



NEW CUSTOMER INFORMATION ENCLOSED



IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Bill questions?

Call 8am-4:30pm 763-576-2750

Email anytime utilitybilling@ci.anoka.mn.us

Electric outage or problems?

Call us anytime 763-576-2903

Going to dig?

Contact Gopher State One 811

- Minnesota state law requires that before digging, a request for locations be made.

Other contacts:

CenterPoint Energy

Residential 612-372-4727

Commercial 612-321-4939

Licensed Residential Haulers

Ace Solid Waste Inc. 763-427-3110

Curbside Service 763-504-2872

Republic Services 952-941-5174

Walter's Recycling & Refuse 763-780-8464

Anoka Recycling Coordinator 763-576-2725



ANOKA MUNICIPAL UTILITY
Anoka City Hall 2015 1st Ave, Anoka, Minnesota 55303-2270
Phone: 763-576-2750 Fax: 763-576-2777 TTY: 763-422-0422
Email: utilitybilling@ci.anoka.mn.us

Attention Anoka Utility Customers:

Let the City of Anoka process your next utility bill payment automatically on the due date. With our AUTO PAY PLAN you can have your utility payment automatically withdrawn from your checking or savings account on the due date each month. You will still receive your City of Anoka bill stating "DO NOT PAY – BANK PAYMENT*" next to the payment amount, so that you know how much will be deducted. *Until you see this message, make your payments as usual. To start paying your utility bills through the AUTO PAY PLAN, simply complete this form, attach a voided check or savings withdrawal slip, and return all to us with your current City of Anoka utility payment.

Enjoy these benefits:

- WAIVED START-UP DEPOSIT
- SAVE MONEY (no stamps)
- SAVE TIME (no checks to write)
- NO LATE FEES, No worries!!!

AUTO PAY PLAN is a **free** City of Anoka service and you can withdraw at any time by contacting us in writing feel free to contact one of our utility representatives if you have any questions at 763-576-2750. Sign up now and start seeing the benefit!



AUTO PAY PLAN FORM

Customer Name on Account: _____

Service Address: _____

Utility Account Number: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Financial Institution (or Bank Name): _____

Bank Account Number: _____ Select One: Checking Savings

Financial Routing Number: _____

By signing below I am authorizing the City of Anoka utility department to automatically withdraw my utility payment from my checking/savings account. I understand that if I am removed from Auto Pay within 12 months I will be billed a deposit. I understand that returned payments may affect my ability to remain on the auto pay plan. I understand that I may only request a temporary removal and addition to the auto pay plan once. Withdrawing from the service or requesting the temporary hold requires a 10 day notice.

Utility Account Holder

Today's Date

Bank Account Holder
(Must have authorized access to Utility Account)

Date Signed

Drop off or mail completed form to: Anoka City Hall, 2015 1st Ave, Anoka MN 55303
Email submissions can be sent to utilitybilling@ci.anoka.mn.us
Please remember to include a copy of a voided check, or other document that shows account number and routing number, as well as the name on the bank account.



CLEAN ENERGY **CHOICE**

for your Home or Business



The Clean Energy Choice program allows Anoka Municipal Utility customers to receive up to 100% of their electricity from environmentally friendly, renewable sources.

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

The Program adds a monthly charge to your electric bill



50%
RENEWABLE
ENERGY



75%
RENEWABLE
ENERGY



100%
RENEWABLE
ENERGY

BUSINESS CUSTOMERS

- An Incremental charge of \$0.002 per kWh above regular retail rates.
- The charge is only applied to kWh in excess of the 20% Minnesota Renewable Energy Standard.

To learn more or to sign-up please call or visit:
Anoka Municipal Utility (763-576-2750)
www.cleanenergychoice.com/anoka





ANOKA

REAL. CLASSIC.



2024 RESIDENT RECYCLING GUIDE

ACE SOLID WASTE, INC. IS YOUR RECYCLING SERVICE PROVIDER

Anoka city residents (single family and multi-unit households) receive recycling service through ACE Solid Waste, Inc.

ACE will provide bi-weekly recycling service on your garbage service day, except when a recognized holiday falls on a service day, it will then be delayed one day.

