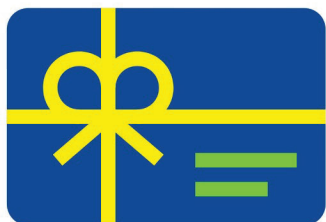


It's the Season of Giving

The holiday season is the season of giving. There are many ways to give, so when you take out your list to check it twice, consider these ideas from Austin Utilities to help make your holiday giving effortless.

Give to Yourself

When selecting electronic gifts like televisions, computers and tablets, be sure to look for the ENERGY STAR logo. These products are the same or better than standard products, only they use less energy. Saving energy helps you save money on utility bills and protect the climate by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



Give to Others - Utility Gift Payments

Giving a utility gift payment is always a hit with the receiver. It's a great gift idea for the hard to buy for person on your list. When you make a gift payment, you will receive a certificate to present to the recipient showing the amount paid. Gifting a utility payment is a great way to support a friend or family member who may be struggling right now. It can even be done anonymously!

Give From the Heart - A Little Change, A Big Difference

Its easy to give from the heart when you sign up for our HeatShare Round Up program. Each month we round up your bill to the nearest dollar and donate the difference to the Salvation Army HeatShare program. Your donation stays right here in our community to help neighbors in need. The round up average contribution is just 50 cents a month, and the maximum annual contribution is less than \$12 per year. While that may not seem like a lot of money, it can go a long way for offering financial aid to those that are struggling.



Scan QR code to
sign up today



Happy Holidays from Austin Utilities

We wish you a safe and happy celebration as we work to make your holiday season warm and bright.

What's the Cost of Lighting Up the Holidays?

You may not plan to cover every square inch of your home in lights like Clark Griswald, but every strand of lights you use in your holiday display will add to your energy bill. The question is just how much.

Outdoor Inflatables

Becoming more popular every year, they run about 200 watts for 24-hours a day during the month of December costing you just under \$19.00 (each!)

Indoor Pre-lit Trees

A 7.5 foot tall tree with 650 incandescent mini-bulbs uses about 300 watts. At 12-hours a day during the month of December it will end up costing you just under \$14.00

Outdoor String Lights

On average, a modest display of 10 strands of incandescent bulbs would use about 151 kWh and cost \$19.31 for the full season. (Using LED lights will reduce that to 18 kWh of energy costing \$2.27!)

Purchase LED Holiday Lighting and get rebates up to \$12 per string

Recycle your old lighting at AU - bins in lobby

Austin Utilities collected 105 pounds of food to donate to the Salvation Army during their Annual Drive Thru Trick or Treat Food Drive held on October 27th.



AU's Meter Buddy, Ashley Stadheim, Adam Heimer, Craig Weis, and Jay Kohnke.



Major Strickler, Taylor Arndt, and Dan Ulland



Healthy Employers of Minnesota

Austin Utilities has been recognized in the 2022 Healthiest Employers of Minnesota, an awards program created to honor people-first organizations that prioritize the well-being of their employee population. Award applicants were evaluated across six key categories: Culture and Leadership, Foundational Components, Strategic Planning, Communication and Marketing, Programming and Interventions, and Reporting and Analytics. Austin Utilities ranked third in the 2-499 Employees category.

Austin Utilities has been designated as a Smart Energy Provider by the American Public Power Association for its commitment to smart energy practices. That means Austin Utilities is committed to: Giving you choices in how you use (or don't use) energy; Living in a healthy environment and considering sustain-ability in our energy choices; and Providing you with unmatched customer service. And we think that's pretty smart.



**SMART
ENERGY
PROVIDER**

Learn more at PublicPower.org/SEP

American Public Power Association

Employee Spotlight

JENNY LOUCKS **Operations Coordinator**

Jenny Loucks first joined Austin Utilities in the spring of 2014 as a Customer Service Representative. She had previously worked at McFarland Truck Lines as an Administrative Assistant. Jenny was promoted to Operations Coordinator in 2018. The position performs a number of administrative tasks. Jenny says, "I love the variety of work I do. You can find me administering Operator Qualification testing for our gas crews, overseeing AU's Backflow Program, sending out customer notifications, scheduling appointments and occasionally making popcorn on Fridays, among other things. The best part of my job though, is the people I work with. They are like a second family to me and make the workday so much fun!"

Jenny has been married to her husband Mike for 11 years and is the PROUD mom of their son Tyler, who is a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps stationed at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, and their daughter Lilly, who is a 3rd grader at Southgate Elementary and a passionate dancer in Just For Kix. They also have a sweet Golden Retriever named Sophie, and a little bunny named Stanley. She enjoys binge watching Netflix series, shopping for home décor and decorating for the seasons, being outside doing anything in the sun, whether it be walking, swimming, or tending to flowers, but her most favorite hobby is baking. A love she has passed along to her daughter. Jenny says most Sundays you can find them in the kitchen together making treats. As far as future plans go, she says she will continue working at Austin Utilities for several more years then eventually retire someplace warm where I can be outside enjoying the sunshine every day.



Electric Operations Director Retires

Austin Utilities is announcing the retirement of Tom Tylutki, Electric Operations Director, after 26 years of service effective December 31, 2022. "Thank you to Tom for his long-term career at Austin Utilities. We greatly appreciate his leadership to better serve our community. We wish him the best in his retirement," said Mark Nibaur, General Manager at Austin Utilities.

Tom joined Austin Utilities in 1996 as a Professional Engineer and has been the Director of the Electric Department ever since. During his career, he championed numerous important initiatives at Austin Utilities, including modernizing the city's electrical system records from paper drawings to AutoCAD and standardizing underground and overhead practices. Most recently Tom was project manager for the on-going system wide meter upgrade project. Tom says future challenges will include preparing the system for electric vehicle load.



Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, Dec. 30th
Austin Utilities
1908 14th St NE
9:00 am - 3:00 pm



redcrossblood.org
1-800-REDCROSS

Help families in need
this Holiday Season by
purchasing gifts from a
local child's wish list and
donating them to the
Salvation Army.



AU will have an Angel
Tree in our lobby through December 14th.

AU COMMISSIONERS REELECTED FOR 4 YEAR TERM

Incumbent commissioners Jeanne Sheehan and Steve Greenman were each elected to another term and will serve through 2026 on AU's Board of Commissioners. Sheehan was originally appointed to the position in September 2009 and has held the position ever since. Greenman began his first elected term in 2019.

Austin Utilities Board of Commissioners

Thomas C. Baudler Jeanne Sheehan
Steve Greenman Kristin Johnson
Jay Lutz

To contact or find more information on
AU's elected Commissioners visit
www.austinutilities.com/pages/board

ONLINE
NEWSLETTER
& MORE INFO
ON OUR
WEBSITE



Austin Utilities Will Be Closed
Monday, Dec. 26th for Christmas
&
Monday, Jan. 2nd for New Year's

Austin Utilities

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