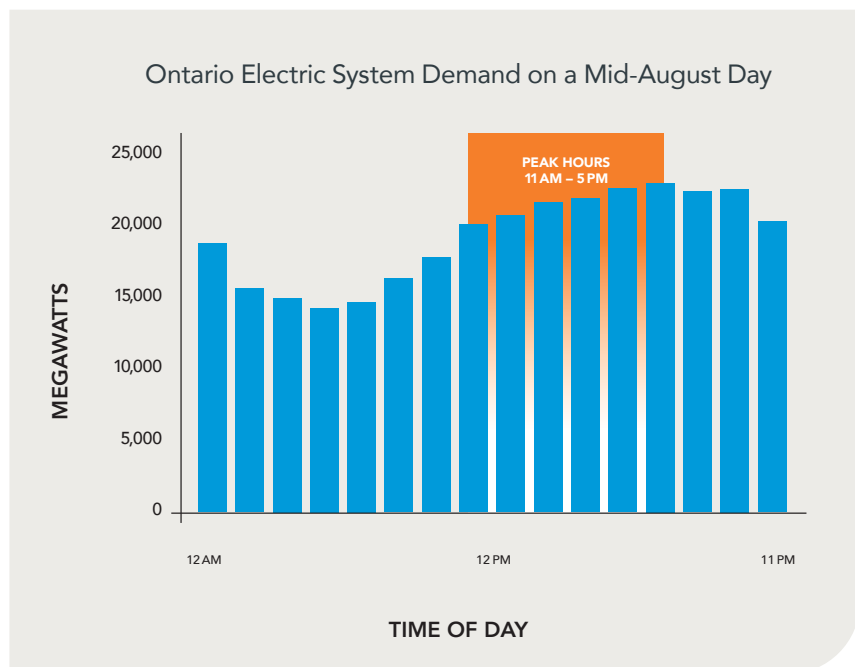




MANAGING PEAK DEMAND AT HOME

WHAT IS PEAK DEMAND?

Peak demand occurs when electricity use is at its highest. In the summer, demand tends to be higher in the early- to mid-afternoon when air conditioners are turned up during the hottest time of the day. In winter, demand tends to be higher in the early evening when consumers are using more lights and making dinner.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Ontario's electricity grid provides reliable power to meet the demand from homes and businesses at all times. Today, Ontario's electricity system is one of the cleanest electricity systems in North America – almost 90 per cent emissions-free – with most of its electricity coming from low-emitting forms of generations, like nuclear and hydro.

By reducing demand on the electricity grid during peak periods, and leveraging energy efficiency program and initiatives, consumers can help keep electricity costs down.

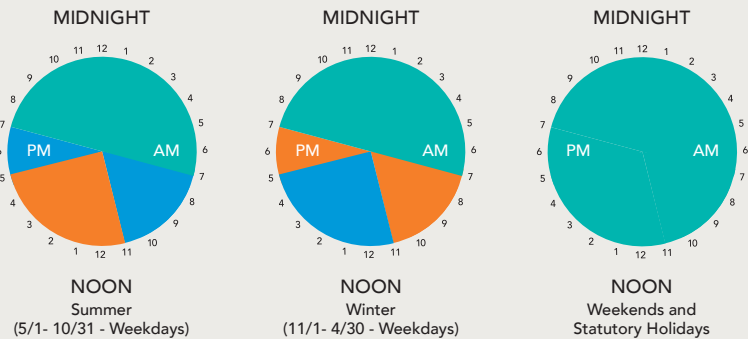
As electricity demand is forecasted to grow rapidly across the province and existing resources retire or enter refurbishment, the value of energy efficiency to the system increases as a low-cost, non-emitting resource that can respond to changing system needs, and support broader economic development and decarbonization objectives.

PEAK DEMAND AND DECARBONIZATION

As Ontario residents increasingly turn to electricity to power homes and vehicles, the overall demand for electricity increases, which means Ontario must expand the system with additional generation and transmission. In an electrified future, it will be increasingly important for homes and businesses to keep using electricity wisely.

PEAK DEMAND AND YOUR ELECTRICITY BILL

Reducing your energy use during peak hours can reduce electricity bills. For homes on a time-of-use or ultra-low overnight rate, the price for electricity is higher during peak hours and lower during off-peak hours.



OFF-PEAK MID-PEAK ON-PEAK

<https://www.ieso.ca/en/Learn/Electricity-Pricing-Explained/Residents-and-Small-Businesses>

REDUCING PEAK DEMAND AT HOME

Three tips to reduce residential electricity use during peaks and contribute to a reliable, affordable, and sustainable electricity grid:

- **In summer:** aim for 25° C to maximize comfort and energy efficiency. Complement efficiency by utilizing window shades/blinds to keep out the heat of the sun. It also means the A/C can run less, which saves energy and costs.
 - If you have central air conditioning controlled by a smart thermostat, enroll in the **Peak Perks program** and receive a \$75 electronic prepaid MasterCard®. For more information visit: <https://saveonenergy.ca/PeakPerks>
- **In winter:** aim for 20° C to maximize comfort and energy efficiency. Avoid unnecessary heat loss by sealing windows and doors to draft-proof your home.
- **All seasons:** use the clothes dryer, dishwasher, and other large appliances during off-peak hours whenever possible.