Find your service schedule and the Waste & Recycling Wizard on how to recycle right at www.acesolidwaste.com



ACE

SOLID WASTE, INC.

SERVICE REMINDERS:

- Place your cart curbside by 6:30 a.m. on service day.
- Leave at least 3 feet around your cart, away from obstacles.
- Breakdown cardboard to fit inside the cart. Larger boxes should be flattened, cut and tied into 3'x3' bundles and placed next to the cart.

DOWNLOAD THE FREE APP: MyACETrashMN

Gain access to important notifications and collection day reminders via ACE'S free app for Android and iPhone.

Apartment Renters:

Please contact your building manager for the cart/container locations and any specific instructions.

RECYCLE IT! Do NOT place recyclables in plastic bags. Please place the recyclables loose in the cart. (Brown paper bags are acceptable).



METAL

Aluminum beverage cans, metal food cans (rinsed)



PAPER

Newspaper, magazines, envelopes, office paper, phone books, paper bags, paper cartons (empty, rinse & keep lids on)



PLASTIC

Plastic bottles & containers (empty, rinse & keep lids on)

NO PLASTIC BAGS!



GLASS

Jars & bottles (emptied & rinsed)



CARDBOARD

Boxboard (cereal, cake & cracker boxes), Cardboard (flattened & 3'x3' bundled)

TRASH IT! Items NOT accepted by curbside recycling. WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!

- Food waste & food tainted items – used paper plates, napkins, paper towels
- Pizza boxes
- Egg cartons
- Ice cream cartons
- Aluminum foil
- Plastic cups & plastic utensils
- Aerosol cans
- Styrofoam packaging material
- Plastic toys
- Garden hoses
- Flower pots
- Wrapping paper
- Shredded paper



PLACE ALL OF YOUR ACCEPTABLE RECYCLABLE MATERIALS LOOSE IN THE CART/CONTAINER PLEASE, DO NOT PUT PLASTIC BAGS IN THE RECYCLING—THEY CONTAMINATE THE LOAD!

Questions?

- ACE Solid Waste, Inc.: 763-427-3110 (service questions/concerns, and cart needs).
- City of Anoka Recycling Manager: 763-576-2725 (general recycling questions).



Remember to always RECYCLE RIGHT! When in doubt, throw it out!

City of Anoka Loan Programs

The City of Anoka has partnered with the local nonprofit Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) to offer low interest loans for Anoka homeowners to make improvements in their homes.

Matching Deferred Loan

Interest Rate: 0% (.108% APR)*

Loan Amount: \$10,000 maximum

Loan Term: 100% forgiven if the owner remains on the property for 30 years from the loan closing date.

Eligible Properties: 1–4 unit properties located within the City of Anoka.

Income Limit: Income limits apply

Match: Match may be required

Eligible Improvements: Qualifying improvements based on a site visit to the property.

*APR based on \$10,000 for 30 years

Rental Conversion Deferred Loan

Interest Rate: 0% (.108% APR)*

Loan Amount: \$50,000 maximum

Loan Term: 100% forgiven if the owner remains on the property for 30 years from the loan closing date.

Eligible Properties: 2–4 unit properties located within the City of Anoka.

Eligible Improvements: Any work required to convert a 2-4 unit residential property into a single family owner-occupied property.

*APR based on \$10,000 for 30 years

Rental Conversion Loan

Interest Rate: 0% (.320% APR)*

Loan Amount: \$50,000 maximum

Loan Term: Up to 15 years

Eligible Properties: 2–4 unit properties located within the City of Anoka.

Eligible Improvements: Any work required to convert a 2-4 unit residential property into a single family owner-occupied property.

*APR based on \$10,000 for 10 years

Senior Deferred Loan

At least 1 borrower must be 62 + years of age

Interest Rate: 0% (.108% APR)*

Loan Amount: \$10,000 maximum

Loan Term: 100% forgiven if the owner remains on the property for 30 years from the loan closing date.

Eligible Properties: 1–4 unit properties located within the City of Anoka.

Eligible Improvements: Qualifying improvements based on a site visit to the property.

