



## Conservation

Energy conservation can help save energy and money throughout year. When consumers respond to ERCOT requests to reduce energy demand during certain hours, it helps grid reliability.

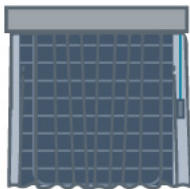
As the grid operator for most of Texas, ERCOT works every day to make sure there is enough electricity available for consumer needs. Sometimes the demand for electricity may be very close to the amount of generation available, either because consumers are using a lot of electricity or some power plants are not able to provide enough power. On those days, ERCOT may issue a conservation alert. Winter peaks tend to occur during the early morning (5-9 a.m.) and early evening (4-9 p.m.) on very cold days.

### Consumers can help the ERCOT grid by conserving energy, especially during peak hours.



Turn down thermostats to 68-degrees or lower.

Open blinds and shades to take advantage of the sun's natural heat during the day.



Close shades and blinds at night to reduce the amount of heat lost through windows.



Turn off and unplug non-essential lights and appliances.

Avoid using large appliances (i.e., ovens, washing machines, etc).



Businesses should minimize the use of electric lighting and electricity-consuming equipment as much as possible.

Large consumers of electricity should consider shutting down or reducing non-essential production processes.



Download ERCOT's [conservation tips](#) infographic to include on your social media channels.