

# Bay City Electric Light & Power



Fall 2022



Make your favorite picture selection from the back page for a chance to win an energy efficiency prize.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in your selection, clip out the form, and mail it to:

**900 S. Water St., Bay City, MI 48708**

**Or email: [EnergySmart@BayCityMI.org](mailto:EnergySmart@BayCityMI.org)**

*Submissions accepted until November 7, 2022*



[fb.com/BayCityElectric](https://fb.com/BayCityElectric)



## Dangers of Downed Power Lines



Recent storms in Michigan resulted in tragedy when a teenager near Detroit was fatally electrocuted when coming into contact with a downed power line and two other children were hospitalized after touching a downed line.

Downed power lines are **EXTREMELY DANGEROUS**! You cannot smell or hear electricity. **Every** downed line should be considered live and dangerous and should be avoided.

**Never** try to move or secure a downed power line. Please stay away from work zones when you see Bay City Electric Light & Power utility crews working. Not all downed lines are visible, as they can be covered by debris or could be in contact with an object (like a fence) that could be energized. Your safety and the safety of our staff is our number one priority.

There is no way for you to know if a line is energized or not. Keep yourself, children and pets at least 25-feet away. The lines could be carrying electric current that can cause serious or possibly fatal injuries if you come in contact. Call 911 or our 24/7 dispatch at (989) 894-8350 if you see a downed line.

**FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY - DO NOT APPROACH OR TRY TO HELP!**

## Thank You For Your Support!

Public Power Day 2022 was a huge success. Thank you to the hundreds of residents who came out on September 24th to show support for Bay City Electric Light & Power. The "Dangers of Downed Power Lines" theme for this year's event focused on the seriousness of downed lines.

Games were played, prizes were won, custom efficiency kits were built, hot dogs were blown up, buckets were flown, questions were answered, and fun was had by all.

See you next year!



## Thermostats

According to the Department of Energy, and BCELPA agrees, you can save money on your heating bills by simply resetting your thermostat when you are asleep or not at home. You can do this automatically without sacrificing comfort by installing a programmable thermostat.

A common misconception associated with thermostats is that a furnace works harder than normal to warm the space back to comfort after the thermostat has been turned down, resulting in little or no savings. In fact, as soon as your house drops below its normal temperature, it will lose energy to the surrounding environment more slowly.

During winter, the lower the interior temperature, the slower the heat loss. So the longer your house remains at the lower temperature, the more energy you save, because your house has lost less energy than it would have at the higher temperature.

The Bay City Electric Light & Power Energy Smart program offers rebates for the installation of qualifying Wi-Fi enabled programmable thermostats. For information, visit [BayCityEnergySmart.org](https://www.baycityenergysmart.org) or call us at (989) 894-8350.



## Winter Protection Plan 2022-2023

The Winter Protection Plan (WPP) may protect certain qualifying customers from service shut off and high payments during the winter months (November 1 - March 31). Customers are responsible for all electricity and water used, but some of the costs can be deferred. Participation does not relieve customers from the responsibility of pre-existing balances or payment for the electricity and water usage; it only prevents shut off during the winter months. If you are low-income, you must pay at least 7% of your estimated annual bill each month during the protection period.

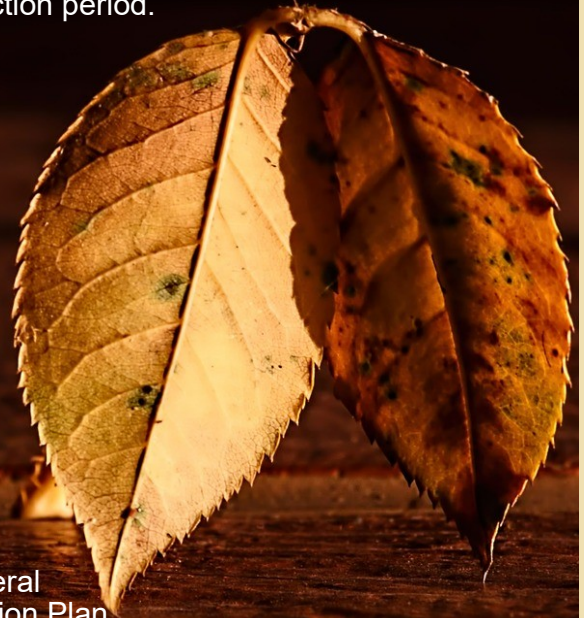
**If you're an eligible senior citizen customer participating in the Winter Protection Plan (WPP) you are not required to make a specific payment between November 1 and March 31, your service will not be shut off. However, seniors are encouraged to pay what they can during the Winter Protection period to avoid having an excessively high bill that may result in a shutoff notice for non-payment once the protection period is over.**

Eligible customers may sign up for the WPP beginning on November 1st. You are eligible if:

- ◆ You are 65 years of age or older, regardless of income
- ◆ You are full-time active military personnel
- ◆ You are qualified for a certified medical emergency relief program or have been documented as a critical care customer, Medicaid or food stamp recipient, including Supplement Security Income (SSI)
- ◆ Your household income does not exceed 150% of the federal poverty guidelines and you comply with the Winter Protection Plan

At the end of the winter months, any under collection as a result of participation in the Winter Protection Plan may result in a true-up and calculation of the payments due through the start of the next winter season. In addition to the past due payments, the customer will have to pay the current bills in full each month.

