

# Midwest Energy, Inc. Current Comments

January 2025

Making energy work for YOU

## Youth Tour Trip, Scholarship Applications Due Jan. 31

Applications for Midwest Energy's 2025 Youth Tour Trip and Scholarships are due by January 31, and they can be found at [www.mwenergy.com](http://www.mwenergy.com) under the Community tab.

Two high school juniors will be sent to the week-long Electric Co-operative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. from June



Isabelle Jones from Hays and Blair Niblock from Colby were selected last year. They met with Senator Jerry Moran, visited landmarks and museums in D.C. and learned about electric co-ops.



14-20, 2025. Applicants for the trip must be juniors in high school, live in or attend school in a Midwest Energy service area, and their parents/guardians must receive electric and/or natural gas service from

Midwest Energy. Children of Midwest employees are ineligible. **Continued**

## Demand Rates Begin Year 3 of 4-Year Phase-In Process

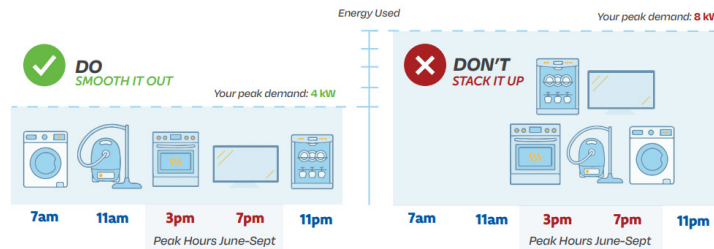
The start of the new year means changes to the residential demand and energy charges. Approved by the Board of Directors in November 2022, demand rates have been introduced through a four year phase-in process.

Each year as the demand charge increases, the energy charge (price per kWh) decreases. In 2025 the energy charge will decrease from 6.45 cents per kWh to 5.35 cents per kWh. The demand charge will increase from \$2 per kW to \$4 during the summer (June 1 through September 30), and increase from \$1 to \$2 per kW the rest of the year. During the summer from June through September, demand is only measured

between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. CST.

As a reminder, demand refers to the amount of electrical power being used at a given time. To lower your demand, simply spread out the use of appliances. Larger appliances like clothes dryers, washing machines, electric water heaters and electric ovens generate demand in the 4 to 5 kW range. By spreading out the use of these larger appliances throughout the day, instead of using them all at the same time, you can lower your demand. If you have any questions about demand rates, please give us a call at 1-800-222-3121, or visit our website at [www.mwenergy.com](http://www.mwenergy.com).

**WHEN IN DOUBT, SMOOTH IT OUT.**  
Spreading out the use of appliances lowers your demand and your bill. 



MIDWEST ENERGY, INC.

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# Watch Out For Targeted Scams

Scammers are constantly looking for new ways to take advantage of people. By learning the signs of scams and the ways to protect yourself, you can make sure you are not their next victim.

First, identify common deceptive tactics used by scammers.

**Urgent Communication.** Scammers may contact you via phone, email, text, or social media, claiming that your electric service will be shut off. They create a false sense of urgency, pressuring you to act quickly to click a link, call a phone number, or make a payment.

**Impersonating trustworthy entities.** Scammers often pose as legitimate businesses (like Midwest Energy). They may use real em-

ployee names and job titles to make them seem more reputable.

**Fake websites.** Scammers use search engine optimization (SEO) tactics to make fraudulent websites appear at the top of search results. These fake sites look legitimate but are designed to capture your login credentials when you attempt to sign in. Never click on

“Sponsored” ads in search engines.

To avoid scams, don't click links in emails, texts, or messaging apps. Don't trust caller ID, as scammers can spoof contact numbers. The only Midwest Energy number you should call is 1-800-222-3121 and only visit [www.mwenergy.com](http://www.mwenergy.com). Never feel pressured into urgent action. Stop and think before you act.



# Space Heaters Cause Half of Winter Fires

As temperatures start to drop, many people turn to space heaters to add some extra warmth to their house. While space heaters are effective, they can be dangerous if proper safety measures are not taken.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), heating equipment is the leading cause of fires in homes, and nearly half of all home heating fires occur in December, January or February. Here are some safety tips to keep in mind:

- Plug space heaters directly into a wall outlet. DO NOT use an extension cord or power strip, and DO NOT plug any other electrical devices into the same outlet as the heater.
- Place space heaters on a flat, level surface. Never place heaters on cabinets, tables or furniture. Never leave a space heater unattended.
- Inspect heaters for cracked or broken plugs or loose connections.

# Youth Tour

Midwest Energy will also be presenting 10 high school seniors with \$1,000 scholarships, to be used in the post-secondary education program of their choice. These awards will be paid directly to the student. Applicants for the scholarships must be seniors in high school, live in or attend school in a Midwest Energy service area, and their parents/guardians must receive electric and/or natural gas service from Midwest Energy. Children of Midwest employees are ineligible.

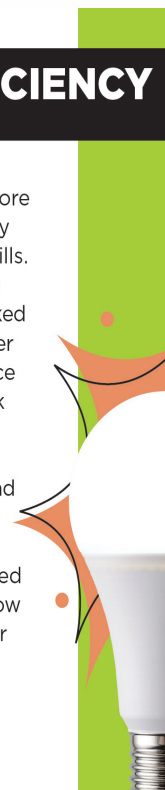
The application is very simple. You can apply in minutes, and there is no GPA requirement.

For more information, or to apply for either program, visit <https://www.mwenergy.com/community/youth-tour>.

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Taking steps to help your home heating system run more efficiently can reduce energy use and lower your winter bills. Check to see if any air vents around your home are blocked by furniture, curtains or other items. Obstructed vents force your heating system to work harder than necessary and can increase pressure in the ductwork, causing cracks and leaks to form. If necessary, consider purchasing a vent extender, which can be placed over a vent to redirect air flow from underneath furniture or other obstructions.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



Atwood, KS • Colby, KS • Great Bend, KS • Hays, KS

Phillipsburg, KS • Scott City, KS • WaKeeney, KS

1-800-222-3121  
[www.mwenergy.com](http://www.mwenergy.com)



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