

## Questions ?



## Energy Bucks

is a statewide marketing campaign directing income-eligible customers to their local Community Action Agency to apply for fuel assistance, utility discounts and weatherization services. For more information go to [www.energybucks.com](http://www.energybucks.com) or call 866-537-7267 to start saving!

IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT YOUR BILL, PLEASE CALL 1-800-286-2000 (781-4300 within the Springfield calling area). OR, WRITE TO:  
ROBERT G. JOHNSTON,  
CUSTOMER SERVICES,  
NORTHEAST UTILITIES,  
P.O. BOX 270,  
HARTFORD, CT 06141-0270.

Pay your WMECO bill online, anytime—free at [wmecho.com](http://wmecho.com). Or use our easy direct debit system! Call to enroll today!



## Western Massachusetts Electric

The Northeast Utilities System

**Delivering the Energy  
of Western Massachusetts**



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recycled  
paper

## WHAT DOES ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEAN TO YOU?

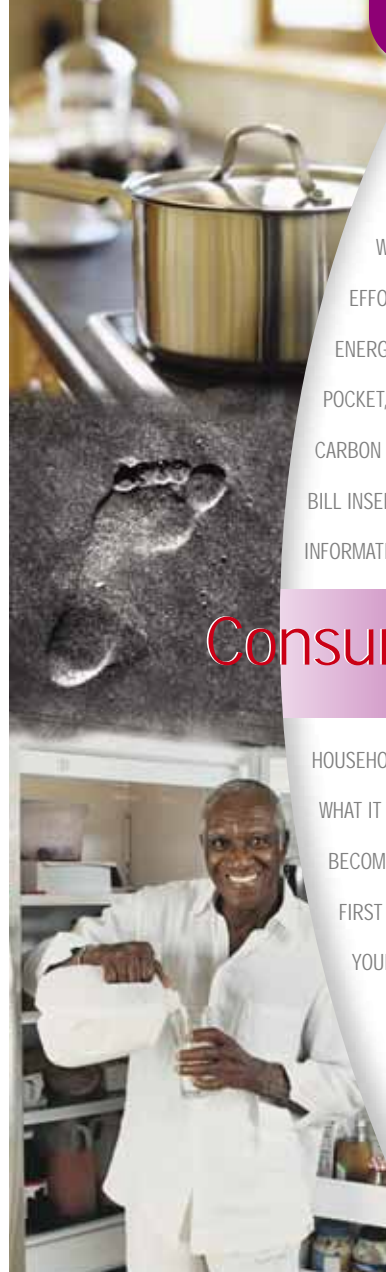
WITH A LITTLE TIME AND EFFORT, IT COULD MEAN SAVING ENERGY, MORE MONEY IN YOUR POCKET, AND A REDUCTION OF YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT. INSIDE THIS BILL INSERT YOU WILL FIND HELPFUL INFORMATION ABOUT COMMON

# ConsumerNews

W M E C O

HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES, AND WHAT IT COSTS TO RUN THEM. BECOMING INFORMED IS THE FIRST STEP IN CONTROLLING YOUR ENERGY USAGE.

*Read more inside.*



## Monthly Estimated Appliance Use

Appliance	Estimated wattage	Estimated hours of use per month	Estimated cost per month
Incandescent Light Bulb (100 watt)	100	240	\$4.12
Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb (23 watt)	23	240	\$1.03
Desktop PC (computer and monitor)	250	120	\$5.14
Laptop Computer	75	120	\$1.54
Radio (small desk)	15	170	\$0.51
Television			
Color Tube 36"	133	120	\$2.74
LCD (32"–50")	108	120	\$2.23
Plasma (42"–50")	375	120	\$7.72
DVD Player	25	24	\$0.10
Refrigerators*			
16 cu ft. frostless	510	720	\$25.20
21 cu ft. side-by-side	653	720	\$26.58
Chest Freezers*			
9 cu ft. frostless	450	720	\$22.29
14 cu ft. frostless	583	720	\$28.21
Oven, electric*	3500	12	\$2.57
Small Burner	1200	10	\$2.06
Large Burner	2400	10	\$4.12
Microwave	800	15	\$2.06
Washing Machine	665	24	\$2.74
Clothes Dryer	5500	18	\$16.97
Portable Space Heater	1500	75	\$19.37

\*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 exact cost of operating an appliance in your home, use the following formula:

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

$$\text{kWh} \times \text{rate per kWh} (\$00.17146^{**}) = \text{operation cost}$$

\*\*Rate per kWh as of July 1, 2008 for a residential customer who chooses Default Service

**safety  
first!**

**BE PREPARED —**

*by Recognizing  
Hazards at Home!*

The end of summer is a good time to perform maintenance and look for hazards around your home in order to keep small issues from becoming a bigger problem during a storm or other emergency event. Pick a day to conduct a home hazard analysis and perimeter search, inspecting your home for items that could move, fall, break or have the potential to cause a fire.



- Make trees more wind resistant by removing diseased and damaged limbs.
- If your basement is prone to flooding, consider elevating electrical and heating appliances.
- Have a plan to move or secure lawn furniture, outdoor decorations, hanging plants and anything that can be moved by wind.
- If your home is especially vulnerable to wind, consider hurricane or high-wind shutters or pre-cut plywood to cover windows.
- Talk to your neighbors about how you can work together in the event of an emergency.