MAKE THE MOST OF FALL AND WINTER REAL-TIME PRICE PATTERNS

As the weather gets cooler, RRTP participants will notice a change in the typical pattern of real-time electricity prices. During the cooler seasons of the year, prices tend to remain low most of the time. Prices tend to increase somewhat during the evening, but even the highest prices of the day are often relatively low.

The graph below illustrates the typical seasonal price patterns. Keep the price patterns in mind and shift some of your usage to lower priced hours to increase your savings with the RRTP program. As always, you will receive high price alerts if the hourly price reaches the alert point of your choice.

Average Real-Time Hourly Price Patterns in cents per kWh*

*Average prices shown are for January 2010 through October 2012. Summer prices are for June through September. Fall, winter, and spring prices are for October through May. Depending on market conditions, prices can vary significantly from this typical pattern. Savings cannot be guaranteed.

Saving on electricity costs with ComEd RRTP can be easy during the fall, winter, and spring. Keep seasonal price patterns in mind to help you manage your costs.

NEW RRTP PROGRAM WEBSITE AND CONTACT INFORMATION

The ComEd RRTP program is pleased to announce a new website and new contact information. Please update your bookmarks and address book, and keep in touch. We look forward to hearing from you.

Website: ComEd.com/RRTP
Email: info@comedrrtp.org
Phone: 1-888-202-RRTP (7787)
TIPS FOR SAVING ON FALL AND WINTER ENERGY BILLS

These tips can help you save on energy costs during the winter months.

Use Your Thermostat

Set your thermostat to a lower temperature when you are sleeping or away from home. Turning your thermostat back 10°F to 15°F for eight hours can save around 10 percent a year on heating and cooling bills, according to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

Keep the Season Bright for Less

LED holiday lights are the smart way to make the season bright. LED lights use far less electricity than incandescent bulbs, and they produce less heat, making them safer. They are also sturdy and far less likely to break than the delicate bulbs in strings of incandescent lights.

Save on Hot Water

According to the U.S. DOE, water heating could account for 14 percent to 20 percent of the energy used in your home. Save on water heating by installing low flow showerheads and faucet aerators and by washing laundry in cold water whenever possible. Also, check the setting on your water heater. The DOE recommends a setting of 120°F for energy savings and safety.

Entertain Lower Costs

Fall and winter can be a great time to curl up on the couch and enjoy your home entertainment system, but all of those electronics can drain power even when they are turned off. Cut unnecessary standby power usage by plugging electronics into a power strip. Then flip the switch on the strip to cut off power flow to multiple devices at once.

Take Advantage of Rebates and Incentives

ComEd offers a variety of incentives and rebates to help you cut your home energy costs. These range from discounts on energy efficient light bulbs to rebates on new heating and cooling systems. For more information, visit ComEd.com/home-savings/rebates-incentives.

For more information about other rebates and incentives available in the Chicago area, visit energyimpactillinois.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

ComEd.com/RRTP
info@comedrrtp.org
1-888-202-RRTP (7787)
THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR STORY

Recently we emailed RRTP participants asking you to tell us about your experiences with the program. Thank you to everyone who responded. It was inspiring to hear from so many people who have found that real-time pricing is a great way to take control of household electricity bills. Here’s what a few of you had to say about ComEd RRTP.

“I’ve gotten far more than a 33 percent cost reduction because I’ve also changed a lot of my own electricity habits in the house.”
— Justin H., Chicago

“I love the simplicity of use and the handy monthly reports comparing my bill to standard pricing.”
— Rachel B., Oak Park

“It’s easy to sign up and the savings are real. Plus, you’ll feel good about making a positive impact on the environment.”
— Mondher H., Chicago

“Real-time pricing gives me more control over how much my bill will be. The best part is the price is lower during non-peak hours.”
— Mary Jane L., Chicago

“We’re a young family with three children and it seemed like a logical thing to do to capitalize even further on our good energy habits.”
— Michael R., Elmhurst

To share your story, call the ComEd RRTP team at 1-888-202-RRTP (7787) or email us at info@comedrrtp.org.

REGULATORS FIND THAT COMED RRTP “RESULTS IN NET BENEFITS TO ITS RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS” PROGRAM GIVEN GREEN LIGHT TO CONTINUE

ComEd Residential Real-Time Pricing (RRTP) recently received regulatory approval for continued operation from the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC). Consequently, the program will go forward without any service interruption to customers.

The Illinois General Assembly required RRTP to undergo an evaluation of its costs and benefits to customers after the program’s fourth year of operation. The evaluation determined that the program’s benefits to customers outweigh its costs.

Benefits of the RRTP program include lower bills for participants and reduced peak demand for electricity. Since the program started, RRTP participants have saved an average of 25 percent on the electricity supply portion of their bills and have reduced their electricity use during peak hours when the price of electricity is high.

Reducing peak demand benefits all customers because it lowers strain on the electrical grid and reduces the amount of expensive, peak-time power needed. A lower peak demand is also good for the environment, because it reduces the need to operate older, less efficient generation facilities in order to meet peak demand.

“Well, we’re a young family with three children and it seemed like a logical thing to do to capitalize even further on our good energy habits.”
— Michael R., Elmhurst

To share your story, call the ComEd RRTP team at 1-888-202-RRTP (7787) or email us at info@comedrrtp.org.

“ComEd’s RRTP program results in sufficient net benefits to its residential customers such that it should continue.”

**CNT ENERGY TO BECOME THE NEW PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR FOR COMED RRTP**

The ComEd RRTP program gives you access to hourly, real-time electricity prices, but the RRTP program is more than just a different electricity rate. The program also provides information and customer support to help you make the most of real-time electricity pricing.

ComEd recently brought on CNT Energy as the program administrator for the RRTP program. CNT Energy will provide the same added services, tools, and information that RRTP participants currently receive, along with a team of specialists to answer your questions.

CNT Energy, an affiliate of the Center for Neighborhood Technology, is a Chicago-based nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people save energy and money. The organization has been involved in real-time pricing since ComEd first launched a pilot program in 2003.

CNT Energy (then called the Community Energy Cooperative) worked with ComEd to provide high quality customer support, and that successful pilot program became the model for the RRTP program that exists today. The RRTP team at CNT Energy looks forward to continuing to help Illinois households get the best possible value from hourly electricity pricing.

Reach the RRTP team Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at **1-888-202-RRTP (7787), info@comedrrtp.org**, or visit the new program website at **ComEd.com/RRTP**.

To learn more about CNT Energy, visit **cntenergy.org**.

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**KEEP IN TOUCH**

Keep up with ComEd RRTP updates on the new program website, or contact us by phone or email. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Website**: ComEd.com/RRTP  
**Email**: info@comedrrtp.org  
**Phone**: 1-888-202-RRTP (7787)