



**Western Massachusetts
Electric**

A Northeast Utilities Company



Fall into Energy Savings

Brisk New England weather is just around the corner, but getting an early jump on energy efficiency measures will keep you warmer in cooler temperatures and will help reduce your energy bills.

Take these actions today to reduce tomorrow's use:

- ▶ Have your heating system tuned up by a qualified professional every year
- ▶ Consider replacing an older furnace, heat pump or boiler with an ENERGY STAR®-rated system
- ▶ Invest in automated controls, such as programmable thermostats and advanced power strips that will reduce your energy use when no one is home
- ▶ Seal air leaks to reduce drafts and add insulation
- ▶ Find out about a free Home Energy Assessment and other no or low cost energy-saving tips at www.MassSave.com



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How Much are Your Appliances Costing You?

When you open your WMECo electric bill every month, do you ever wonder which appliances are costing you the most? Small actions like using a clothes dryer or even the computer can add up on your bill. Being informed is the first step in controlling your energy use, and saving you money.

Inside this bill insert, you will find helpful information about common household appliances, and an estimation of how much it costs to run them. Read on, and start saving today!



Monthly Estimated Appliance Use

Appliance	Estimated wattage of appliance	Estimated hours of use per month	Estimated cost per month
Incandescent Light Bulb (60 Watt)	60	240	\$2.17
Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb (14 Watt)	14	240	\$0.51
Desktop PC (computer and monitor)	250	120	\$4.52
Laptop Computer (during charging)	75	120	\$1.36
Radio (small desk)	15	170	\$0.38
Television			
Color Tube 36"	133	120	\$2.41
LCD (32"-50")	108	120	\$1.95
Plasma (42"-50")	375	120	\$6.78
DVD Player	25	24	\$0.09
Refrigerators*			
16 cu feet, frostless	510	720	\$22.16
21 cu feet, side-by-side	653	720	\$23.37
Chest Freezers*			
9 cu feet, frostless	450	720	\$19.60
14 cu feet, frostless	583	720	\$25.33
Oven, Electric*			
Small Burner	1200	10	\$1.81
Large Burner	2400	10	\$3.62
Microwave	800	15	\$1.81
Washing Machine	665	24	\$2.41
Clothes Dryer	5500	18	\$14.93
Portable Space heater	1500	75	\$16.96

* While some appliances are plugged in, they are only drawing electricity for a percentage of time. Thermostatically controlled appliances (such as refrigerators) are on 30 percent to 80 percent of the actual time used.

Calculating the Operating Cost of Appliances

The costs in the chart to the left are calculated using approximate wattage and usage hours and are intended to be used as a guide. Your use and operating costs may vary. To calculate the cost of operating an appliance in your home, use the following formula:

$$\text{Watts} / 1,000 \times \text{hours used} = \text{kilowatt hours (kWh)}$$

$$\text{kWh} \times \text{rate per kWh} (\$0.15077^{**}) = \text{operation cost}$$

** Average rate per kWh for a residential customer choosing Basic Service.

To see how many kilowatt hours your household consumes in a month, look at the "Actual Usage" number listed on your bill. For a historical look at your usage over several months, check out the bar graphs on the left side of your bill to see which months you consume the most electricity. You can also review your usage on wmeco.com.

