PLUGIN

BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES NEWS

HOLIDAY CLOSURES:

Good Friday Friday, April 10

Memorial Day Monday, May 25

Visit **bryantx.gov/coronavirus** for the latest closures and cancellations.

BILL PAYMENT

Kiosk locations accepting credit cards, cash and checks:

HEB

1609 N. Texas Ave.

HEB

725 E. Villa Maria

BTU Drive-Through

205 E. 28th St. Open 24 hours

Bring your BTU account number, BTU bill, keycard or reminder letter.

Payments can be made 24 hours a day via the "e-payment" option by calling 979.821.5700. Account number and credit card required.

www.btutilities.com

979.821.5700

Primary Address:

205 E. 28th St., Bryan, TX 77803

Mailing Address:

PO Box 8000, Bryan, TX 77805



SOCIAL MEDIA

BryanTexasUtilities





cityofbryan





ENERGY SAVINGS: SOLAR SCREENS

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, about 76 percent of sunlight that reaches standard double-pane windows passes through and becomes heat inside the home. To combat this heat, customers can install solar screens on the outside of windows. Solar screens are similar to bug screens, but they are made of a special material that helps reflect the sun's rays to reduce solar heat gain, ultraviolet light damage, and glare. Customers that install solar screens may be eligible to receive a 10 to 25 percent rebate of their total project cost through BTU's SmartHOME Program.

To qualify homeowners must:

- Install solar screens that are rated to block at least 65 percent of the solar heat gain.
- Fill out an application online, complete with before and after pictures of the project.
- The project must take place on a permanent, existing residential structure, and must take place within the current fiscal year (October 1 through September 30 each year).

Visit **BTUtilities.com/smarthome** for more information or to apply.





Spring Cleaning for Energy Efficiency









Mild April weather inspires many of us to give our homes a thorough cleaning. Here are a few spring cleaning tips that can pay off in energy savings for months to come:

- 1. Clean or replace your air conditioner filters. This simple and inexpensive task has a significant impact on energy efficiency. A dirty air filter means less air flow through your system, which can overheat the unit's fan and cause condensation and frost buildup on the unit's coils. These things cause your air conditioner to work harder and waste energy and can lead to expensive repair bills down the road.
- 2. Clean your refrigerator coils. Dust and dirt can collect around refrigerator coils, preventing them from releasing the heat generated during the refrigeration process. This can cause your refrigerator to use up to 25 percent more energy, as it needs to work harder and run longer to cool your food and beverages. Consult your refrigerator's user manual (most can be found online) on the best and safest way to clean the coils, and ALWAYS unplug your refrigerator before accessing the rear of your appliance.
- 3. Clean your ceiling fan blades. Dust buildup on your ceiling fan blades can affect the speed and cause the fan to wobble. This reduces the efficiency of the motor and, in some cases, causes it to overheat. Cleaning your fan blades will also give you an opportunity to check the blades for cracks and to tighten any that may have loosened over time. Also, check to make sure the fan is rotating in the correct direction for the season: clockwise helps warm you while counter-clockwise helps cool you. Pro tip: slip a pillow case over the blade, then use light pressure to wipe the dust off as you remove the pillow case. Repeat for each blade, then take the pillow case outside, turn it inside out, and shake the dust off in a trash can.

To stay up-to-date on City of Bryan closures and cancellations regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit:

bryantx.gov/coronavirus

CONSERVATION TIPS

Energy Conservation Tip:

Have fun outdoors. Spending time outdoors offers energy-saving opportunities to turn off lights, appliances, TVs and computers.





Water Conservation Tip:

Sweep your driveway, deck, patio, and sidewalks to remove dirt and leaves, rather than hosing them off.