People you know. Service you trust, since 1904



Shared strength through @WPPI Energy

www.algomautilities.com Phone: (920) 487-5556 July 2018



## Call before you dig. Digger's Hotline

The summer project season is here. Call 811 or visit <a href="www.diggershotline.com">www.diggershotline.com</a> before you start any digging project. Wisconsin law requires that anytime you disturb the ground's surface that you call Digger's Hotline. The consequences of not calling Digger's Hotline can be fatal and very expensive.

When you call Digger's Hotline they will notify all utility providers of your intention to dig. Please allow 3 business days for utility personnel to come and mark the location of their facilities.

Digger's Hotline is free service.



## Appliance Marketplace

The average household spends about \$2,000 a year on energy costs. Appliances and electronics account for about 30 percent of that amount. Focus on Energy has partnered with ENERGY STAR and participating retailers to make appliances affordable. You can evaluate refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers and dryers for energy savings, find a retailer for your purchase, and save for years to come! Visit our homepage at <a href="https://www.algomautilities.com">www.algomautilities.com</a> to learn more about this program and view a video on how to start shopping and comparing the benefits, features and pricing of products at participating retailers.



## **Energy Resource Center**

Customers are encouraged to try this online tool at <a href="www.algomautilities.com">www.algomautilities.com</a> under "For Your Home". It's easy to use and available to customers anytime from the comfort of your home. Use the Energy Advisor, Reference Tools or any of the various calculators to learn where your energy dollars are going.

## Did You Know?



#### Energy costs more in the summer.

Because of increased air conditioning use, overall customer demand for electricity is at its highest in the summer months – and our cost to serve you is also the highest in the summer.

Due to higher costs across the electric system, your bill is likely to increase during this time of the year.

Here are some ways to save energy and lower your bill during the summer:

- Plan chores that require electricity for offpeak hours - 8 p.m. to 8 a.m.
- Close shades and blinds during the day to block some of the sun's warmth.
- Open the windows for fresh air and use fans when you need a little cooling effect.
- Utilize ceiling fans to circulate the airthey can make it feel 4 degrees cooler.
- Window A/C units should be shaded or kept out of the sun.
- Have your A/C unit tuned-up.
- Seal up cracks and spaces so conditioned air does not get outside.
- Grill out to avoid heating up your house.
- Unplug electrical devices you don't use.
- Line dry clothes.
- Change to LED bulbs.
- Unplug extra refrigerators/freezers. If you must have a spare the best area to keep it is in your basement. They work harder to keep items cold or frozen in the garage.
- Install a programmable thermostat and set it to 80 degrees when you are away from home.



# A/C Tune-up Incentive

An inspection and tune-up of your central air conditioner unit can improve its efficiency and increase its life span. Without regular maintenance, and cleaning an air conditioner can lose up to 5% of its original efficiency for each year of operation.

Algoma Utilities offers incentives to encourage regular inspection and maintenance of central air conditioners. If you are a homeowner or business owner with a central air conditioner, you may be eligible for up to \$35 toward a professional service inspection and tune-up.

#### **Eligibility:**

- The Central Air Tune-up Incentive Program is available to residential and business customers with a valid Algoma Utilities electric account.
- Only central air conditioning units of 5 tons or less that have not had a tune-up within the <u>last three</u> years are eligible.
- To receive a \$35 cash incentive, a tune-up of the central air conditioner must be performed by a professional service technician and include a 12 point inspection.
- Qualifying inspections and tune-ups must be completed between May 1 and August 31 of 2018. Rebate form must be submitted by September 30, 2018.

Rebates will be granted on a first-come, first-serve basis, until allocated funds are spent.

You can obtain more information and applications for the A/C Tune-Up Incentive at our office or you can visit our website at <a href="https://www.algomautilities.com">www.algomautilities.com</a> and look for the A/C Tune Up icon at the bottom of our home page.

# Did You Know?

Did you know that if you have a problem with your electric or water service, you can contact Algoma Utilities to determine the source of the problem, <u>before</u> you contact an electrician or a plumber?

The Utility, at no charge, can assist in determining if the problem with your power or water is due to equipment owned by Algoma Utilities. If it is determined the problem is not caused by Utility owned equipment, we will then recommend you contact an electrician or plumber. By calling the Utility first, you may avoid unnecessary fees.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 920-487-5556.



# **Pool Filling Program**

Algoma Utilities offers a Pool Filling Sewer Credit Program. You can obtain a credit on the sewer portion of your utility bill if you complete a Pool Filling form. **Before you fill your pool you will need to read your water meter and again after your pool is full.**Forms can be obtained at the utility office or by visiting: <a href="www.algomautilities.com">www.algomautilities.com</a> under the Customer Services tab and click on Water Department. Then simply return the form to Algoma Utilities <a href="prior to the end of the month your pool is filled">prior to the end of the month your pool is filled</a>. Credits are only given for usage of 1,000 gallons or more.



## Electric & Water Meters



For your safety, please make sure meters remain accessible.

- Do not cover up or build a deck or other structure over your electric meter, buried electric lines or water services.
- Do not permanently enclose meters while remodeling and never move your meter.
- Keep the area around your meter clean and free of debris and obstacles, such as plants, snow or ice.
- Never tamper with, tie anything to, or alter meter components. These activities are illegal and dangerous.
- Contact us if you suspect meter damage or tampering.



# Water Conservation Tips

- Water your garden, flowers or lawn early in the morning or in the evening to reduce the amount of evaporation.
- Use mulch to slow evaporation and discourage weed growth.
- Use a rain barrel to collect water from your roof to water your garden.
- Raise your lawn mower blade. Longer grass promotes deeper root growth, resulting in a more drought-resistant lawn, reduced evaporation, and fewer weeds.
- Give your hose a break: Sweep driveways, sidewalks, and steps rather than hosing them off.