



Utilities

electric • stormwater • wastewater • water
700 Wood St.
PO Box 580
Fort Collins, CO 80522

970.221.6700

970.221.6619 fax • 970.224.6003 TDD
utilities@fcgov.com • fcgov.com/utilities

Welcome Peak Partners

Thank you for participating in Fort Collins Utilities' Peak Partner program.

As a program participant, you will get the convenience and control of a web programmable thermostat, which will enable you to save energy and money while helping our community use resources more efficiently. In fact, your estimated savings could add up to 10 percent of your cooling and heating loads.

Understanding Peak Demand

The electric grid operates somewhat like the interstate road system where high volume use during rush hour results in traffic congestion. In the electric grid, rush hour occurs when the grid is reaching peak capacity – the time of highest demand. During those times, it is most expensive to purchase electricity.

The Peak Partners program is designed to work with our customers to actively manage and reduce electricity consumption during these peak times.

Being a Peak Partner

The electric grid typically reaches peak three or four times per month during the summer, for an average of about three hours each time. During these peak times, Fort Collins Utilities will declare a conservation event and automatically manage your thermostat in order to reduce electricity use. A similar program has been in place since the 1980s and thousands of Fort Collins residents already have participated in such conservation events.

When a conservation event is called, Fort Collins Utilities will send a signal to your thermostat to automatically reduce energy consumption by cycling your air conditioning on and off. This signal will put your cooling unit's compressor into conservation mode at a 50 percent cycling level. This means that your compressor operates 50 percent of the amount of time that it did in the prior hour although the fan will continue to circulate air. Most participants won't notice the average 1 to 3 degree rise in temperature during a typical conservation event.

Your thermostat and web application will notify you of the conservation event, so if you choose to limit other means of energy consumption – such as delaying doing laundry, running the dishwasher overnight or waiting to watch a movie – you can help our community even more. In addition, you will have the option to override the conservation event called by Fort Collins Utilities twice each summer, so you remain in control.

Information and Support

Visit fcgov.com/peakpartners or call 855-350-1464.

