

January 2019 | Washington • Idaho

Your billing cycle



Did you know one factor that can impact your energy bill is the number of days in your billing cycle?

The number can vary month-to-month, from 27 to 35 days, mainly because of the actual number of days in a month, when weekends and holidays fall, and if your meter was accessible. Having more days in the current bill than the previous month can contribute to a higher bill. Check the back of your Avista bill to find the number of days in your billing cycle. Learn more about how winter impacts your energy bill at myavista.com/winterbill.



The Smart Winter Giveaway

More prizes, more winners, more energy savings!

Avista wants to shine a light (an LED light, that is) on energy efficiency. So we're offering you multiple chances to win valuable energy-saving prizes—during Avista's Smart Winter Giveaway!

We've got 50 Nest Smart Bundles up for grabs, which include a smart thermostat and three smoke and carbon-dioxide detectors (retail value \$600 each). We're also ensuring more winners by giving away 2,500—yes, that's no typo—2,500 Smart Winter Gift Boxes that come with a deluxe super-fuzzy blanket, a smart power strip, LED bulbs, an LED flashlight and more (retail value \$50 each).

Energy-efficient items like these can all offer smart savings on your energy bill this winter.



A Nest smart thermostat lets you remotely control your home's temperature via mobile or internet. Greater control over your winter heating (and summer cooling) can save plenty of energy. For example, by turning your thermostat down just 3 degrees and snuggling up in a cozy blanket instead, you'll use up to 10% less energy to heat your home.

Smart power strips also save you energy. Many home electronics—such as printers, DVD players, computers and plasma TVs—keep drawing power even when not in use. A smart power strip keeps electronics from wasting energy by shutting down power when the devices are in standby mode.

And of course, there's no easier way to boost your home's energy efficiency than swapping incandescent bulbs to LEDs. Not only do LEDs emit more light per watt, they last a lot longer.

For more energy-saving tips—as well as energy-efficiency rebates—see our website. While there, you can also enter our Smart Winter Giveaway. For details, just go to myavista.com.





A fresh blanket of snow

Alison slowly woke up from her cat nap on the sofa. She sat up, stretched out, and glanced outside. "Whoa, it's still snowing?"

"Yep" answered her brother, Brendan, as he entered the room. "According to my phone, eight inches on the ground since last night."

Suddenly, an idea entered her brain. "Hey, we should go shovel out the driveway."

"So Dad doesn't have to."

"Exactly."

The two of them pulled on their boots, coats, hats, and gloves. They marched out into the garage and picked up matching shovels. Alison went for the patio and adjoining sidewalk, Brendan for the main driveway.

20 minutes later, the pair had a decent chunk of it done, and even helped a passing motorist get unstuck as well.

Then out of nowhere, a booming crash and sudden stillness occurred. Alison and Brendan turned to see that a power line had been ripped down by a falling tree.

Alison immediately and instinctively held out her arm to halt Brendan from continuing to walk further. "Don't go near it."

A couple of neighbors emerged from their homes, obviously curious as to what had happened. One of them yelled out some good advice: "Stay back kids!"

"I'm calling 911!" Brendan yelled to everyone. "I'll call Avista!" answered the next door neighbor. Once those two calls

were done, the only thing left to do was keep everyone away from the potential danger until help arrived.

Soon enough, an Avista truck pulled up. The crew used special equipment to safely handle the situation.

Talking with other neighbors while watching, Alison noted that the downed wire was touching a metal fence and buried deep into a bush, which meant either one could have shocked someone who touched them.

Fortunately, nobody did.

Brendan and Alison finally turned toward home—and of course, the rest of their shoveling.

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Did you know?

For each degree you **LOWER THE TEMPERATURE** in your home, you can decrease your energy use by about three percent.