*APR based on \$10,000 for 30 years

Home Improvement Loan

Interest Rate: 3% (3.18% APR)*

Loan Amount: Up to \$35,000

Loan Term: Up to 15 years

Eligible Properties: Owner-occupied 1-4 unit residential properties located in the City of Anoka.

Eligible Improvements: Most interior and exterior remodeling and maintenance.

Income Limit: No income limits; Closing cost apply.

Bid: 1 bid is required from a properly licensed contractor.

*APR based on \$35,000 over 15 years

Down Payment Assistance

Interest Rate: 0% APR

Loan Amount: \$2,500

Loan Term: Loan is forgiven if the owner remains on the property for 30 years from the loan closing date.

Eligible Properties: 1-4 unit, owner-occupied properties located in the City of Anoka.

Income Limit: Income limits apply

Eligible Use of Funds: Funds may be used for down payment or closing costs.

Bid: 1 bid is required from a properly licensed contractor.

For more information call **612.335.5884** or visit **mncee.org/anoka**



The current loan terms and conditions stated, including interest rates, do not constitute a commitment to lend or an offer to enter into an agreement, and such an offer may only be made pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 47.206(3) and (4).





Dear Anoka Property Owner:

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR AND INSURED AGAINST A SEWER BACKUP?

The following provides information on how to protect your property and reduce any unnecessary stress and financial strains that a sanitary sewer backup may cause.

Property owners are strongly encouraged to do the following:

- **GET INSURANCE FOR A SEWER BACKUP** - if you have concerns regarding the damage a sewer backup could do to your property, **contact your insurance carrier and review your coverage. Not all insurance policies have this coverage,** yet it can be relatively inexpensive in most cases.

The City is not automatically responsible when a sewer backup occurs. There are many reasons why backups occur which the City cannot control, such as inappropriate items being put into the system, or tree roots obstructing the lines. Generally, the City is responsible only if it was negligent in maintaining the main sewer lines.

Regardless of where a blockage is found, in the City's main sewer line or in an individual sewer line, **in most cases the property owner is responsible for the cleanup costs.** The City or its insurer will pay for cleanup costs only if the City negligently failed to maintain its sewer line.

- **ALWAYS call the City of Anoka FIRST** if you are experiencing a sewer backup affecting all of your property's drains or if you do not have water. The City will work with you to identify the cause of the problem. If there is a blockage in one of the City's main sewer lines, the City will attempt to clear the blockage.

Please call:

- Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Public Services Department at 763-576-2923
 - After-hours emergencies - Anoka-Champlin Fire Department dispatch at 763-576-2860
- **DO NOT** dispose of inappropriate items into the sewer (down a drain or flushing down a toilet):
 - diapers
 - rags or shop towels
 - yard waste (sand, soil, mud)
 - medical waste (needles & syringes)
 - sanitary napkins
 - garage waste (oil, grease, gas, antifreeze)
 - household waste (ashes, grease, corrosives, glass, metals, paint, poison, or solvents)

If you feel damage occurred as a direct result of the City's negligence, you can file an insurance claim by calling the City at 763-576-2700.

Contact the Public Services Department at 763-576-2923 with questions regarding the City's sanitary sewer maintenance program, sewer backup response, or a specific incident.

Thank you,

City of Anoka

More sanitary sewer information can be found at www.anokaminnesota.com

Laws you should know...



Parking

- **No vehicle**, except emergency vehicles, **shall be parked** on any city street or in any public parking lot **between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.** If a vehicle needs to be temporarily parked in the street, contact the Police Department.
- Vehicles parked in restricted time parking zones (10 minutes, 1 hour, 2 hours, or 3 hours) must be moved a minimum of 200 feet before the time limit expires in order to avoid violation.
- No trucks in excess of three-quarter ton rated capacity shall be parked, stored, or repaired on a public street or in the open on private property in a residential district except when making a delivery.
- Vehicles may **not** be displayed "FOR SALE" on city streets, right of ways, or public parking lots.
- Vehicles parked at single family or multiple-family residences outside of a garage **must display** license plates with current registration and must be operable.
- Every vehicle or trailer which is parked outside of a garage **shall display** license plates with current registration tabs. No vehicle or trailer shall be permitted to park and obstruct the view of the street.

