



# CONNECTIONS

News and Information from OUC—The *Reliable One* | JULY 2026

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## WHAT OUC'S NEW DEMANDLEVEL PLAN MEANS FOR YOU



This fall, OUC will launch DemandLevel — a new pricing structure — and a set of tools to give you more control over your bill and keep long-term electric costs affordable. Over the past year, we've introduced "peak demand" and why managing it matters; DemandLevel is the next step in that effort.

### WHY PEAK DEMAND MATTERS

Peak demand is the highest amount of electricity you use at any one time, such as when several appliances run at once. When many customers reach these high-use moments together, it can push the need for new costly infrastructure, like power plants. Lowering peak demand helps delay these investments and keep electric rates lower for everyone.

### HOW THE NEW PRICING STRUCTURE WORKS

The new structure considers both your monthly total electricity use (consumption) and your peak demand — the highest amount of electricity used during any single 15-minute period in the previous month. This determines your DemandLevel tier. The lower your peak demand, the lower your tier and corresponding charge.

### WHAT YOU WILL SEE ON YOUR BILL

Beginning in November, your bill will show a lower kilowatt-hour rate for your consumption and the new DemandLevel amount. Power Pass customers will see a daily DemandLevel amount based on

their tier, starting at 16¢. Most customers should see little or no change in their bill.

DEMANDLEVEL CHARGES*			
	Demand	Residential	Small Business Commercial
<b>Tier 1:</b>	0 – 7.999 kW	\$5	\$7.50
<b>Tier 2:</b>	8 – 11.999 kW	\$10	\$15
<b>Tier 3:</b>	12 kW+	\$15	\$22.50

\*Pending approval by the OUC Board of Commissioners.

### SIMPLE WAYS TO STAY IN A LOWER TIER

Avoid running multiple major appliances at once. Spread out activities like laundry, cooking, and dishwashing — especially when your A/C is working hardest — to help keep your demand lower.

### A FRESH START EVERY MONTH

Your peak demand resets each billing cycle, so your tier can change monthly. Tools like the Usage Dashboard and Appliance Calculator help you understand your energy use and stay in control.

Discover more about DemandLevel at [OUC.com/demand](https://www.oucreliableone.com/demand).

## Lessen Your Demand Tip: Track Demand with the Usage Dashboard

Starting this month, you can see your peak demand and other usage details at a glance in the updated Usage Dashboard in your myOUC account. You can now track your energy use in kilowatts (kW), see your highest 15-minute usage for the month, and determine your DemandLevel tier. These upgrades highlight when you use the most energy, helping you make simple changes to your daily routine that lead to real savings. Find out more at [OUC.com/myusage](https://www.oucreliableone.com/myusage).



## Planning Today for Tomorrow's Energy Needs

OUC is updating our Electric Integrated Resource Plan (EIRP), to help meet our customers and community's growing energy needs. The plan serves as a roadmap for delivering affordable, reliable, sustainable and resilient electricity for years to come.

Learn more at [oucfutureplanning.com](http://oucfutureplanning.com).

## Enjoy a Beautiful Yard Using Less Water

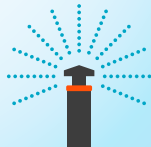
### BE WATER-WISE AND SAVE

With Florida-Friendly™ plants and smart irrigation devices, you can enjoy lush, low-maintenance landscaping while using water more efficiently. OUC rebates will cover part of the cost as a credit on your account, and you can save on your bill all year long.



### AVAILABLE REBATES

- Smart Irrigation Controller – Up to \$200
- Florida-Friendly™ Landscaping and Microirrigation – Up to \$200
- Rainwater Cistern – Up to \$200



Learn more and apply at [OUC.com/waterrebates](http://OUC.com/waterrebates).

## 2025 Water Quality Report

Learn more about H<sub>2</sub>OUC via the 2025 OUC Water Quality Report at [OUC.com/wqr2025](http://OUC.com/wqr2025).

En español [espanol.ouc.com/wqr2025](http://espanol.ouc.com/wqr2025).



## Reduce Cooling Costs with These Hot Weather Tips

When temperatures rise, so too can your cooling costs. That can significantly increase your electric bill. Your A/C is the biggest contributor because the hotter it is outside, the harder it works to keep you cool inside.

Even small changes can increase efficiency — and help decrease your bill.

- Set your thermostat at 78 degrees or higher. Each degree you lower the thermostat below 78 can cost you 6% to 8% or more on cooling costs.



- Change your A/C filter monthly. A dirty filter restricts air flow, making your system work harder.

- Seal air leaks. Simple fixes include installing weather stripping on doors and caulking around windows.



- Set ceiling fans counterclockwise to help cool occupied rooms.

- Close curtains, mini-blinds or shutters to keep out the heat.



For more ways to beat the heat, go to [OUC.com/hotweather](http://OUC.com/hotweather).

## AVOID THE SUMMERTIME SPIKE

## Pay the Same Amount Every Month with Budget Billing

Summertime heat can lead to high electric bills. But you can keep your monthly expenses predictably cool with OUC's **FREE** Budget Billing service, which sets your bill at a fixed amount every month of the year.

For more details, go to [OUCblog.com/budgetbilling](http://OUCblog.com/budgetbilling).



Para ver toda nuestra información en español, por favor visite [espanol.ouc.com](http://espanol.ouc.com).



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