



Make the Most of Your Summer

Summer is in full swing, which means it's time to bask in the sunshine, enjoy the great outdoors, and create unforgettable memories with family and friends. It's also the time when more family members tend to be at home with the AC running, so you may be looking for ways to help keep your energy usage down.

Learn how you can use the extra sunlight to your advantage and ways to beat the heat this summer below!

Go Green with Solar Energy

Have you heard the news? Residential HEC customers can now cover up to 100% of their monthly energy usage through our Friendly City Solar Program!



This renewable energy option is available through our partnership with the local Acorn Solar Farm, allowing us to offer solar energy blocks that can be used to power your home.

Customers enrolled in this program enjoy the benefits of solar without worrying about installing or maintaining their own solar panels. Plus, there are no upfront costs or fuel charges applied to solar energy.

Whether you want to increase your solar subscription or join the program, visit our website to sign up or upgrade today!

Since its installation in Oct 2022, the Acorn Solar Farm has generated enough energy to power 415 homes for one year!

[Learn More & Sign up for Solar](#)

Smart Summer Home Energy Tips

School's out for summer which means kids are at home more, grandparents are probably visiting, and more people are looking for ways to get together for some summer fun. Thankfully, even if you do find yourself spending more time at home, you can still help keep your energy costs from spiking with a few simple tips.

- Keep your thermostat at a consistent temperature (75-80 degrees recommended)
- Seal off any drafts
- Use natural lighting in the cooler hours and close curtains/blinds during the hottest parts of the day
- Dry laundry outside
- Cook outdoors or use smaller appliances like microwaves or air fryers instead of your oven
- Use fans to help circulate air

Time for an HVAC Tune-Up



A healthy HVAC system is essential for any home, especially as it works overtime in the peak summer heat and we start to prepare for the upcoming fall season. September 25 is National HVAC Tune-Up Day, which is a good time to have your system inspected, cleaned, and serviced after such a busy season!

A well-maintained HVAC system not only operates more efficiently but also extends the lifespan of your system. This helps you reduce your energy usage, improve the air quality in your home, and save money in the long run.

Simple ways you can maintain your HVAC system on your own include:

- Set a schedule to regularly replace filters
- Seal your ductwork (especially any leaks)
- Wipe dust from your unit, vents, and any objects around it

If your HVAC system needs a little extra care, be sure to schedule an appointment with your favorite HVAC professional!

JMU UDAP Renewal

Do you know a full-time James Madison University student looking for electricity for their apartment? Our Utility Deposit Assistance Program (UDAP) allows qualifying students to receive electric service without needing to pay a security deposit.



Each UDAP contract expires on July 31, meaning it's time to renew or obtain one for the 2024-2025 school year. You can learn more about the requirements and how to purchase a contract on our website. Go Dukes!

As a reminder: current UDAP participants must renew or cancel their UDAP contract by July 31 to avoid paying a \$300 deposit.

[Learn more about UDAP](#)

Don't Miss the Fireworks!

Don't forget to join us once again for this year's Independence Day fireworks in Harrisonburg on **Friday, July 5th!** The fireworks show will begin around **9:15 pm** after the Levitt Amp Music Series. We look forward to sponsoring this event every year and can't wait to celebrate with the community. You can find information about viewing areas on HDR's website, [here](#).

Mark Your Calendar

July 4 & 5 - Closed for Independence Day

July 5 - Independence Day Fireworks

July 31 - **UDAP Renewal Due**

September 2 - Closed for Labor Day

Follow us on Facebook and visit our website for additional updates and energy tips.



Harrisonburg Electric Commission

89 W. Bruce Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: 540.434.5361 Fax: 540.434.8803



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