

HOT WEATHER LAW

June 1 – September 30

Missouri's Hot Weather Law is in effect from June 1 to September 30. The law was created to protect all residential customers from having their electric or natural gas service disconnected due to non-payment when electricity or natural gas is used as the source of cooling or to operate the only cooling equipment at the residence.

The utility company is prohibited from disconnecting service if the National Weather Service local forecast between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. for the following 24 hours predicts that the temperature will rise above 95 degrees or the heat index is predicted to rise above 105 degrees.

To learn more about the **Hot Weather Law**, please contact your local utility company or the Public Service Commission's Consumer Services Department at **1-800-392-4211**.

SUMMER HOME ENERGY SAVINGS TIPS

• Cooling Systems

- Make sure furniture and draperies are not blocking cooling outlets. Blocked outlets restrict air circulation, overwork the cooling equipment and increase operating costs.
- Use ceiling fans to assist in cooling. In the summer, blades should rotate counterclockwise when viewed from below.
- Make sure your air conditioner filter is clean and replace filters as needed. Also consider letting a professional tune-up your air conditioner to maximize its efficiency.

• Living Areas

- Turn off lights when they are not needed.
- Caulk and weather strip doors and windows that leak air.
- Adding insulation and sealing air leaks will help keep the cool air inside.
- Close drapes, shades and blinds during the day to keep the sunlight from heating up your home.
- Take short showers instead of baths.
- Turn off computers, monitors, printers and televisions during periods of non-use. These devices use energy even when in stand-by mode.

• Kitchen/Laundry

- Vacuum the coils of your refrigerator and check for frost buildup in refrigerators and freezers which causes an appliance to work harder.
- Shift the use of heat-producing and major appliances such as ovens, dishwashers, clothes dryers and irons from mid-day to early in the morning or later at night when possible.
- Try to wash full loads in the dishwasher, and use the short cycle.
- Use your microwave, toaster oven, slow cooker, broiler oven or other energy saving appliances for cooking food.
- Turn down the temperature on your water heater to 115 degrees.
- Cover pans when cooking on a stove top and use exhaust fans periodically, as required, to reduce indoor humidity.
- Avoid using extension cords with appliances because they cut the efficiency of the appliance.
- Wash clothes in cold water with a cold water detergent. Wash full loads of laundry for maximum efficiency.