Liquor

No consumption or possession of alcohol (except to transport) is allowed upon a public street, sidewalk, or parking lot.

Bicycles

- Bicycle riders **must obey** all traffic laws, signs and signals. Riders must ride on the right side of the street.
- A bicycle must not be ridden on any sidewalk, street, or public highway between 30 minutes after sunset and 30 minutes before sunrise without a headlight emitting a white light visible from at least 500 feet. A red reflector must also be attached and visible for at least 50 feet to the rear.
- A bicycle shall not be ridden upon a sidewalk within the business district.

Lockouts (Non-Emergency)

- The City charges to successfully unlock car doors.

Loitering

- Remaining for more than five minutes on or near any business or non-business premise that is signed and posted "No Loitering" or "No Trespassing" is considered loitering and is not allowed.

Curfew

- Any person under the age of 15 shall not be on a public street or in a public place between 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. Any person between 15-17 years of age shall not be on a public street or public place between 12:00 midnight and 5:00 a.m. unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.
- It is unlawful for a parent or legal guardian of a minor under the age of 18 to knowingly or negligently permit a minor to violate curfew.

Anoka Police

275 Harrison Street
Anoka, MN 55303

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency	763-427-1212
Police Department	763-576-2800
Fax	763-576-2802

Office Hours (closed on holidays)
Monday-Friday 8:00am-6:00pm
Saturday-Sunday 8:00am-4:00pm

Weapons

- A person shall not fire, discharge, or explode any weapon in the city. This includes BB guns, wrist rockets, and bows & arrows.

Fireworks

- No one shall explode or fire any rocket, firecracker, Roman candle, or other type of fireworks or pyrotechnic display in any public street, alley, or public grounds of the city.

Pets

- All dogs and cats over three months of age must be licensed. License tags must be worn by the dog and/or cat constantly.
- No more than three cats/dogs over three months of age may be kept on the same premises.
- Dogs may not be allowed to habitually bark or cry so as to create a disturbance.
- Pets may not run at large. They must be leashed.
- Feces of any domestic animal shall be properly disposed of by the owner and shall be promptly removed from any public or private property not owned by the owner of the animal.

Blight

- The storage or accumulation of motor vehicles not in operating condition, trash, junk, rubbish or refuse is prohibited in any zone.
- Garbage must be stored in suitable containers and kept covered.
- Containers must be placed next to the street or curb on the day scheduled for collection but shall be returned to the place of storage within 12 hours after collection.
- All trees, hedges, etc. shall not obstruct the clear view of traffic approaching intersections.

Garage Sales

- A garage sale or rummage sale (profit or non-profit) may not last longer than 24 hours.
- Only three garage /rummage sales may be conducted at any given location within one year.
- Garage sale signs may not be placed on the boulevard, on street signs or on telephone poles.

False Alarms

- More than three false alarms at a business or residence which results in a police response in a calendar year shall pay service fees.

House Numbers

- House numbers of at least 4 inches high and visible from 100 feet are required on all public and private structures.

Snow Removal

- Snow and ice must be removed from public sidewalks within 18 hours after a snow fall.

Peddlers

- A peddler, solicitor, or transient merchant must first secure a license from the City Clerk before selling their goods in the City of Anoka. (Ask to see the license if approached by a peddler.)

**If you have questions on laws in the City of Anoka, call:
763-576-2800**

Round up for Change!

“Round Up”

Anoka Municipal Utility (AMU) customers have an opportunity to “round up” their utility bill and make a difference in the lives of individuals and families in need within our community.



Your voluntary “Round up” contributions are intended to reduce expenses and provide financial assistance to worth-while activities, organizations and community projects that improve the lives of families, children and seniors in our community.



How it works

Each month we will “round-up” your AMU utility bill to the next highest dollar. For example, if your bill is \$42.79, we will round it up to \$43.00. The additional 21¢ goes to the “Round-up for Change” fund.

The average contribution from each participating utility customer is about 50¢ a month! Although this contribution is not tax deductible, the most a customer could contribute in a year is only \$11.88.

What do you need to do?

