

Bill Definitions

Commitment to Community

A monthly non-taxable fee charged and required by the State of Wisconsin to fund public benefits programs including energy conservation, weatherization, and low-income energy assistance programs.

Demand

The rate at which electric energy is delivered to or used by a customer expressed in kilowatts at a given instant or averaged over a designated period of time, usually 15 minutes.

Demand charge

A charge for electric service provided designed to recover the capacity (kW) costs of the wholesale electric supplier.

Demand rate

A method of charging for electricity where the rate of electric usage (kW) during the billing period is considered in determining a portion of the customer's bill.

Distribution demand

Highest demand over the current month or preceding 11 months.

Distribution demand charge

Designed to recover costs of infrastructure needed to deliver electricity from wholesale delivery point to customer's service entrance.

Electric Service charge

A charge for electric service that covers a portion of the costs for electric meters, meter reading and billing.

Energy

Generally refers to kilowatt-hours.

Energy charge

The portion of the electric service based on electric energy (kWh) consumed

Flat rate

The price charged per kWh is constant, does not change based on time of day.

Kilowatt

Measure of electric power equal to 1,000 watts. One kilowatt (kW) equals 1.34 horsepower.

Kilowatt-hour

Basic unit for measuring electric energy. Equal to one kilowatt of power supplied or consumed for one hour.

Late payment charge

Bills are due when received and past due 15 days after billing date. Past due bills are subject to a 1% late penalty which is assessed six days after the due date if payment has not been received.

Off-Peak period

Periods of relatively low system demand.

On-Peak period

Periods of relatively high system demand.

Other City Charges – Recycling

Charges for curbside pickup of recyclables. Call the City Offices at 715-246-4268 for schedule of pickup dates and other details.

Other City Charges – Storm Water Fee

Charges for the City's Storm Water Management Program. Call the City Offices at 715-246-4268 with any questions regarding this fee.

Power Cost Adjustment Clause (PCAC)

Charge per kWh that varies monthly. Designed to make wholesale power costs a pass-through cost to customer. Equivalent to the amount current per-unit cost of wholesale power is greater or less than base per-unit cost of power.

Public Fire Protection Charge

A charge for use and maintenance of hydrants for fire protection service only and such quantities of water as may be demanded for the purpose of extinguishing fires within the service area.

Recycling

Charges for curbside pickup of recyclables. Call the City Offices at 715-246-4268 for schedule of pickup dates and other details.

Sales Tax

Commercial class customers are required by the State of Wisconsin to pay sales tax on the electric portion of their bill. Residential class customers are not required to pay sales tax during the winter moratorium, but do pay tax throughout the rest of the year.

Sewer Service Charge

A charge for sewer service that covers a portion of the costs for meter reading and billing.

Sewer Service – Usage Charge per 1000 gallons

The portion of the sewer service based on water consumed in 1000 gal increments.

Single-phase service

Service where the facility has two energized wires coming into it. Typically serves 120/240 volt services and requires simpler infrastructure to support. Is less expensive to install and maintain.

Storm Water Utility

Charges for the City's Storm Water Management Program.

Three-phase service

Service where the facility has three energized wires coming into it. Requires more sophisticated equipment and tends to be more expensive to install and maintain.

Time-of-use rate

Prices for electricity that vary depending on what time of day the customer uses electricity. Designed to reflect the different cost the utility incurs to provide electricity during on-peak and off-peak periods.

Water Service Charge

A charge for water service that covers a portion of the costs for water meters, meter reading and billing.

Water Service - 1st Block per 1000 gallons

The portion of the water service based on water consumed in 1000 gal increments up to 17,000 gallons.