

December 2020 | Washington • Idaho

## Fun energy-efficiency lessons for kids

Kids are never too young to begin learning how to save energy. That's why we put together some simple new lessons to

help teach kids how to be energy efficient. They include pictures to color and activities designed to build energysaving habits, while letting kids have fun at the same time.

The printable coloring pages and activities can be found on our website at myavista.com/kids. We've categorized the content for ages 4 to 8 and 9 to 12 and included subjects like, "Remember to turn off video games when you're done" and "Close the refrigerator door quickly." There are puzzles that teach energy efficiency, too, including picture matching, word searches, connect the dots, hidden objects, mazes and more.

For older kids, the puzzles become more challenging. Plus, they get to enjoy extras like code breaking, detective logic and fun science experiments. Also, for a limited time, we have printed copies of all the activities available in one book! If you'd like to order one, go to myavista.com/kids to request a copy.



# Connections



## Hey, it's cold outside

With temperatures cooling down across the region, you may have noticed a sudden increase on your energy bill.

When our home heating system begins firing up more often, it consumes more energy. This can present a challenge when we're trying to maintain comfort in our homes while also keeping an eye on how much we spend.

Current times are challenging in more ways than one. Luckily, Avista is here to help. We can provide you with information on how to manage your electric and natural gas bill in the winter months and help you manage increases in your energy bill.

There are many factors that impact your bill. These include weather, current billing cycle, holidays, shorter daylight hours, drafts, heating systems, and other items such as hot tubs, or heated outbuildings or driveways.

Visit myavista.com/winterbill to utilize tools that will give you a better understanding of your usage. You can view your usage by seeing the billing days and average billing cost. You can also compare your bills month to month and year to year to see how you're trending. We also have an energy saving checklist and DIY videos available to help you save as much money as possible.

Heating makes up the largest part of your energy bill during cold weather. Setting your thermostat back just three degrees at night while you're sleeping can save up to 10 percent. You can make it even easier by getting a programmable thermostat to make sure you don't forget.

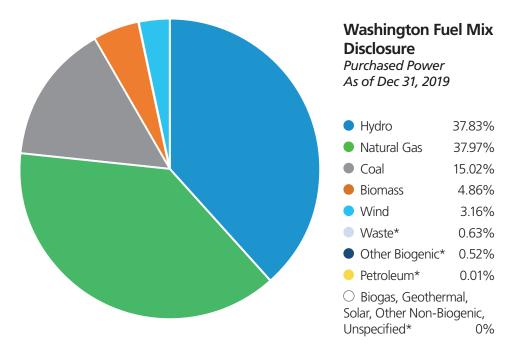
Visit myavista.com/winterbill for more ideas on how to increase the comfort inside your home while also reducing your energy use. And to view the benefits of having a smart meter during the heating season, please visit myavista.com/smartmeters.

### Avista's electric utilities' fuel mix disclosure

Avista uses different kinds of fuel to produce the electricity that powers the lives and businesses of our customers. In addition to the diverse mix of fuel we use to generate power, we also have long and short-term purchased power contracts in place and we purchase power on the wholesale market. It all adds up to a diverse energy mix that provides our customers with clean, reliable power at fair, reasonable rates.

Avista-owned generation includes eight hydroelectric projects and eight thermal generation facilities. We also have long-term contracts for additional hydro and wind power. Over 50 percent of company owned generation is renewable energy. In addition, customers purchased the environmental offsets associated with 63,622,200 kilowatt-hours of new renewable wind and solar power in 2019 through Avista's My Clean Energy program. These participating customers paid for and received the benefit of the renewable energy offset, so it is not reported in Avista's energy mix.

Learn more about Avista's diverse energy mix at myavista.com/fuelmix.



\*Avista doesn't own or operate These types of generation facilities. The Washington State Department of Commerce issues in its annual report the types of fuels used to generate the power that utilities in the state deliver to their customers. The fuel mix of purchased power is based in part on all generating resources of the regional electrical system, plus utility-owned generation and fixed contracts. The Utility Fuel Mix Disclosure data is available at commerce.wa.gov/growing-the-economy/energy/fuel-mix-disclosure/. The 2020 data is currently in process to include legislation passed in 2019.



#### Safely storing flammable liquids

One cause of household fires is improper storage of flammable liquids.

Did you know that liquids such as paint thinner, gasoline, cleaning solvents and contact cement can produce invisible, explosive vapors? These vapors can catch fire or explode if exposed to a flame or small spark—even at considerable distances from the flammable substances. Flammable liquids or combustible material need to be kept away from your furnace, water heater, vent pipe or any ignition source. When you use flammable liquids, do so in open, well-ventilated areas, far away from any possible source of ignition.

Here are some tips for properly storing flammable liquids:

- Keep in accurately labeled, tightly closed, non-glass containers;
- Store away from heaters, furnaces, water heaters, ranges and other gas appliances;
- Keep out of reach of children;
- Store outside the house when possible.

Taking these extra precautions ensures everyone's safety. For more safety tips, please visit myavista.com/safety.

#### Connect With Us

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