

Save money Efficiency United

We partner with Efficiency United to offer rebates on energy-efficient products that can save you money on your bill. Get rebates on appliances, lighting, furnaces, thermostats and more. Start the savings today by visiting efficiencyunited.com for current rebates and program information.



A reminder about your utility

While Upper Michigan Energy Resources (UMERC) is your energy provider, your bill comes from We Energies and you participate in We Energies programs, payment plans and customer service options.

Contact us at **800-242-9137** whenever we can assist you with your energy service.



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Customer connection

APRIL 2021

Ideas, advice and news from Upper Michigan Energy Resources

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Energy you can depend on

Spring safety reminders

As you begin outdoor projects around your house this spring, be smart and stay safe with these tips.

Overhead lines

When you're working in the yard, be aware of overhead power lines. Make sure you, your ladder and tools don't come into contact with them. Never prune trees near power lines yourself. Pruning near power lines only should be done by We Energies or our designated line clearance contractors. Report trees with branches growing near power lines by calling 800-242-9137. We will evaluate and determine the best course of action.

We prune trees near power lines on a regular cycle — typically every six to eight years, depending on tree species and growth rates. Visit www.we-energies.com/safety/tree to see maps of our 2021 line clearance plans. Maps will be updated as we schedule pruning in other parts of our service area.

Plant the right tree in the right place

Keep in mind power lines and other utility equipment — above and below ground — when planting. Any tree growing near a power line can cause a potential power outage or safety risk. A tree growing too close to an overhead power line gives electricity a path from the power line to the tree and to the ground. This can result in electrical outages, fires and shock hazards.

Follow these planting guidelines to enjoy your trees and avoid issues as trees reach mature height.

Mature tree height	Distance from power lines
Up to 20 feet	24 feet
20 to 45 feet	24 to 48 feet
30 to 70 feet	48 feet or more

High-voltage transmission lines owned by American Transmission Co. have different clearance requirements than our low-voltage distribution lines. Visit atcllc.com for more

Wood chips

As a result of our line clearance program, free wood chips may be available upon request by contacting Customer Service at 800-242-9137. Learn what to expect before ordering at www.we-energies.com/safety/wood-chips.

information. Visit www.we-energies.com/safety/tree-trimming to learn more about planting safely around power lines and equipment.

Equipment clearances

Maintain proper clearances between bushes and trees and pad-mounted equipment, such as electrical transformers. We need clear space around this equipment to access it for routine maintenance or in an emergency.

Keep a clearance of at least 10 feet from the front of the equipment (where the lock is located) and at least 3 feet on each side of the equipment.

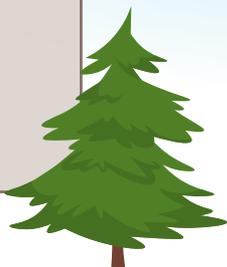
Call before you dig

Striking an underground electric line can cause injury and outages. Be safe around underground natural gas and electric lines, and other buried public utilities in your yard. Contact Miss Dig at least three working days before you begin any digging project. It's a free service that marks the location of public underground utilities (natural gas, electric, cable and water).

DON'T FORGET: You are responsible for marking underground equipment that is privately owned, such as sprinkler systems, electronic fences and septic systems, to prevent contractor damage.

Miss Dig: 811 or 800-482-7171
missdig.org

We are recognized as a Tree Line USA utility by the Arbor Day Foundation. The award recognizes our efforts to provide dependable, reliable service while using best practice vegetation management techniques.



Support renewable energy through Energy for Tomorrow

Energy for Tomorrow is a renewable energy program for UMERC electric customers who want to strengthen the market for renewable electricity. When you enroll in Energy for Tomorrow at the 25-, 50- or 100% level, we produce or purchase renewable energy to match that percentage of your electricity use. Renewable energy is charged at a higher rate than electricity generated from traditional sources, such as coal or natural gas. The charts provide cost estimates and resource mix information for the Energy for Tomorrow program. Go to www.uppermichiganenergy.com/rates/mi-energy-for-tomorrow.htm for more program information or to enroll.

Some Energy for Tomorrow participants have installed solar energy systems on their homes or businesses. Electricity generated from these systems is added to the grid, along with electricity generated at our wind farms and biomass facilities. We retain and track environmental benefits of this solar power.

Energy for Tomorrow premium per month

based on an average home using 660 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month

25%	\$0.00212/kWh	\$1.40
50%	\$0.00425/kWh	\$2.80
100%	\$0.00849/kWh	\$5.60

Energy for Tomorrow is a Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) product and does not contain electricity. A REC represents the environmental benefits of one megawatt hour (MWh) of renewable energy that can be paired with electricity.

