

# BAY CITY ELECTRIC LIGHT & POWER



## Quarter 2 Newsletter - 2024



### PUBLIC POWER PROVIDER

As a public power provider, Bay City Electric Light & Power sponsors or participates in many events throughout the year to promote programs and bring awareness to the benefits public power brings. Earth Day, National Night Out and Public Power Day are highly attended events where we can get the word out. Energy efficiency bingo, safety demonstrations, appliance recycling drives, and reading events are also great opportunities. Look in your utility bill or follow us on Facebook to learn about upcoming events.

The Bay City Electric Light & Power Energy Waste Reduction (EWR) program has been developed to assist customers in reducing electric usage. Energy waste reduction became a statewide requirement for all utilities under the Clean, Renewable and Energy Efficiency Act of 2008-Public Act 295, it was amended in 2016 by PA 342, and most recently, legislation has been passed under PA 229 (effective February 2024).

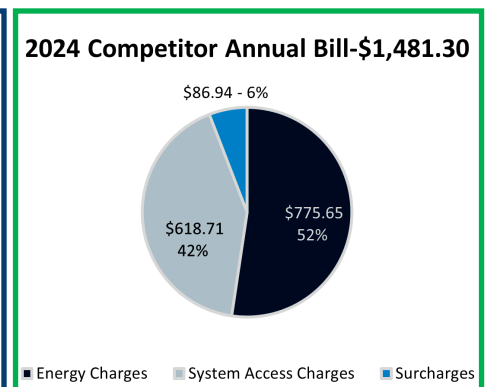
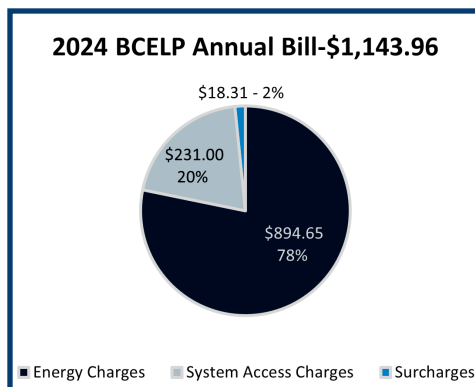
The EWR program's goal is to reduce energy use without sacrificing comfort. Customers who participate will experience lower electric bills through less consumption while everyone reaps the environmental benefits. The program helps decrease the need to construct fossil-fuel burning generation facilities by cutting the overall demand on the grid. Avoiding construction of new facilities helps reduce our customers' cost.

A key benefit to being a Bay City Electric customer, a public power provider, is we answer to YOU, our customer. Investor owned utilities answer to the shareholders. We know how important it is to keep electric rates low. We regularly monitor rates, review purchased power, and evaluate market risk in an effort to keep costs down.

A recent residential bill comparison of BCELPEL electric bills for 2024 reflects an average annual savings of \$337 over our local competition. That's a 23 percent savings!



Annual electric consumption average used for comparison is 8,148 kWh. Competitor rate pulled from January 2024 billing statement.



## HOW POWER OUTAGES HAPPEN

There are many things that can cause power disruptions. It could be natural causes like a storm, or man-made causes like a car/pole accident. How and where an outage occurs can affect how long it takes for it to be restored.

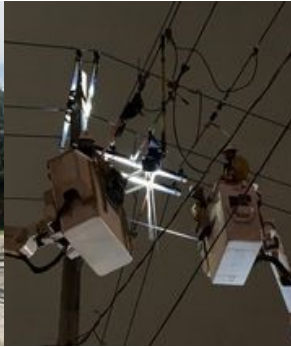
Here are some common causes of power outages:

**Weather:** High winds, lightning strikes, heavy snow and ice can lead to widespread power outages.

**Vegetation:** If branches come in contact with powerlines, either by a storm or trimming by an untrained professional, outages can occur.

**Wildlife:** Most electrical equipment is protected, but small animals like squirrels can cause an outage if it reaches vulnerable equipment.

**Equipment:** Infrastructure failure, which can be difficult to determine, can contribute to outages.



## BE PREPARED

It's frustrating and stressful when the power goes out. We encourage you to make a plan and prepare to make dealing with an outage easier.

Put together an outage kit that can easily be accessed in case of power loss. Some of the items to include in the kit should include:

- Flashlight
- Matches/lighter
- Water
- Battery powered radio
- First-aid kit
- Non-perishable food
- Copies of personal documents

For a full list of what you can include in your emergency outage kit, visit [www.RedCross.org](http://www.RedCross.org).



## EWR PROGRAM INFO

Information about our residential programs can be found at [www.BayCityEnergySmart.org](http://www.BayCityEnergySmart.org).

Information about our commercial programs can be found at [www.MIEnergySmart.com](http://www.MIEnergySmart.com).



## What is MISS DIG 811?

MISS DIG System, Inc. is the Utility Safety Notification System for the state of Michigan, and is a not-for-profit corporation made up by Member Facility Owners.

MISS DIG 811 is a FREE service that homeowners and contractors use to notify facility owners of their intent to dig.



IT'S THE LAW.

## Utility Customer Service (UCS)

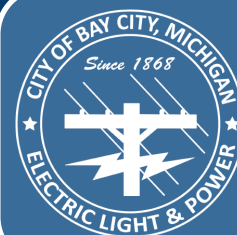
Programs available for eligible customers:

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

For additional programs and applications 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



Bay City Electric Light & Power  
900 S. Water Street  
Bay City, MI 48708  
(989) 894-8350

Hours:  
Monday - Friday  
7:00 am - 3:30 pm



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