Participation is voluntary. When you called to set up your utility account a representative asked if you were interested in enrolling in “Round Up for Change.” You can also enroll or opt out at anytime . Simply call us at 763-576-2750 or email utilitybilling@ci.anoka.mn.us (be sure to include your name, account number and address) and let us know if you would like to enroll or opt-out anytime.



Imagine the Possibilities

Imagine if every AMU customer chose to participate...together we could raise as much as \$70,000 a year and make a difference in our community!



Transportation Services



Please note: Some of the transportation services identified in this brochure are specifically for senior citizens or individuals with disabilities. Please contact the service provider with questions regarding eligibility.

Private Medical Transportation Service Providers

Medi-Van 1-800-422-0976

Premiere transportation with a full range of medicinal options, available 24 hours a day, and seven days a week. There is a fee for all services. Please contact Medi-Van for more information.

Driving Miss Daisy 763 253-4400

Transportation and specialized service assistance to medical appointments, rehabilitation centers, personal errands, airport, social engagements and non-medical appointments. This company indicates that they accept private pay, Medicaid and some private insurance. Quotes are available. Please contact Driving Miss Daisy for more information.

Schu-Tran 320-968-7478

Medical and non-medical transportation services available. Please contact Schu-Tran for more information.

DID YOU KNOW?

Anoka County has a dedicated Transit Service Assistant available to assist you with understanding the transportation services available to county residents.

Maps, routes and fare information for all Anoka County coordinated transportation is available by contacting 763-324-3250

Metro Mobility

This is a door-to-door service provided by Metro Transit. Services are contracted through five public & private providers make up the Metro-Mobility service area. Individuals must be unable to use regular fixed route buses due to a disability or health condition. Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines determine eligibility. People are generally eligible if:

- They are physically unable to get to the regular fixed-route bus
- They are unable to navigate regular fixed-route bus systems once they are on board
- They are unable to board and exit the bus at some locations

A completed ADA Paratransit Application Form is needed to determine eligibility for service. Application forms are available by calling the information line: 651-602-1111. The form has two parts:

- An application form designed to assess a person's ability to use the regular fixed route bus service
- A professional verification form completed by a health care provider

Both forms must be submitted together to process the application.

Rides can be requested/scheduled up to four days in advance or as little as one day in advance. Riders should allow one hour of flexibility in pick up times depending on service demands.

Reservations are taken seven days a week and 365 days a year from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To make a reservation, call: 651-602-1111

Fares:

Peak time hours \$4.00 / Off peak hours \$3.00

Service times for Anoka:

5:15 a.m. to 10:45 p.m. weekdays

7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Saturday

Anoka County Medlink

This program coordinates volunteers who use their time and their personal vehicle to provide rides to seniors for medical, dental and social services appointments.

Passengers must be able to travel independently as volunteers are unable to provide assistance. You must first register by calling 763-324-3255. Once you have registered you can call in your request. Your request must be received by noon on Wednesday of the week prior to your appt.

Rides are provided Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Fares: (suggested donation)

\$5.00 for trips within Anoka County

\$10.00 for trips outside of Anoka County

Transit Link

This is a "dial-a-ride" service for the general public. This transportation service serves areas where regular transit routes are not available. Rides can be arranged or reserved up to seven days in advance. Rides are subject to availability. This is a curb-to-curb service with limited assistance to riders.

Service is available Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Reservations can be made by contacting 651-602-5465 (please call before 3:30 p.m.)

Fares (one-way trips):

Up to 10 miles: \$2.25

10-20 miles \$4.50

More than 20 miles: \$6.75

Anoka County Traveler

Fixed Route Transportation

Anoka County Routes: #801, #805, #831

Minneapolis Routes: #850, #852, #766, #768

Bus Route #805 picks up individuals at Bridge Square Apartments and at designated bus stops along Main Street and throughout Anoka. The regular route includes destinations such as Cub Foods and Walmart, Northtown Mall, Riverway Health Partners Clinic, etc. (depending on your final destination a transfer to Route #852 may be required).

The Traveler operates fixed routes from 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on weekdays and 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Saturdays.

