



Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power

How Much are Your Energy-Using Devices Costing You?

Your household is likely full of energy-using appliances and electronic devices. While these gadgets are very useful and convenient in your daily life, they can also really cost you on your energy bills.

How much are you spending to power your household gadgets? The [Appliance and Home Electronics Energy Calculator](#) from the U.S. Department of Energy can tell you. Just select the type of device, as well as the estimated number of days and hours used — and the calculator will estimate your annual cost.

Cutting your energy costs

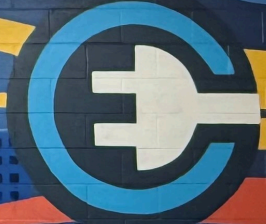
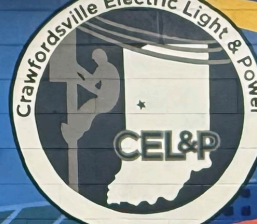
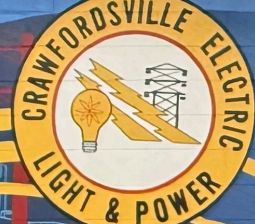
If your gadgets are guzzling too much power, consider these energy-saving measures:

- Turn things off. This is the simplest and most cost-effective way to avoid energy waste. If you're not using something, just turn it off.
- Run full loads. Wait until you have a full load before running the dishwasher, clothes washer and other appliances.
- Wash clothes on cold. Use the cold temperature setting when possible. You'll save money by reducing energy use for heating water.
- Air your clean laundry. When doing laundry, why not air dry your clothes? It will reduce energy costs, and it may help to keep clothes looking new.
- Clean the lint filter after each dryer load; this will increase air circulation and improve dryer efficiency. Inspect your dryer vent periodically to ensure that it's not blocked.
- Shut the fridge. Don't stand in front of an open refrigerator letting cold air escape; choose what you want quickly and close the door.
- Plug smarter. Many electronic devices draw power 24/7 whether you are using them or not. Plug these devices into advanced power strips or smart plugs, which automatically cut power to unused devices.

When you purchase new devices, look for the ENERGY STAR® label. [ENERGY STAR products](#) use less energy than standard models.

When you combine simple energy-saving practices with energy-efficient appliances and equipment, the savings can really add up.





Is Hand Washing Cheaper Than Running the Dishwasher?



It's a common misconception that dishwashers are convenient, but use more water and energy than hand washing. In fact, dishwashers can help you conserve water and save on energy bills.

Hand washing dishes multiple times a day can use significantly more water and cost more than operating an energy-efficient dishwasher, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. A new **ENERGY STAR® certified dishwasher** uses less than half as much energy as washing dishes by hand and saves 8,400 gallons of water each year.

Additional cost-saving tips

Dishwashers are not only convenient, they're also your best energy-saving option. The following practices can help you save even more:









- Scrape dishes instead of rinsing before loading them into the dishwasher.
- Only run your dishwasher when there's a full load and use short wash cycles for lightly soiled dishes.
- Use a rinse agent and the air-dry setting, rather than the heated drying cycle.

So, while manually washing dishes may seem like the right thing to do, properly operating an energy-efficient dishwasher is actually the more sustainable solution for keeping your dishes clean.

IF THERE IS A DOWNED POWER LINE THINK BEFORE YOU ACT



An overhead power line can become damaged or fall due to a severe storm, car accident, public damage or other reasons. If you see a downed power line, take these actions:

-  **Consider all power lines energized and deadly.**
-  **Stay at least 50 feet away.**
-  **Call 9-1-1 or the utility to report the downed line.**
-  **Do not approach it or try to move it with another object.**
-  **Do not get out of a vehicle or cab.**
-  **Do not approach the scene.**
-  **Warn others to stay away.**
-  **Turn around and go another way.**

Even if you do not see a downed line, realize one could be hidden by storm debris, water, snow or ice.

Other things to know



Energized downed lines spread voltage through the ground or nearby objects.



If you go near a downed line, you can become electricity's path to ground.



You cannot tell if a power line is live just by looking at it.



Even if a power line appears coated, it is never safe to go near it.

While transmitting and distributing power is typically safe, extreme scenarios like downed power lines are extremely dangerous. Never approach a downed power line.

Safe Electricity.org Learn more at: [Safe Electricity.org](https://www.safeelectricity.org)



Plan ahead to call 811 before you dig

Digging without locating underground utilities could leave neighborhoods in the dark, cause thousands of dollars in damages, or cause severe electrical shock. This is true regardless of how much area your project will cover or whether you consider the job to be large or small. To help stay safe, make use of the national underground utility locating service for free by calling 8-1-1.

The 8-1-1 "Call Before You Dig" number will route you to your local utility locating service. Make sure to tell the operator where and when you plan to dig and what type of work you will be doing. From there, it takes a few business days for a professional to come mark your public utilities with flags or spray paint.

There are different colors of paint and flags that mark the underground utilities, and each color is universal to what utility is buried.

- Red – Electric
- Orange – Communications, Telephone/CATV
- Blue – Potable Water
- Green – Sewer/Drainage
- Yellow – Gas/Petroleum Pipe Line
- Purple – Reclaimed Water
- White – Premark site of intended excavation

Even if you previously had utilities located by calling 8-1-1, it is best to call before every digging project. Underground utilities can shift, and it is important to be certain of where they are before ever putting a shovel in the ground.

It is important to understand that 8-1-1 locators do not locate privately installed facilities. If you have any private utilities, you will need to hire a private utility locator. Some examples of private utilities include: underground sprinkler system, invisible fences, data communication systems, private water systems, or gas piping to a garage.

Once all of your underground utilities have been located, it is time to start digging, but be sure to wear all of the proper protective gear before putting the shovel into the earth.

For more information about 8-1-1 and digging safety, visit Call811.com and safeelectricity.org.



A Note From The Manager



Allison Huenemann
CEL&P General Manager

At CEL&P, our focus is always on providing safe, reliable power for the homes, businesses, and industries that make Crawfordsville such a great place to live and work. As our community continues to grow, we're making important investments to ensure our electric system remains strong and dependable for years to come.

One of the largest projects currently underway is the new Memorial Drive Substation. This project represents a major step forward for our system and will help strengthen reliability in the Northern part of our territory. Work will continue over the next several years as we move toward its planned completion in December of 2027.

Along with the new substation, we have several other improvement projects in progress and planned throughout our system. From upgrading equipment and infrastructure to improving our facilities and fleet, these investments help our crews work safely and efficiently while keeping power flowing to our customers.

We're proud to serve Crawfordsville and remain committed to taking care of the electric system our community relies on every day. Thank you for the continued trust and support you place in CEL&P.