

Summer Heat Has Increased Utility Bills

The summer of 2016 has been a record for the number of days over 90 degrees and cooling degree hours.

Many of our customers have been receiving higher utility bills, mainly from electric consumption, but fail to realize the temperature difference. In addition to the extra heat, our meter upgrades delayed billings in June and July, adding days to the cycle. With the combination of hotter days and longer cycles, customers experienced increases up to 50%.

A comparison of cooling degree hours of this year and the past years:

	<u>1986 to 2015</u>	<u>2015</u>	2016:	<u>% Higher than 2015</u>	<u>% Higher than Average</u>
June	2975	3766	4437	17.8	49.1
July	4042	4603	5555	20.7	37.4
Aug	3694	3729	4813	29.1	30.3

The Cooling Degree Hours are the sum of the positive differences between the hourly temperature and 75 degrees.