

July 2009 EnergyWiseSM Tip: “Operate your appliances when energy demand is low.”

How and when you use electric energy can make a difference.

Nebraska’s electric system must be flexible to supply reliable power to homes, businesses, and industries under a wide variety of conditions.

This takes a complex system of power plants, substations, transmission and distribution lines to get energy to where it needs to go. As an energy consumer, there are many things you can do to reduce energy usage, particularly during hot days in the summer months when demand for electricity is typically at its highest.

These EnergyWiseSM tips include:

- When temperatures top 90° F, find ways to reduce your energy usage from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. when energy usage is typically at its highest
- Raise your thermostat to a higher setting and turn on fans
- Close drapes on windows that face the sun
- Grill supper outdoors. Use your microwave instead of the stove top or oven
- Delay dishwashing and laundry until after 8 p.m.
- Unplug appliances and shut off lights that are not in use
- Do any baking early in the morning before it gets hot outside
- Shower early in the morning or later in the evening

Your public power electric utility wants you to get the most value for your money, each and every time you turn on a switch. It costs far less to save a kilowatt-hour than it does to build a new power plant to generate one.

For more information, contact your local public power utility.