For schedule information, call: 612-373-3333

Fares:

\$2.25 rush hour

\$1.75 non-rush hour

Anoka Senior Center

Transportation is provided to specific programs and activities scheduled by the Anoka Senior Center. To be eligible for transportation, a senior (age 60 and older) must be a resident in the city of Anoka and or live within 5 miles of the senior center.

The senior van provides transportation to Cub Foods / Walmart in Coon Rapids on a fairly regular basis several days per week. Additional shopping destinations may be available or scheduled based on demand.

For more information, call: 763-576-4661

Fares (requested donation):

\$0.50 one way to/from Senior Center

\$1.00 one way for shopping

Residential Rebate Programs



Appliance Rebate Program

Anoka Municipal Utility (AMU) offers rebates to more types of appliances! Purchase of an Energy Star® approved appliance is designed to save you money by lowering operating costs throughout the life of the appliance.

Energy Star® is a government/industry partnership that makes it easy for you to save money and preserve our natural resources. Look for products with the Energy Star® label to ensure the appliance is energy efficient. Talk to your appliance dealer to find out which brands and models are eligible for AMU rebates. Purchase and install an ENERGY STAR® rated clothes washer, dishwasher, refrigerator, or freezer, and qualify for a rebate. Rebates subject to change at anytime.

Appliance rebates include:

- Clothes Washer Rebate
- Dishwasher Rebate
- Refrigerator/Freezer Rebate



A/C Rebate Program

Another type of rebate that Anoka Municipal Utility (AMU) offers is for Central Air Conditioners (A/C). When purchasing both the condensing unit and coil for a new energy efficient AC unit where AMU is the electric service provider, customers may be eligible to receive a rebate when the SEER level meets criteria. Find out if your purchase qualifies for rebate before you buy!

LED Rebate Program

Anoka Municipal Utility (AMU) also offers a Residential Lighting Program to help you get the most out of your lighting dollars. We offer rebates for the cost of energy saving light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs, up to \$50.00 per customer, per calendar year.

Questions?

For more details about any of our rebate programs, please call a customer representative at 763-576-2903 or visit our website at www.anokamunicipalutility.com to find our rebate applications and start saving money today!!!

Cooking Tips



A microwave oven is an energy efficient alternative to a conventional oven. It cooks food more quickly and it uses 70-80% less electricity than a regular oven.

When you're cooking on top of the range use pots and pans that are properly sized to "fit" the burners. Using a small pan on a large burner wastes energy and can be a safety hazard. Cookware with flat bottoms and tight covers are your best choice.

When appropriate, cook with lids on your pans, as this keeps the heat inside and speeds up cooking time.

If you are using an electric stove turn off the burners a few minutes early because the burners retain heat.

If you do use a conventional oven, try to avoid "peeking" by opening the oven door. Each "peek" can lower the oven temperature by 25 degrees. Set the timer or use the oven light to avoid wasting energy.

Use a toaster oven or electric skillet to cook small items. These may use ½ the energy of a conventional oven.

Preheating is important but it's not really necessary to preheat the oven for foods with a cooking time of over one hour.

Save 30-50% on cooking costs by defrosting your food before cooking.

Using glass pans allows you to set the oven temperature lower or shorten the baking time because glass retains heat.

When preparing a meal in your oven, try to use foods that are cooked at about the same temperature. That way your oven can cook several dishes at the same time.

When choosing a gas range, remember that pilotless ignitions eliminate the need for the pilot light to burn constantly and reduce your natural gas usage.

Be sure you have a good seal on your oven door to retain maximum heat when baking. Gently cleaning the seal on your oven door with a kitchen degreaser may help.

Refrigerator & Freezer Tips

Like other appliances that heat and cool, refrigerators are big energy users. If your refrigerator door does not shut tightly, check the door seal to see if it needs to be cleaned or replaced. A door leak allows cool air to escape, forcing your refrigerator to use more energy to keep food cold.

Cleaning the condenser coils found in the back or bottom of the refrigerator will maximize its efficiency. A brush or vacuum can be used. Be sure to unplug the refrigerator before you start cleaning.

