



Connections

SUMMER 2016 NEWSLETTER FOR EASTON UTILITIES CUSTOMERS

Important telephone numbers:

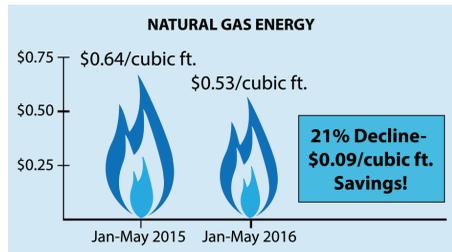
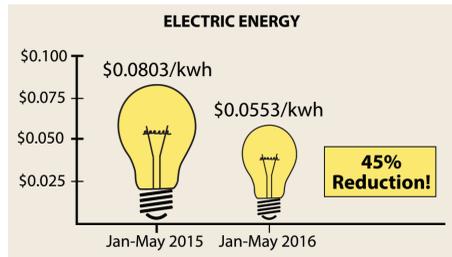
410-822-6110
24 hours a day
7 days a week

Easton Velocity
410-763-9400
· Tech support
· Customer service

Energy prices continue to decline

For the first five months of 2016, the energy prices for both natural gas and electric are down substantially as compared to the first five months of 2015.

Overall, Easton Utilities customers spent \$5.3 million less in their winter period energy costs from November 2015 through March 2016 as compared to the 2015 winter period. These prices include only the cost of electric and natural gas energy, not the price of their local distribution, the cost of which has not changed. As a not-for-profit utility and communications company, Easton Utilities purchases the electric and natural gas energy and sells it to our customers without any markup.



Plant I renovation complete



Easton Utilities is pleased to announce the re-opening of the newly renovated Power Plant 1. The historic building dates back to 1887 and served as the home to most of Easton Utilities staff from 1914 until the newer building was constructed in 2000. Over the past 100 year development of the building, minor repairs were conducted and routine maintenance projects were required. During a facilities management evaluation in the fall of 2015, it was evident the building required modern efficiencies and a redesign was needed to maximize its utilization and functionality. “This project is a result of the philosophy we have here at Easton Utilities—if you’re going to do something, do it right,” stated Hugh Grunden, President and CEO of Easton Utilities.

After careful consideration, Easton Utilities selected Christine M. Dayton Architect, PA as the architect; Willow Construction as the contractor; and Gipe Associates, Inc. as the mechanical and electrical engineers. Easton Utilities Civil Engineer Katie Reedy was the internal lead and shared, “It was such a great opportunity to work on a project with such visibility and I enjoyed how engaging and supportive the community has been.”



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

Easton Utilities
201 N. Washington St.
Easton, MD 21601

www.eastonutilities.com

Summertime Savings Tips

- ☀ Set your thermostat at the highest comfortable setting. Try 72° F or higher.
- ☀ Cool only the rooms you are using. Close off unused rooms.
- ☀ Shade outdoor air conditioning equipment and keep it low to the ground to reduce energy consumption by 40 percent or more.
- ☀ Clean or replace cooling filters monthly.
- ☀ Have your cooling equipment serviced or checked at least once a year.
- ☀ Be sure that drapes are not blocking vents.
- ☀ Insulate your home and caulk/weather-strip around doors and windows. These openings can consume up to 40 percent of your home's heating cooling energy.
- ☀ Install door "shoes" or "sweeps" to stop air from sneaking out under outside doors.
- ☀ Insulate your attic.
- ☀ Make sure your wood burning fireplace damper is closed when not in use.
- ☀ Wash full loads in your dishwasher and let the dishes air dry. Air-drying your dishes may reduce your dishwasher's energy usage by 40 percent.
- ☀ Use a portable or ceiling fan to circulate air and make a breeze.

For more information, visit www.eastonutilities.com

Kelly Simonsen joins Easton Utilities as the Marketing and Communications Manager



Easton Utilities named Kelly Simonsen as its Marketing and Communications Manager. In this role, Kelly will be responsible for managing all facets of internal and external communications and marketing to effectively promote the broad range of programs and services Easton Utilities provides. Partnering with the Town of Easton as well as other community members, Kelly plans to share the many benefits Easton Utilities offers residents and businesses. "Kelly brings a fresh perspective, extensive talents, and a genuine desire to positively impact our community," said Hugh E. Grunden, President and CEO. "She is a welcomed addition to the team."

Water quality update

The ongoing story of high levels of lead in Flint, Michigan's water has undoubtedly raised many questions about water quality in general. Easton Utilities Water and Wastewater Manager Paul Moffett explains the following:

It is important to know the water in Easton comes from wells (groundwater sources), not rivers (surface-water sources like the Flint River). Easton Utilities water supply is naturally protected from most of the problems associated with surface water sources, because our water comes from six deep wells (1,000–1,200 feet deep). For example, the acidic nature of the Flint River was one of the main causes of Flint's lead problem—our well water is not acidic, and we have no plans to change our water sources from these wells.

Easton Utilities maintains the water system, including the treatment, storage, and distribution from the source to the meter on the homeowner's property. Everything from that point on becomes the responsibility of the homeowner, which can present potential hazards not monitored by Easton Utilities. If you are concerned about the age of your pipes or possible issues with your specific water quality, please consider having your water tested. MDE maintains a list of certified water testing laboratories online at www.mde.state.md.us.

Easton Utilities tests the water for many different contaminants, in accordance with all state and federal requirements. Our water has always been found to be safe and no violations have ever occurred. Enclosed please find a thorough analysis conducted through 2015 in the Water Quality Report.

Should you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Paul at pmoffett@eucmail.com or 410-763-9444.



Committed to our Community

In keeping with our mission to enhance the quality of life in our community, Easton Utilities is proud to support many local organizations and events including...

Bryan Brothers Foundation
Chesapeake College Foundation
UM Shore Regional Health

Pickering Creek Audubon Center
Character Counts Mid-Shore
Talbot County Fire and Rescue