



WE HONOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH.

Black History Month celebrates the achievements by African Americans and is a time for recognizing and celebrating the past achievements while looking ahead to a brighter future for all. BGE continues to create a corporate culture that fosters diversity, equity, and inclusion. From prioritizing diverse suppliers to creating robust professional development opportunities for every employee, we strive for a thriving workforce that reflects the communities we serve. For more information, visit [BGE.COM/Diversity](https://www.bge.com/Diversity).

Natural gas safety, carbon monoxide safety

A buildup of carbon monoxide (CO) from incomplete combustion of fuels, such as natural gas, and inadequate ventilation can cause carbon monoxide poisoning. Signs of buildup of this colorless, odorless gas include:

- **Stuffy, stale or smelly air**
- **High humidity**
- **Soot from fireplaces or furnaces**

The best treatment for overexposure is to get fresh air and immediate medical attention. To reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning, gas and oil appliance manufacturers recommend a yearly safety check-up. A qualified heating contractor can perform this service. Remember to change the batteries in your carbon monoxide detector routinely.

Each of us can help ensure natural gas safety. Learning how to live and work safely around natural gas, pipelines and facilities is the first step. Gas is colorless, tasteless, and odorless in its natural state. Therefore, BGE puts mercaptan, a safety scent, in natural gas to give it a rotten egg odor and make it easier to detect. **IF YOU SUSPECT A NATURAL GAS LEAK**, leave the area immediately and call BGE at **877.778.7798**. Emergency gas service calls are answered 24/7, and we will respond quickly at no cost to you. Don't use matches, or turn anything on, even a cell phone. Even homes that don't use gas can experience gas leaks from outdoors. For more information on natural gas safety and BGE's education initiatives, visit [BGE.COM/GasSafety](https://www.bge.com/GasSafety).





BGE customers save big with EmPOWER.

Powering energy savings through the BGE Smart Energy Savers Program®, customers can take advantage of bill credits,

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rebates, and discounts for energy efficient steps they take in their home. The program, made possible by the EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act, helps customers use less energy, protects our environment, and reduces the need for new power plants, all the while keeping costs of electricity down for everyone.

These programs are funded through the EmPOWER Maryland surcharge included on all residential customers' BGE bills. The surcharge (effective January 1, 2021) averages about \$4.55 a month* for an average home for electricity customers and \$2.43 a month** for natural gas customers. Customers can offset the electric charge through simple energy efficiency measures, such as signing up for a Quick Home Energy Check-Up at no additional cost, taking advantage of appliance rebates to save \$50-\$500 on a new ENERGY STAR® certified appliance, or making small changes to the way you use energy. For more information, visit BGESmartEnergy.com.

* based on 0.005 cents per kWh for a home that uses 831 kWh per month.

** based on 4.52 cents per therm rate for a home that uses 56 therms per month.

Rates subject to change.

BGE energizing small business grants

BGE is pledging \$15 million to assist Maryland's small businesses with COVID-19 relief and recovery. Eligible businesses located in BGE's service area can apply for BGE Energizing Small Business Grants of up to \$20,000. This grant program is part of BGE's comprehensive Customer Relief and Energy Infrastructure Investment Plan, designed to help the state's economic recovery from the pandemic. To learn more, visit BGE.HelloAlice.com.



Behind on your energy bills?

WE CAN HELP. DON'T WAIT. | BGE.COM/BillHelp | 800.685.0123