

7 WAYS TO “BEAT THE PEAK” and Reduce Your LPEA Bill



Did you know that shifting some of your energy use to hours when demand is lower can save you money and help keep rates lower for our community by avoiding the expensive purchase of On-Peak electricity? Here's how you can shift YOUR energy use to Off-Peak hours:

1. Log into SmartHub. Log into your SmartHub account to analyze your electricity use patterns. See when you are using the most electricity and if there are things you can adjust to lighten the load during On-Peak hours from 4-9 PM.

- 2. Get a rate comparison.** If you are a residential member, switching to our Time-of-Use rate would likely save you money. LPEA can analyze your account, predict potential cost savings, and advise on the best rate for you. Call or email us at csr@lpea.coop.
- 3. Get a timer.** Timers let you automatically set appliances to turn off during peak hours. For example, turning off your water heater from 4 to 9 p.m. can save you \$7 per month. BONUS: LPEA offers a \$25 rebate on timers.
- 4. Get a smart thermostat.** Smart thermostats let you adjust your heating and cooling settings to use less energy between 4 and 9 p.m. BONUS: LPEA offers a \$25 rebate on smart thermostats.
- 5. Wash and dry later.** Load your dishwasher after dinner and then start the cycle after 9 p.m. and dry your clothes outside peak hours. BONUS: LPEA offers rebates for Energy Star® appliances.

LPEA FIRE PRECAUTIONS

Unfortunately, wildfire season has arrived early this year and it's good to be as prepared as possible in the event your neighborhood is affected by a fire. LPEA works closely with fire authorities and during evacuations, we may need to shut off power as a safety precaution. If this ever happens, we will notify members via text. If you are not sure if your contact information is accurate, now is a good time to double-check.



Here's how to check:

Text “TEXTLPEA” to 1-888-839-5732. If the message comes back that you are signed up, great! If the message comes back that your number is not recognized, you need to update your LPEA account information. You can do that by:

1. Logging into SmartHub and updating your profile.
2. Emailing csr@lpea.coop with up to three mobile numbers. Don't forget to provide your name and LPEA account number in the email!
3. Calling us at 1-888-839-5732.

WATCH THE MAIL!



Your Capital Credit refunds are on the way!
More at lpea.coop/capitalcredits

- 6. Make the switch to LED lights.** If you haven't already, switch your home lighting to LED. These bulbs last 25 times longer and use 75% less energy. BONUS: LPEA will reimburse you 50% of the cost of an LED bulb, up to \$8 per bulb.
- 7. Charge overnight.** If you own an electric vehicle (EV), charge it overnight. BONUS: LPEA offers a FREE Level 2 plug-in EV charger (\$700 value) and up to \$500 back on parts and labor for plug installation.

Get more energy-saving tips at lpea.coop/energy-conservation-tips.



SOLAR SCAMS:

What You Need to Know Before Investing



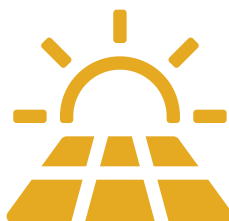
There are currently wide-spread, and false, advertising campaigns targeting LPEA members. They claim that LPEA will pay you to install solar and that you can get up to \$8,000 in state rebates. These claims are false. Get the facts before you consider a solar installation on your home or business:

Claim #1: Colorado offers incentives for solar installations.

There are currently no state-wide incentives for solar. See energyoffice.colorado.gov/climate-energy for the latest information. There is a 26% Federal Tax Credit for individuals that qualify in 2022. Speak with your tax accountant for more details.

Claim #2: LPEA offers incentives for solar installations because we can repurchase the power from you cheaper than we could produce it ourselves.

LPEA could self-generate solar energy for a fraction of the cost of a new net metered installation. Still, we have restrictions based on our current contract with our power provider, Tri-State, limiting the amount we can self-generate. LPEA credits a net metered member, on the General Service Rate, 12.5 cents per kWh. When LPEA installs large-scale solar, we will do so at approximately 3 cents per kWh. For more information on LPEA's Net Metering Program, visit lpea.coop/member-solar.



Claim #3: Solar installation will eliminate your power bill.

Solar can reduce or eliminate the energy charge on a bill through net metering (if sized correctly). However, there will still be a base charge, peak power charges, and taxes and fees levied by LPEA. And the sun is not guaranteed. Use changes and generation changes due to cloudy weather may increase your bill.

Claim #4: LPEA's rates will continue to increase by an average of 6% annually.

This is false! LPEA's 2020 rate increase was the first such increase in four years, and there will be no rate increase in 2022. LPEA's efforts to diversify our power supply are expected to stabilize rates into the future.

Claim #5: Free solar!

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. When a company promises free solar installations, be cautious and ask many questions. Use us as a resource while you are in your research and planning phase.

Before you install:

1. **Call LPEA. Each installation is different, and there are often challenges or obstacles that must be overcome before you can install a system that connects to LPEA's grid.**
2. **Check LPEA's list of Qualified Solar Installers at lpea.coop/qualified-solar-installers.**
3. **Get the facts at lpea.coop/member-solar.**

The latest news, services, programs, and resources from LPEA. Have a question or comment? Email us at comments@lpea.coop.



BOARD MEETINGS

June 15 + July 20
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.*

The agenda, access, and location details will be posted online in advance. Public comments are heard at the beginning of the meeting shortly after 9 a.m.

More at: lpea.coop/lpea-board-directors-resources



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

LPEA committee meetings change regularly to accommodate board member schedules. For upcoming meeting dates and times visit: lpea.coop/board-committees

**All meetings are open to the public. Depending on the latest guidelines around COVID-19, meetings may be held in person, virtually, or both. Visit lpea.coop for the most up-to-date details.*



LPEA CLOSURES

Independence Day: Monday, July 4



LPEA GRANTS

The Round Up Foundation Board of Directors approved five grants **totaling \$14,110 in May**. Approved Round Up Grants were for The Hive Durango. Approved Educational Grants were for the Seed Studio, Durango High School's Aerospace Design Team, Women's Resource Center in Durango, and Thingamajig Theater Company.