



## Become a Smart Energy Academy energy saver

BGE's Smart Energy Academy partners with elementary schools to provide fun interactive lessons on electricity and hands-on learning kits that power students to be super energy savers! Lumi, BGE's virtual energy coach, guides students along the way. The energy efficiency education easily integrates into existing teaching curriculum because BGE's Smart Energy Academy offers teachers STEM-focused kits with program content and lesson plans that meet Maryland State Learning Standards. At no additional cost, students within our service territory in grades five and six will receive a learning kit full of energy efficiency materials to use at home, an activities workbook, fun questionnaires, and more. Students can inspire their families to adopt new energy-saving and money-saving habits at home. Visit BGE's Smart Energy Academy at [BGE.COM/SmartEnergyAcademy](https://www.bge.com/SmartEnergyAcademy) for more information on how to receive kits for your students.

## Powering energy savings

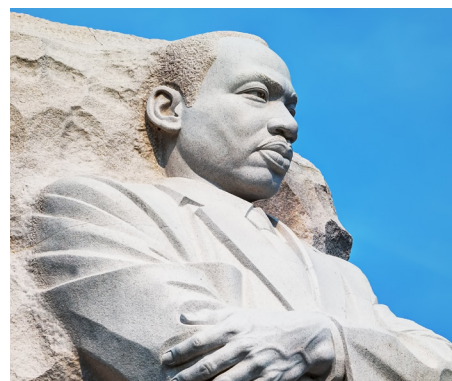
### EmPOWER MARYLAND

Through the BGE Smart Energy Savers Program®, customers can take advantage of bill credits, 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 while keeping costs of electricity down for everyone. These programs are funded through the EmPOWER Maryland surcharge included on all customers' BGE bills. The surcharge (effective January 1, 2022) averages about \$5.34 a month\* for an average home for residential electricity customers and \$2.74 a month\*\* for residential 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](https://www.bgesmartenergy.com).

\*Based on \$0.00642 per kWh for a home that uses 831 kWh per month.

\*\*Based on \$0.0489 per therm rate for a home that uses 56 therms per month. Rates subject to change.



## we honor **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Black History Month celebrates the achievements of African Americans and is a time for recognizing and celebrating past achievements while looking ahead to a brighter future for all. Visit [BGE.COM/Diversity](https://www.bge.com/Diversity) to learn about how BGE continues to create a corporate culture that fosters diversity, equity, and inclusion.

# 2022 Delivery service rate increase

In December 2020, the Maryland Public Service Commission approved BGE's multi-year customer relief and energy infrastructure investment plan, which included delivery service rate increases in 2021, 2022 and 2023. The Commission directed that certain tax benefits and adjustments be used to offset the rate increases entirely in 2021 and bills remained flat in 2021. The increased rates for 2022 have now gone into effect but are continuing to be partially reduced by certain tax benefits. See [BGE.COM/MYP](https://www.bge.com/MYP) for details. As a reminder, BGE offers Bill Payment Assistance and Payment Arrangements for customers. More information can be found at [BGE.COM/COVID19](https://www.bge.com/COVID19).



## A natural gas safety message on flammable objects & carbon monoxide

### NATURAL GAS SAFETY

It is very important to keep the area around your gas appliances clear of all flammable objects and substances. Many gas appliances have open burners and older models have pilot lights that burn continuously.

#### Stay safe around your appliances with these helpful tips:

- › Keep the area around your gas appliances clear of all flammable objects.
- › When cooking, the flame should not extend beyond the bottom of the pot. Keep burners on your range clean.
- › Make sure to not use or store flammable products in the same room or area where a gas-powered water heater, furnace, or any other gas appliance is installed.

### 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, tasteless, odorless gas include stuffy, stale or smelly air, high humidity, and soot from fireplaces or furnaces.

#### Stay safe around your appliances with these helpful tips:

- › The best treatment for exposure to carbon monoxide is to get fresh air and immediate medical attention.
- › Exposure to carbon monoxide gas can cause headaches, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, and loss of muscle control.
- › 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 or replace your carbon monoxide detector routinely.

Natural gas is colorless, tasteless, and odorless in its natural state. 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, go at least **100 feet away**, and **CALL 911 OR 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, visit [BGE.COM/GasSafety](https://www.bge.com/GasSafety).

**SMELL  
NATURAL GAS?**

**GET OUT FAST AND CALL  
911 OR 877.778.7798**

