

May 2019 | Oregon

Smart thermostats



Smart thermostats help you stay comfortable year-round and reduce energy costs by learning your schedule and automatically adjusting temperature settings when you're home or away.

You can even control your thermostat remotely using a phone or tablet. With our partner Energy Trust's instant coupon, get \$50 off qualifying models from popular brands like Nest and ecobee.

Claim your savings today at energytrust.org/coupon.



Project Share

Project Share is a community fund that helps keep homes warm through crisis situations like a sudden loss of income, expensive medical costs, malfunctioning heating equipment and other unforeseen circumstances that deplete available funds and make it difficult to pay household energy costs.

The program is a partnership between utilities, fuel vendors and community action agencies that provide emergency energy assistance to qualified households that have exhausted all other energy assistance resources.



"Project Share has been an imperative resource in meeting the client's needs and keeping them warm throughout the winter," said Christina Zamora, Executive Director, Klamath & Lake Community Action Services (KLCAS). "The program's flexibility has been a life saver for many households that may not qualify for other assistance programs."

Funding for Project Share comes from the generous donations of Avista customers and employees, as well as through corporate donations and other contributors. Last year alone, more than \$256,000 in Project Share funding helped approximately 1,050 households in Washington, Idaho and Oregon.

Project Share funds are distributed through local community action agencies such as KLCAS and SNAP, serving Spokane County in Washington. Our call center representatives can help connect customers to these agencies for assistance. In some cases, families have never accessed assistance benefits and are unaware that help is available.

Giving to Project Share is easy. One hundred percent of the funds collected through donations made with Avista bills are passed to the Project Share fund.

Visit myavista.com/assistance for more information or to make a donation.



Safe digging is no accident. Call before you dig.



Before beginning any outdoor digging project, call 811 at least two business days before you dig. Calling 811 will get a professional locator to your site to mark the approximate location of underground utility lines. This service is free for homeowners. Remember, you may have your own utilities that require a Private Locate request at 811.

Knowing where underground utility lines are buried before you dig will help protect you from injury, prevent damages to utilities and service disruptions, and avoid potential fines and repair costs. Underground utility lines can be just about anywhere, so keeping your shovel in the shed or garage and calling 811 first is a smart move (and it's the law).

Every digging job requires a call — even small projects like planting trees and shrubs. The depth of utility lines varies and there may be multiple utility lines in a common area. Here are just a few examples of when to call:

- Installing a rural mailbox
- Putting in a fence
- Planting a tree or shrubbery
- Building a patio or deck
- Excavating a new garden area

For more information about calling 811, visit myavista.com/811.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**



The direct use of natural gas

“Direct use” refers to natural gas being consumed directly in appliances for heating and cooling, water heating, cooking, and clothes-drying. By contrast, many consumers use natural gas indirectly by consuming electricity generated with natural gas. Said simply, when we use natural gas to create electricity, it is only about 30-40 percent efficient. Natural gas used directly in your home can be greater than 90 percent efficient, especially when used for space heating.

The direct use of natural gas is not only cost effective, but it's also a good use of resources and it makes financial sense. A household with natural gas usually spends less on heating, cooking and drying than one using any other fuel. A recent American Gas Association study showed that a household with natural gas heating, cooking and drying appliances on average spend almost 30 percent less than a household with all-electric appliances for those purposes.

Visit myavista.com/naturalgas for more information.

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MOVING SOON? Investigate potential energy-use costs with our high low average tool. Compare the highest, lowest and average bill amounts for the last 12 months of up to three residential addresses. It will give you a good idea of what you can expect—and could lead you to think about ways to use energy more efficiently. Visit myavista.com/HLA to try out this feature for yourself.