Keep the refrigerator away from heating appliances (ovens and dishwashers), windows, and heating ducts. Direct exposure to heat forces the unit to work harder and use more energy. If you have a freezer or refrigerator in your garage, remember that the garage is not cooled and it will run more to keep cool.

A freezer's efficiency is increased by keeping its compartment full. Be careful not to block the fan that allows cold air to circulate. Buy the smallest freezer you think you will need and be sure to clean the coils in back once a year.

Although automatic defrost refrigerators are convenient, their defrosting features use a lot of electricity. A manual defrost refrigerator typically uses 36% less energy.

Check temperature settings for the most efficient appliance operation. Refrigerator temperature should be 34-37 degrees and freezer temperature should be 5 degrees. This is not only safest for foods, but most refrigerators are manufactured to operate most efficiently at these settings.

Covered foods reduce power consumption by limiting moisture evaporation into the air. Moist air takes more energy to cool and forces the compressor to work harder.

When purchasing a new refrigerator consider a high efficiency model. Compare [yellow Energy Guide labels](#) and choose the unit that uses the least amount of electricity. Also consider the impact of certain features with each model. For example, automatic icemakers and through-the-door dispensers can use 14 to 20 percent more energy. Anoka Municipal Utility offers rebates on specific **ENERGY STAR®** products so be sure to contact



What is ENERGY STAR®?

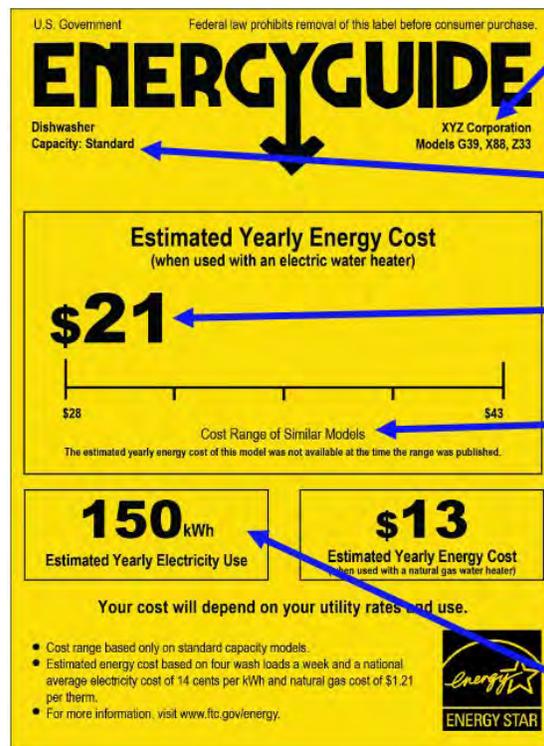
ENERGY STAR qualified products and practices help you save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.

us before making your next refrigerator purchase.

New Appliances

Most of these tips focus on how you can get the most from the appliances you now own. However, when you are shopping for a new appliance, check for the [yellow Energy Guide label](#) (below) that tells you the unit's energy efficiency. This is particularly important for appliances which use a lot of electricity, such as air conditioners and refrigerators. The higher the SEER/EER rating, the more efficient the appliance. The label provides the estimated yearly energy cost for operating the appliance based on an average national utility rate. With any appliance, it's helpful to compare units in the same size range when you are trying to determine which model has the lowest annual operating cost. Although very efficient appliances may cost more to buy, they pay for themselves through lower energy bills. For example, by purchasing a very efficient refrigerator, you could save up to \$1,200 over its life. This energy conservation guide is one of the ways we are helping our customers manage their energy costs.

Last, be sure to check with all your utility companies for available rebates. Your servicing gas company may provide other rebates that may be beneficial.



Manufacturer, model number, and appliance type.

Information about features, capacity and size, so you can compare models.

An estimate of the annual cost to run this model.

The range of ratings for similar models, from "uses least energy" to "uses most energy". This scale shows how a particular model measures up to the competition.

Estimates of the appliance's annual energy use. The lower the number, the more energy efficient the appliance, and the less it costs to run.

Make sure to look for the ENERGY STAR® label, or visit www.energystar.gov/productfinder/ to double check that your equipment qualifies for rebate before purchasing.