**You must complete and return a new Winter Protection application each year. If you have any questions regarding the Winter Protection program, please call Utility Customer Service at (989) 894-8104, option 7.**



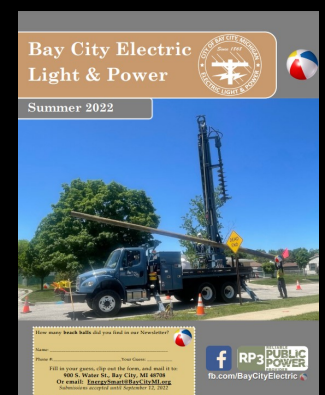
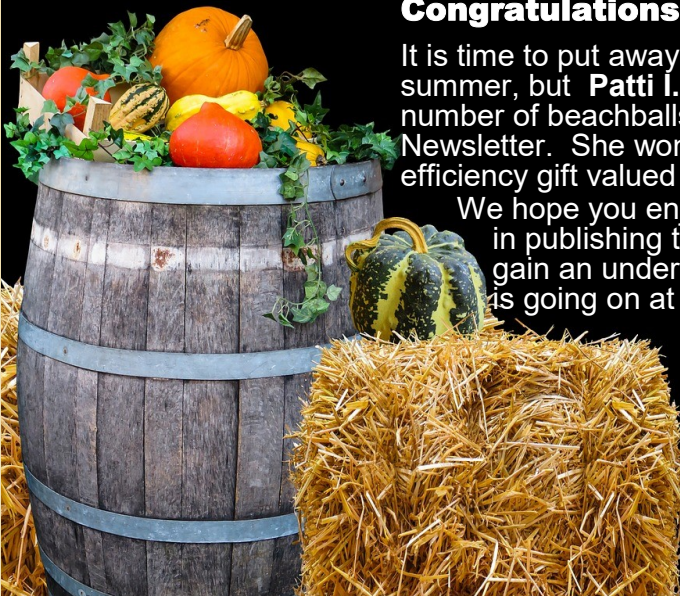
# of Household Members	Maximum Income
1	\$20,385
2	\$27,465
3	\$34,545
4	\$41,625
Add \$7,080 for each additional household member	

## Congratulations Are In Order!

It is time to put away the beachballs for this summer, but **Patti I.** correctly guessed **13** as the number of beachballs in the Summer 2022 Newsletter. She won an outage kit and energy efficiency gift valued at over \$100.

We hope you enjoy our Newsletters. Our goal in publishing them is to help our customers gain an understanding and insight into what is going on at Bay City Electric Light & Power, provide you with ways to conserve energy (through efficiency tips and rebates), and give you recommendations on how to stay safe around electricity.

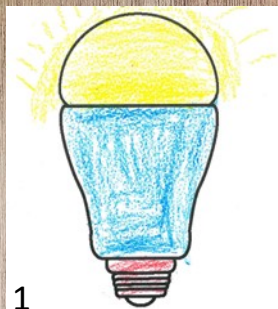
If there is something you would like to see or hear more about in the Newsletter, please let us know by calling (989) 894-8350 or email us at [EnergySmart@BayCityMI.org](mailto:EnergySmart@BayCityMI.org).



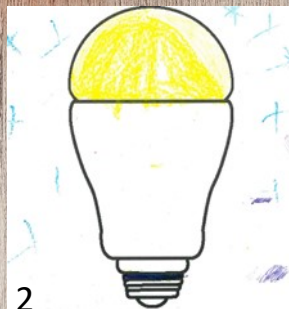


## COLORING CONTEST

Choose your favorite picture  
and submit your choice  
for a chance to win an energy  
efficiency gift!



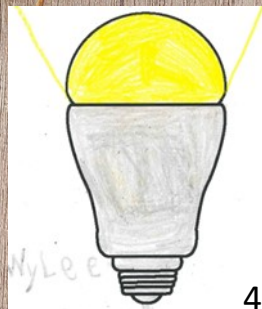
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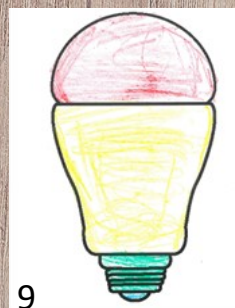
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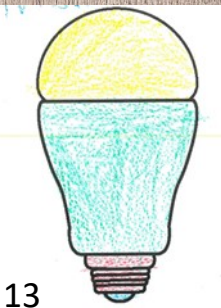
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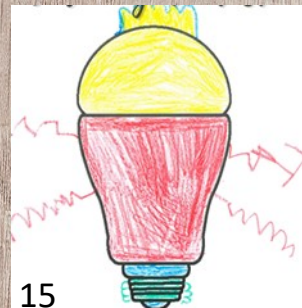
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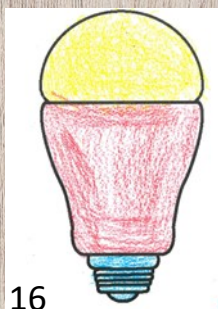
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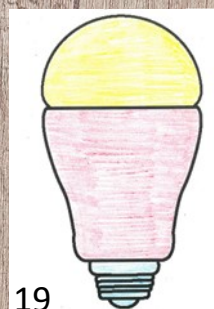
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### Utility Customer Service

Programs available for eligible customers:

- Programs for seniors 65 years of age or older
- Full-time active military personnel protections
- Critical care/life support program
- Winter Protection Plan

For more information, contact UCS at (989) 894-8104,  
option 7 or at [www.BayCityMI.org](http://www.BayCityMI.org)

Need utility assistance?

Dial 211 (hearing impaired dial (800) 649-3777)



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