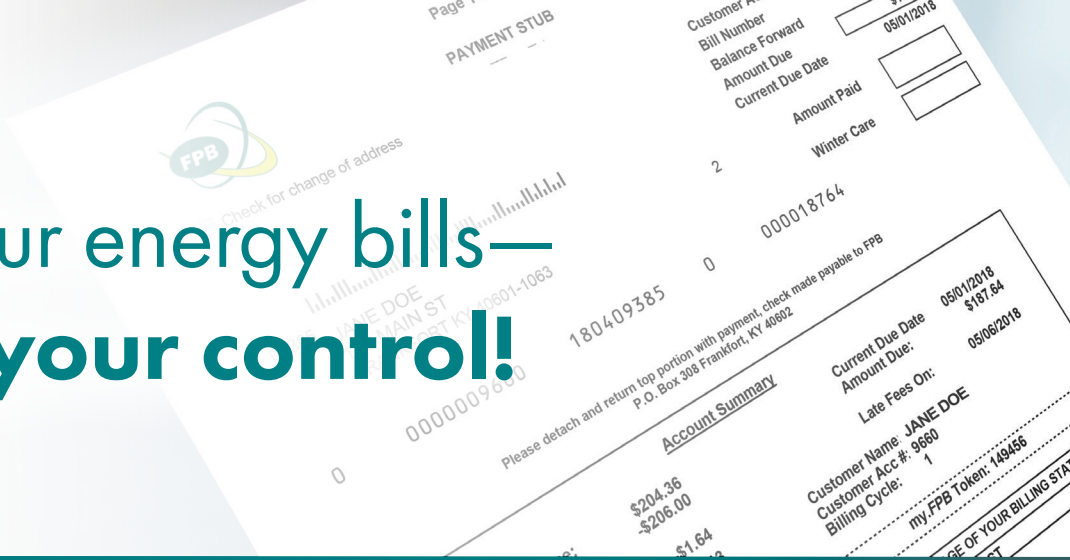


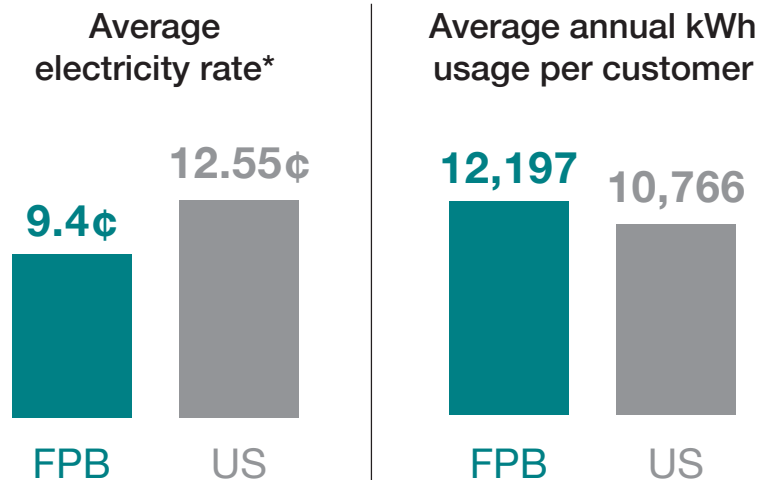
Lowering your energy bills— it's within your control!



No one wants to pay for something they don't need. Of course, electricity is a critical resource for homes and businesses, but there are ways to keep these costs under control. Customers can look at two things that typically make up their electric bills: their electric rate and their energy usage. Fortunately, Frankfort Plant Board customers have an electric rate that is lower than both the national and state average. That means reducing energy consumption is a great way to reduce your energy costs.

Turning off lights in rooms that aren't being used and adjusting thermostat temperatures when leaving your home are two common ways people are saving energy. You might even feel you're doing everything you need to do. However, there are many additional things you can do to chip away at decreasing your energy usage. We've compiled a list of simple tips that can make a real difference on your energy bills. Start by finding the easiest ways to save energy for you, and watch the kWh usage measurement on your bill each month to monitor your progress.

Frankfort Plant Board's electricity rates are lower than the national average, but residents' energy consumption is higher.



*Only includes kWh usage cost, and does not include any additional service charges.



Save energy and lower your bills with these simple tips.

- 1 You can save \$15 annually by replacing your most frequently used lightbulb with an ENERGY STAR® certified LED, or by just turning off one 60-watt incandescent lightbulb that would otherwise burn for eight hours a day. Start by switching out your most frequently used lightbulbs to LEDs, and change the rest as they burn out.
- 2 Caulk around windows and door frames, use weather stripping on exterior doors, and have a professional seal gaps where air can travel between the attic and your living space. Air sealing is a critical component to home comfort and efficient HVAC use, even more so than adding insulation.
- 3 Install a smart thermostat, which can help reduce your energy use by automatically adjusting the temperature based on daily weather conditions, schedules, and heating and cooling needs. This can reduce your heating and cooling costs by \$130 annually. Also, make sure to keep air vents open and uncovered throughout your home.
- 4 Take advantage of the sun by keeping drapes open during winter daylight hours and then closed at night during cold weather. Close window shades and drapes in the summer to keep the heat out.
- 5 Wash your laundry with cold water whenever possible. Water heating accounts for about 90 percent of the energy your machine uses to wash clothes. Newer detergents have been specifically designed for cold water use, and their performance is equal to or better than using hot water. For drying clothes, use the sensor drying mode instead of time drying if your clothes dryer has this feature. This will save energy by turning the unit off once the clothes are dry, and prevent over drying, which can damage clothes. Make sure to clean lint from the exhaust hose and filter from your dryer as well.
- 6 If your water heater's thermostat lists temperatures, set the temperature on your water heater between 120 and 125 degrees for safety and efficiency.
- 7 Reduce or eliminate the use of space heaters and electric resistance heating. As an alternative, consider ENERGY STAR certified ductless mini-split heat pumps for rooms not served by central heat. These heat pumps offer superior comfort and performance, and can save you money on your electric bills.
- 8 Use a ceiling fan in both summer and winter to save on HVAC costs. Raise your AC setpoint by four degrees in the summer while using a ceiling fan with no change in comfort. In the winter, set the fan to turn clockwise, and let it run on a low speed. This will force warmer air back down to occupied spaces. Fans only cool people and not rooms, so turn the fan off when leaving the room. Also, make sure to dust fan blades to improve your fan's performance.
- 9 Install a new 2.0 gallon-per-minute (low-flow) showerhead. A new showerhead can save you up to \$50 annually on utility bills. Be sure to also fix leaks, as one drip per second can waste up to \$35 annually.
- 10 Appliances such as old refrigerators can be some of the biggest energy hogs in your home. When replacing older appliances, look for the ENERGY STAR logo. This logo means that the item has been independently certified and has undergone extensive testing to ensure that it will save energy and perform as expected. For existing appliances, improve performance by cleaning fridge coils, vents, and improve performance by cleaning fridge coils and vents.
- 11 Use a smart power strip. Many electronics continue to use power, even when they are turned off. Plug electronics such as your tv, video game systems, and desktop computers into a smart power strip. Smart power strips turn off devices that are plugged into them when they are not in use, and help save you energy.
- 12 Insulate the attic, which saves energy and improves comfort in your home. Your attic should have at least 12 inches of fiberglass or blown cellulose insulation (the most commonly used materials).