

**Marietta**



**Power**

**Water**



November 2012

# Connected



*All of Us at Marietta Power and Water Wish You and Your Loved Ones the Happiest of Holiday Seasons. We Appreciate the Opportunity to Serve You During this Special Time and All Year Long.*

## **Eliminate Some of Life's Unwelcome Financial Surprises with Marietta Power and Water's Budget Billing Program**

Life throws most of us a financial curveball every once in a while. Fortunately, a fluctuating utility bill does not have to be one of those annoying, unexpected expenses. With Marietta Power and Water's Budget Billing Program, you'll have the peace of mind of a consistent bill amount each month.

### **How is My Monthly Bill Amount Determined?**

Your monthly budget billing amount is based on the average of your actual consumption for the last 12 months. This average will be the set amount of your bill every month for 12 consecutive months. On the anniversary date of your sign-up (your

12th bill), your account will be credited for any overpayment made or a charge for the difference owed will be reflected on that bill.

### **What's Involved with Signing Up for the Budget Billing Program?**

The application process is fast and easy, so you'll be saving money in almost no time at all if you:

- Are a residential customer for at least 12 months.
- Have and maintain a satisfactory credit rating.
- Commit to the Budget Billing Program for a full 12-month period.

*continued*

## Eliminate Some of Life's Unwelcome Financial Surprises with Marietta Power and Water's Budget Billing Program *continued*

If you fulfill the above requirements, you've already taken the first step to better managing your utility dollars. Now you're ready to fill out the simple Budget Billing Program application form. For your convenience, you can download the form on the Marietta Power and Water website and return it with your next payment.

To download the application form, visit [www.mariettapowerandwater.com](http://www.mariettapowerandwater.com). Click on the Customer Service icon and select Pay Your Bill. You'll also find more information about the program in this section. 💧

## GET YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON OFF TO A HAPPY START BY USING ELECTRICITY SMARTLY

Once the Thanksgiving dishes have been washed and put away, many people head to the attic or garage to pull out the holiday lights and other decorations. Ensure your family's well-being this season by practicing safe habits with electrical devices. Here are eight ways to keep electrical fires from spoiling your festivities this year:

- ▲ Purchase electrical lights and decorations from reputable retailers only. Make sure they have been tested and approved by a nationally recognized independent testing laboratory. Also make sure you use indoor lights indoors only and outdoor lights outdoors only.
- ▲ Be careful to not overload any one outlet or power strip with too many cords. Overworked outlets can trip breakers and cause a power outage throughout your home.
- ▲ Check extension cords for damage before use and never use one that is damaged or hot. Keep extension cords out of high traffic areas. Also, don't place them under rugs or carpet or through walls and ceilings. Protect cord insulation by

never stapling cords to walls or baseboards. Outdoors, keep all extension cords and light strings clear of snow and standing water.

- ▲ Never use a metal ladder when installing lights and other electrical decorations on your home.
- ▲ Turn off all holiday lights and electrical decorations at bedtime and other times when they are unattended. Consider using pre-set timers to help with the task. Turning lights off at designated times will not only reduce your fire hazard, it will also help keep electric costs down.
- ▲ Never use electric lights on metallic trees. Faulty lights can cause the tree to become charged with electricity, possibly causing electrocution if touched.
- ▲ Always unplug electrical decorations before replacing bulbs or fuses.
- ▲ Consider purchasing LED lights that use less energy and run cooler than traditional incandescent lights.

For more tips on electrical safety and saving energy, visit [www.mariettapowerandwater.com](http://www.mariettapowerandwater.com). 💧

## Calendar

### Weekends in December

#### Santa on the Square

Glover Park in Marietta Square  
Saturdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sundays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Saturday, December 8

#### Sleighbells on the Square 5K, 1K and Tot Trot Run Walk

8:30 a.m. to Noon  
Marietta Square  
For more information visit [www.cobbcountybar.org](http://www.cobbcountybar.org).

**Marietta Power and Water will be closed on Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25 in observance of the Christmas Holiday.**

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