



As we settle into 2026, we're grateful for another year of serving the Harrisonburg community. Winter is a time to slow down, stay cozy, and take care of the spaces we call home—and we're here to help you do just that.

From preparing for colder temperatures to finding easy ways to save energy, this season is full of opportunities to make smart, sustainable choices. Here's what to keep in mind as we start the new year together.

❄️ Winter Weather Safety ❄️

Winter storms can be unpredictable, bringing snow, ice, and strong winds that can increase the chance of power outages. If you experience a power outage within our service area, please report it immediately by calling **540-434-5361**.

During a winter outage, be sure to:

- Stay clear of downed power lines.
- Turn off electric ovens, ranges, or space heaters that may have been in use.
- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to preserve food.
- Use generators safely by keeping them outdoors and away from windows and vents.

[View More Outage Tips](#)

Save Smart in 2026

Small changes add up—especially during the winter months. Start the year off strong with energy-saving habits and programs designed to help you make the most of every kilowatt hour.

Easy Ways to Conserve Energy This Winter

- ✔️ Lower your water heater temperature to 120°F to reduce energy use.
- ✔️ Use LED bulbs, especially in high-use areas during shorter daylight hours.
- ✔️ Unplug small appliances and chargers when not in use.
- ✔️ Wash full loads of laundry and opt for cold water whenever possible.
- ✔️ Keep blinds and curtains open during sunny winter days to let natural warmth in.

Programs to Help You Save

Friendly City Solar

Want a simple way to support renewable energy this year? Through Friendly City Solar, customers can cover up to 100% of their energy usage with locally generated solar power—no rooftop panels required.



[Learn More & Sign Up](#)

Energy Save & Earn Rebate Program



Make your home more efficient and lower your energy use with qualifying Energy Star appliance upgrades.

Through our Energy Save & Earn Program, customers can receive rebates for swapping out their washer, dryer, water heater, and other appliances with more energy-efficient options.

[View Qualifying Appliances](#)

Go Paperless

Manage your bill from anywhere, reduce clutter, and help save trees by enrolling in paperless billing. Plus, get access to manage your account online, where you can view your daily energy usage down to the hour.



[Get Started](#)

Looking for more ways to save throughout the year? Our website includes helpful tips, tools, and guidance to make your home more efficient in every season.

[View Energy Conservation Tips](#)

Energy Share: Thank You for Supporting Our Community

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Energy Share Program in 2025. Your generosity helped local families stay safe and warm during the colder months, and we're grateful for the continued support our community shows year after year.

Because of your support, we raised a total of \$25,823.00 last year, providing meaningful assistance to neighbors who needed it most.

Energy Share provides bill-payment assistance to households experiencing financial hardship. Customers can participate in several easy ways—by rounding up their monthly bill, making a one-time donation, or giving directly through our website. All donations are matched by HEC, helping your contribution go even further.

[Donate to Energy Share](#)

Thank You to Our Employees!

Employee Appreciation Day is coming up soon, and we want to recognize all our hardworking team members who keep our community powered. From our field crews to our administrative teams and everyone in between, each person plays a vital role in providing safe, reliable service to Harrisonburg.

Thank you to every member of the HEC team for your dedication, expertise, and commitment to serving our neighbors!



Mark Your Calendar

March 6 - Employee Appreciation Day

March 8 - Daylight Savings (Spring Forward!)

March 21 - Renewable Energy Day

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