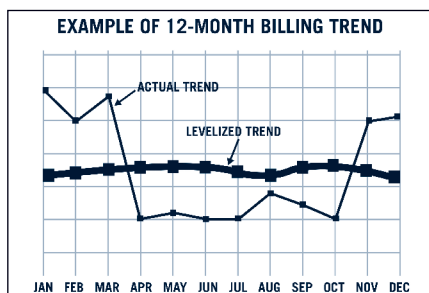


Don't Let Low Temps Cause High Bills: Sign Up for LBP Today

Sign up for the Levelized Billing Plan (LBP) to avoid higher bills caused by extreme weather. With LBP, KUB calculates your payment each month using a rolling 12-month average. That helps to “level out” seasonal swings from very hot/cold months. Because LBP recalculates your payment each month, the amount will vary slightly to reflect a true rolling average.



Signing up is easy: see the back of your KUB bill or go to www.kub.org.

Q&A || KUB Answers Your Questions

Q: I hear about people pretending to be from KUB. How can I know if calls I get are a scam?

A: Don't believe someone who calls to say your power will be shut off unless you pay now: KUB uses a final notice on bills and a pink door hanger, not calls, for service termination.

Never give your financial information to someone who calls or e-mails you: KUB doesn't ask for that info—or for pre-paid cards.

Don't give someone who comes to your home or business money or a pre-paid card for your KUB bill: KUB never collects payments in the field.

If you suspect a scam, please call KUB at 524-2911.

Is Your Home a “10”?

Find out with eScore. A TVA advisor will audit your home and rate its energy efficiency from 1–10. You will receive a report with recommendations to help you conserve energy and save money—and a list of available rebates for qualifying improvements. You may make multiple improvements—potentially with multiple rebates—until your home is a “10.”

For more information, please call eScore at 1-855-2EScore (1-855-237-2673) or go to www.2eScore.com.

Note: For a *free energy audit*, follow this process:

- Choose an approved contractor from the eScore list online
- Make a qualifying improvement
- Then set up an audit

If you choose to have an audit *before* you make any improvements, the audit costs \$75.

CAC Offers Free Weatherization Program

Are you a homeowner or renter in the City of Knoxville? If so, call CAC Housing and Energy Services to see if you qualify for free home weatherization. [Qualification is based on income, home age (built in/ before 1995), and use of electric heat and water heating.]

The program is free through the Knoxville Extreme Energy Makeover, so call today to start saving on your utility bills. Contact CAC at 865-244-3080, 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., weekdays.



eScore Can Help You

- Increase your home's value
- Save on energy bills
- Be more comfortable in your home
- Enhance indoor air quality



The average home's utility dollars go mainly to heating/cooling (44 percent), appliances or electronics (38 percent), and water heating (18 percent). Use these tips to

conserve where you use the most energy:

- Wear extra layers, and keep the thermostat at 68 or below.
- Don't pay to heat an empty home. Lower the thermostat [manually or with a programmable thermostat] when you're out. To avoid less efficient heating, don't lower a heat pump's thermostat more than three degrees.
- Check air vents and move any furniture that blocks them.
- Don't lose energy you paid for: Insulate/seal doors and windows to stop leaks. [Even rolled-up towels help insulate.]
- Reduce/eliminate use of gas logs, gas grills, or other non-essential natural gas or electric appliances. A second refrigerator/freezer, for example, can use up to 5 percent of the total energy in an average home. Consider eliminating it.
- Lower your water heater thermostat to 120 degrees if your dishwasher has a heating option. Wash full loads, but on short cycles, to save up to 25 percent on water heating. Air-dry to save up to 30 percent. For laundry, use cold water.
- Use a power strip for electronics and turn it off when not in use. Even when off, electronics still use enough energy to cost you up to \$100 per year.
- Replace burned-out incandescent bulbs with CFLs or LEDs, which last longer and use 75 percent less energy.

For more money-saving tips, visit www.kub.org or www.savingsinthehouse.com.

Can the Grease!

Pouring fats, oils, or grease (FOG) down drains can block pipes or cause rancid odors or messy, costly sewage backups in your home. (Despite the old wives' tale, using soap and hot water doesn't help prevent grease buildup.) FOG also clogs KUB sewers and causes overflows, a potential threat to the environment.

Don't pour grease down drains—can it. Line a metal can with a heat-resistant oven bag. Put the can on a stable surface and pour in slightly cooled grease. Throw the bag away, reuse the can with a new bag.

