



# Introducing **Time-of-Use Rates**

A Quick Guide



# Energy shifting and saving tips you can use right now!

Take advantage of Time-of-Use rates by shifting some of your electricity use to off-peak or mid-peak times.

For energy-saving tips, visit: [www.horizonutilities.com/tou](http://www.horizonutilities.com/tou)

## Clothes Washing and Drying

- Do some or all of your laundry on weekends or weekdays during mid-peak or off-peak times.
- Wash in cold water and hang laundry out to dry.

## Dishwashing

- Set your dishwasher to run after 9 p.m. or on weekends.
- Always run full loads and use the air-dry setting.

## Heating and Cooling

- Install a programmable thermostat and set it to reduce your energy use when you are away from home or sleeping. Sign up for **peaksaver**<sup>®</sup> and get a programmable thermostat installed for FREE\*, plus receive a \$25 credit on your account. Simply call 1-866-323-0206 or visit [www.horizonutilities.com](http://www.horizonutilities.com) to enroll.
- In the summer, avoid running your air conditioner from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, as much as possible. Close curtains and blinds to keep out the midday sun.
- Use a portable fan in conjunction with your air conditioner and set the thermostat to 26–28°C (78–82°F).

## Around the House

- Unplug battery chargers as soon as devices are fully charged or when the charger is not being used. Avoid charging batteries during peak periods.
- Create a charging station for battery chargers. Plug chargers into a single power bar equipped with a built-in timer. Set the timer to come on during off-peak times and shut off after only a few hours of charging.
- Plug large-screen TVs, DVD players, game consoles and computer equipment into a power bar. Turn the power bar off when not in use.
- Turn off your computer and monitor when they are not being used. Activate power management features on computers and monitors so that they enter sleep mode when inactive for a short period of time.

## Pools and Spas

- Try using timers where possible to operate pumps, filters and heaters during off-peak periods.
- Use a solar blanket on your pool.

Buying new appliances or home entertainment equipment? Look for the ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> label and models with timer functions that enable you to take advantage of off-peak rates.

\* Including cost of installation. Offer valid for new **peaksaver**<sup>®</sup> signups. Terms and conditions apply.

**peaksaver**<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of Toronto Hydro Corporation. Used under license. ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> mark is administered and promoted in Canada by Natural Resources Canada.



## Introducing a new way to manage your electricity costs and be part of the province's energy conservation plan.

Smart meters and Time-of-Use rates are new energy management tools that will enable you to help smooth "peak demand."

When we're all using a lot of electricity at the same time, we create "peak demand" periods. Supplying electricity at those peak times has a range of impacts:

- It adds to our electricity costs because higher demand leads to higher prices.
- It's hard on the environment because meeting the peaks may require the building of additional electricity generation plants.
- It adds to the amount of new generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure Ontario must build; and consumers must pay for.
- It puts a strain on our electricity system.

So working together to reduce our use during peak times makes good sense.

### Want to know more?

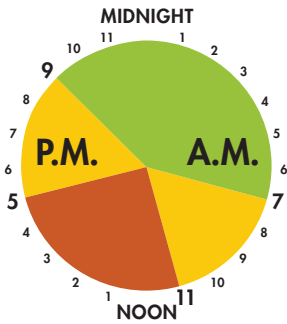
Read this quick guide to Time-of-Use rates, then go to [www.horizonutilities.com/tou](http://www.horizonutilities.com/tou) today and discover how Time-of-Use rates can help you manage your electricity needs.

## Simple changes can bring real benefits.

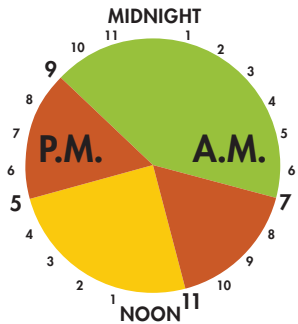
The price of your electricity use will now be calculated using new Time-of-Use rates.<sup>†</sup> By using Time-of-Use rates to manage your electricity costs, you can help reduce the need for additional power generation during peak periods. Simple changes to your regular routine can help smooth those peaks and create real supply and environmental benefits.

## Putting you in control.

Time-of-Use pricing rewards you for using electricity during low-demand periods whenever possible (reflected in green). These Time-of-Use rates – off-peak, mid-peak and on-peak, will vary between summer and winter. As you can see from the seasonal charts below, the lowest rates are at night, on weekends and statutory holidays.



**Summer – Weekdays**  
(May 1 – October 31)



**Winter – Weekdays**  
(November 1 – April 30)



**Weekends and  
Statutory Holidays**

**4.4¢**  
per kWh\*  
**Off-peak**  
Demand  
is lowest

**8.0¢**  
per kWh\*  
**Mid-peak**  
Demand  
is moderate

**9.3¢**  
per kWh\*  
**On-peak**  
Demand  
is highest

<sup>†</sup> If you currently purchase your electricity on a contract with an energy retailer, you will continue to follow the terms and prices stated in your contract.

\* Rates change twice a year. Visit the Ontario Energy Board at [www.oeb.gov.on.ca](http://www.oeb.gov.on.ca) for current pricing.

## Choose your time. Manage your costs.

Your smart meter automatically records your household's electricity consumption on an hourly basis so you can take advantage of Time-of-Use pricing:

- During on-peak periods, when electricity demand and power generation costs are highest, prices will be higher.
- During mid-peak times, when demand is moderate, prices will be lower.
- During off-peak hours, the least busy periods of the day, prices will be the lowest.

Depending on when you choose to run your appliances, here are some sample costs for typical appliances. You can find out how much electricity your specific appliance/model consumes by visiting Natural Resources Canada's Office of Energy Efficiency's website at [www.oee.nrcan.gc.ca](http://www.oee.nrcan.gc.ca) or by calling NRCan's Office of Energy Efficiency at 1-800-387-2000 (toll-free).

Appliance	Time-of-Use Rate Examples		
	Off-peak 4.4¢* per kWh	Mid-peak 8.0¢* per kWh	On-peak 9.3¢* per kWh
Clothes Dryer (1 load)	10¢	18¢	20¢
Washing Machine (1 load)**	34¢	62¢	73¢
Electric Stove (1 family meal)	22¢	40¢	47¢
Dishwasher (1 load)**	16¢	29¢	33¢
Central A/C – 25°C/77°F (1 hour)	12¢	22¢	26¢
Central A/C – 20°C/68°F (1 hour)	14¢	26¢	30¢

\* Rates change twice a year. Visit the Ontario Energy Board at [www.oeb.gov.on.ca](http://www.oeb.gov.on.ca) for current pricing.

\*\* Cost of electrical water heating included.

Prices shown here only reflect the electricity or commodity cost on your bill. They do not include delivery, regulatory or other charges as those are based on your consumption or are a fixed cost, and do not reflect the time of use. Electricity prices change every six months. You can visit the Ontario Energy Board at [www.oeb.gov.on.ca](http://www.oeb.gov.on.ca) for current pricing.



# See for yourself!

The smart meter information for your home is now online! Simply log in at **www.horizonutilities.com** to view your household electricity consumption and see exactly when you are using off-peak, mid-peak and on-peak power.

Visit **10 Smart Meter Lane** on the Time-of-Use pages at **www.horizonutilities.com/tou** and learn how shifting your electricity use can make a difference on your electricity bill.

Power. Smarter.



Visit: **www.ontario.ca/powersmarter**



For more information, call:

Hamilton – 905-522-9200

St. Catharines – 905-984-8961

or visit: **www.horizonutilities.com**

Email: [timeofuse@horizonutilities.com](mailto:timeofuse@horizonutilities.com)