

# 5 Tips on managing utility bills during the COVID 19 crisis

## Get a Plan

Having trouble paying your bill? You are not alone. Call your utility company today.

Utilities across Michigan are working with customers to come up with plans. This includes flexible payment options. Other alternatives might be payment plans or assistance programs. The sooner you reach out, the better off you will be.



## Seek Assistance

Three programs can provide direct energy assistance to help with your energy bill.

### State Emergency Relief

Apply with the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services or a Community Partner

### Michigan Energy Assistance

Local human services can enroll you after you apply for State Emergency Relief

### Home Heating Credit

Apply thru September 30 with the Michigan Department of Treasury

## Protections & Support



- Some utilities have suspended disconnections for seniors and low income until June 1.
- A utility medical hold for COVID-19 might be available to avoid disconnections.
- Some utilities are waiving deposits and reconnection fees.

## Be Energy Wise



How much you use makes up a significant part of your energy bill. By using less energy, you can lower the size of future bills.

- ✓ Wash a full load of dishes and laundry. Clean the dryer filter.
- ✓ Shut lights off & turn off electronics when not in use.
- ✓ Close curtains at night and open during the day.
- ✓ Changing temperatures can let us open the windows, turn off the furnace, or let us wait to use air conditioning.

## Find Resources

Find additional resources in your community, from food, shelter, and energy assistance. Simply dial 2-1-1 or go to [www.mi211.org](http://www.mi211.org)

2-1-1

Michigan



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