For more tips, go to kub.org, Hot Topics Index, Can the Grease.



Recycle Used Vegetable Oil

Holiday foods can be hard on your waistline and your home's plumbing. To avoid messy sewage backups, don't pour cooking grease or vegetable oil down your drains. Can it for disposal in the trash (see above). And bring your used vegetable oil in any closed, non-glass container to a convenience center (CC) for recycling into cleaner burning biodiesel by Clean Energy Biofuels:

Halls CC: 3608 Neal Road

Dutchtown CC: 10618 Dutchtown Road

John Sevier CC: 1950 John Sevier Hwy.

Knoxville Household Hazardous Waste: 1033 Elm St.

To learn more about biofuels, visit cleanenergybiofuels.com.

Brighten Someone's Holiday: Give a KUB Gift Card

KUB gift cards are a great way to help relatives, friends, or elderly neighbors on a tight budget with their utility bills. By giving a KUB gift card, you also help safeguard the health of those you care about by ensuring they can heat or cool their homes and have water for washing.

You can purchase the gift card in any amount up to \$200. There are no additional fees for purchase or use of the card. Cards may be purchased or redeemed only at KUB Customer Service Centers in these locations:

- Holston Shopping Center, 4218 Asheville Highway
- 640 Shopping Plaza, 4428 Western Avenue



You Can Help All Year



Project Help takes donations all year to provide emergency energy assistance in our community. The people helped may have an emergency need because of job loss, illness, injury, or disability.

The Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC) administers Project Help. KUB collects donations from customers and sends 100 percent of the funds to CAC.

See the back of your bill or kub.org to help those in need.



KUB, a municipal utility (not for profit), serving Knox and parts of seven adjacent counties, provides reliable electric, gas, water, and wastewater services to about 445,000 customers.

Community Events

Please visit www.knoxville.org/events for more information on community events.

Nativity Pageant of Knoxville

December 12 and 13 at 3 p.m.; December 14 at 7 p.m.

Knoxville Civic Coliseum; Free Admission; Open Seating

Experience the meaning of Christmas at the 46th presentation of the Nativity Pageant. The one-hour performance starts in darkness. Please arrive early to avoid finding seats in the dark.

Winter Safety Tips

Winter weather can cause outages and costly damage from frozen/broken water pipes. Avoid problems and stay safe with these tips:

Electric

- Get your heating unit ready for winter. Give it a tune-up and change air filters for maximum efficiency.
- Make sure wood/coal stoves are properly installed with a chimney or flue, and keep a fire extinguisher handy.
- Use fuel-burning heaters as directed with proper ventilation. They produce carbon monoxide and can cause suffocation.
- Want to use a portable generator?
 - Have it installed and inspected by licensed electricians.
 - Never connect a generator to your home's main wiring circuit. Disconnect your home from the power system before hooking up a generator. If you don't, electricity may flow backward into power lines, endangering you, your neighbors, and linemen working to restore power.
 - Plug appliances directly into the generator/an extension cord; don't exceed the recommended generator wattage.
- Stay away from downed power lines. Note the location and call KUB immediately at 524-2911.

Natural Gas

- Do not use or store flammables near natural gas appliances.
- Keep areas near your natural gas furnaces/water heaters clear.
- Vent gas appliances outside to remove carbon monoxide.
- Watch for signs of a natural gas leak: "rotten egg" smell, blowing/hissing sounds, bubbles in a wet area, or a flame. If you suspect a leak, leave immediately and call KUB at 524-2911.
- Don't do anything that may cause a spark, including using any phone or electrical devices or appliances.
- Don't re-enter the building/outside area until KUB says it is safe.

Water

- Disconnect hoses/cover outside faucets to prevent freezing.
- Let indoor faucets drip to prevent freezing, and open any cabinets under sinks to let warm air in to the pipes.
- Shut the water off immediately if pipes freeze; open faucets completely to help relieve water pressure/prevent a rupture.
- Don't thaw pipes with an open flame. Use a hairdryer instead.
- Find your water cut-off, operate it to be sure it works properly.
- Be aware of standing water/dampness to avoid electrical shock.
- Winterize irrigation systems and remove backflow prevention devices to prevent damage.



KUB Connection, Dept. 03 • Knoxville Utilities Board
P.O. Box 59017 • Knoxville, TN 37950-9017

Please recycle.