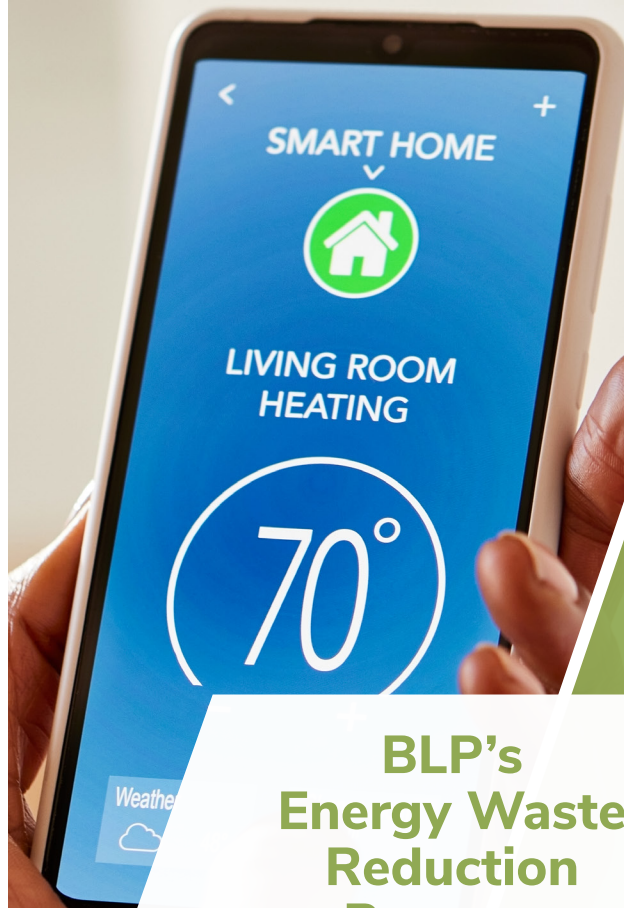
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PLUGGED IN



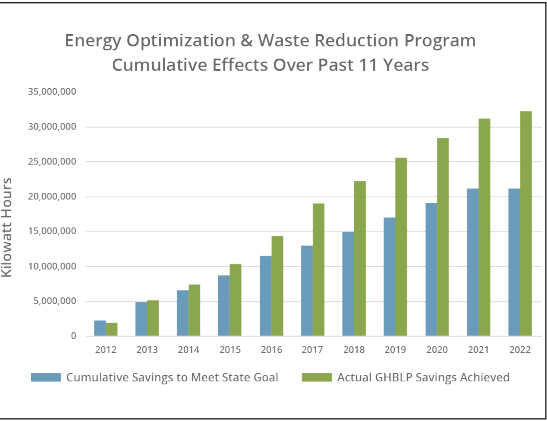
BLP's Energy Waste Reduction Program



January/February 2024

New Year's Resolutions - Saving Energy

Looking back on 2023, the BLP is celebrating a number of accomplishments. From garnering the coveted Diamond-level Reliable Public Power Provider rating from the American Public Power Association (APPA), to receiving APPA's Customer Satisfaction Award based on positive feedback from customers, the BLP has been recognized for its commitment to providing Reliable, Sustainable and Affordable service to the community. In 2023, the BLP achieved 23% of its power supply portfolio from renewable energy resources and plans are to add more renewables in the coming years. Additionally, the BLP has invested over \$3.8 million in energy optimization and waste reduction efforts, cumulatively saving over 30,000,000 kilowatt-hours each year which is more than 10% of the community's annual energy needs. This equates to a reduction in electrical system demand by over 3.6 megawatts.



The mission for 2024? Keep going strong!

Energy Waste Reduction (EWR) at the BLP

The BLP offers a variety of programs that residential, commercial, and industrial customers can use to help reduce energy consumption, promote environmental sustainability, and save money at the same time. In 2008, the state of Michigan established goals for energy waste reduction, and the BLP responded by developing programs to help consumers increase energy efficiency in pursuit of those goals. While the state required mandate ceased for municipal electric utilities in 2021, the BLP maintained and enhanced certain program offerings to continue promoting energy waste reduction and sustainability.

There are a multitude of rebates tied to upgrades for ENERGY STAR appliances and equipment, recycling programs, insulation and demand reduction technologies.

The programs offered through the BLP include:



• Residential Rebates

In collaboration with other municipal electric utilities, the BLP has partnered with Franklin Energy to facilitate its residential energy waste reduction program. Visit the BLP's website for the Residential Rebate Application or call Franklin Energy at 1-877-674-7281 to learn more. Rebates are available for a host of upgrades which include money back for qualified air conditioning replacements, heat

pump installations, Energy Star appliances (including TVs), smart thermostats, insulation, sealing, and more.

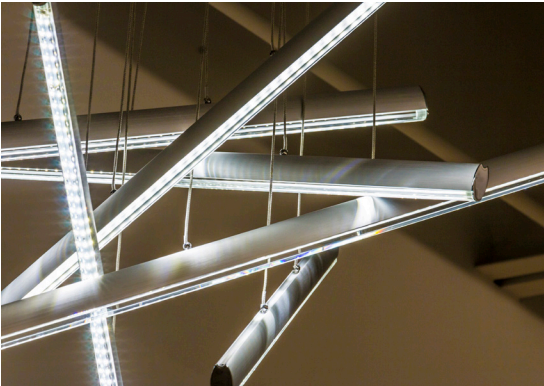
• Appliance Recycling

The BLP, in partnership with Michigan Energy Options, provides BLP customers a way to recycle old appliances (preferably being upgraded to ENERGY STAR replacements). Call 1-866-341-8729 to schedule a pickup of your old refrigerator, freezer, window air conditioner or dehumidifier (all refrigerators and freezers must be at least 10 cubic feet and in working condition).



• Commercial & Industrial Rebates

Qualifying prescriptive and custom energy-saving updates are available through the BLP's Energy Smart Program, ideal for any size business. The energy-efficient improvements help reduce energy consumption, thus reducing businesses' energy costs. Organizations participating in the BLP's EWR programming for commercial and industrial customers have received individual rebates of up to \$30,000. Projects include LED lighting upgrades, variable speed air compressor energy audits and leak reduction measures, replacement of cooler/freezer door gaskets, anti-sweat heater controls, occupancy sensors, energy star rated commercial appliances, and many more.



Savings

Beyond the formalized programming offered through the BLP and its partners, there are many things residents can do to contribute to the community's energy waste reduction and sustainability efforts. Through technology and some tried and true D-I-Y fixes, home and business owners can dramatically reduce energy costs by controlling energy usage more accurately and efficiently, ultimately saving money on energy bills.

To learn more about "smart" energy upgrade opportunities, simply visit the BLP's webpage and click on the **Save Energy button**.



Save Energy

The award-winning Grand Haven BLP consistently seeks to provide its customers with the Reliability, Sustainability and Affordability they have come to expect over the years. Part of that work involves an ongoing commitment to reducing energy waste and educating the community about how they can be an integral part of those efforts through programming offered by the BLP and its partners.

These programs are offered to all BLP customers in the City of Grand Haven, City of Ferrysburg, Grand Haven, Spring Lake and Robinson Townships.



For help or more information call/visit 1-877-674-7281 or mienergysmart.com