



Connected

Fall Home Energy Check-Up: Simple Steps Before Winter

Cooler weather is on the way, and now is the perfect time to get your home ready for the season ahead.

A few simple steps can keep your family comfortable while lowering your energy bills this winter.

- **Seal Drafts:** Check around doors and windows for gaps where air can sneak in. Adding weatherstripping or caulk is an inexpensive fix that can make a big difference in keeping warm air inside.
- **Check Insulation:** Attics and crawl spaces are common spots where homes lose heat. Ensure insulation is in good condition and consider adding more if it's thin or patchy.
- **Schedule an HVAC Tune-Up:** Like your car, your heating system works best when well-maintained. A professional tune-up will ensure your system is running efficiently, saving energy and extending your unit's life.



Taking time now for a quick fall energy check-up means fewer surprises when cold weather arrives—and more savings on your power bill all season long. ☀

Take the Guesswork Out of Your Bill with Budget Billing

Rising summer cooling costs and higher winter heating bills can make monthly utility payments unpredictable. With **Budget Billing**, you can smooth out those ups and downs and enjoy a more consistent monthly bill.



Here's how it works:

1. You must be a Marietta Power and Water residential customer.
2. Have been in good standing for 12 months.
3. Commit to the Budget Billing Program for 12 months.

Your monthly budget billing amount is based on the average of your actual charges for the last 12 months. This average will be the set amount of your bill every month for 12 consecutive months. On your annual sign-up date (12th bill), your account will be credited for any overpayment made, or a charge for the difference owed will be reflected on that bill. The application process is fast and easy.

To sign up for budget billing, complete the online form on our website. Visit MariettaGA.Gov/FormCenter/Power-Water-8/Budget-Billing-Application-53. Fill out the form and click submit. If you have any questions about the program, please call Marietta Power and Water's Customer Service Department at (770) 794-5150. ☀

Protect Yourself Against Utility Scams

Scammers often take advantage of extreme heat or cold, when customers rely on electricity the most.

They may call, text, or even show up at your door, claiming your bill is overdue and threatening to shut off service unless you pay immediately.

These criminals can be very convincing. They may wear uniforms, use official-sounding language, or even send fake bills. But there are clear warning signs to help you spot a scam:

- **Unusual Payment Requests:** If someone asks you to pay with a wire transfer, digital wallet app, prepaid debit card, or even gift cards, it's not legitimate.
- **High-Pressure Tactics:** Scammers try to create panic by demanding payment within minutes. Real utility representatives will never rush or threaten you.
- **Suspicious Visits:** A genuine employee will not appear unannounced and demand entry. Always confirm any visit with your utility company.



What to Do:

If you suspect a scam, hang up immediately or shut the door. Call Marietta Power and Water's Customer Service Department at (770) 794-5150 to verify your account status. Never rely on the caller's phone number or a suspicious notice.

Staying alert can help protect your household from fraud—and keep your utility service safe and secure. ☀

Calendar of Events

Saturday, October 18

HarvestFest

Glover Park

9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Marietta's HarvestFest is an annual festival held each October. The festival includes the HarvestFest Arts & Crafts Show, Pie Eating Contest, Touch-A-Truck, Scarecrows In The Square, Big Chicken Cornerback's Coop, Costume Contest, and Halloween Happenings kid's festival.

Event Schedule:

HarvestFest Market & Halloween Happenings

Kid's Festival: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Big Chicken Cornerback's Coop: Bring your chairs, food, and drinks from one of our local merchants, and join our college football watch party!

Scarecrows In The Square: Competition will be displayed throughout the park during the festival.

HarvestFest Market: Handmade Arts & Crafts
The HarvestFest Market draws exhibitors from the southern states, including many local vendors, showcasing and selling their handmade arts & crafts.

5th Annual Pie Eating Contest: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
In the grand tradition of Fall Festivals, this year's event will feature a Pie-Eating Contest for ages six and up!

- Mini Munchers (ages 6 to 12) at 11:30 a.m.
- Competitive Chompers (13 and up) at Noon

Touch-A-Truck:

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Festival-goers of all ages will enjoy this portion of the event. Many City of Marietta vehicles, such as fire trucks, police cars, tractors, tow trucks, and more, will be displayed for an up-close experience.

Halloween Happenings Kid's Festival:

All-day fun. Calling all kids to come dressed in their favorite costume with a trick-or-treat bag! Halloween Happenings is a kid's festival for children ages 12 and younger. Carnival games, inflatable houses, candy, and other special activities make this a safe and fun fall event.

Costume Contest:

2 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Come dressed in your best handmade costume! The contest will feature our youngest contestants at 2 p.m. at the Glover Park Stage.

Categories for the contest are:

- 1st-3rd Place Age Group Winners: 1 year old and younger, 2 to 3 years old, 4 to 6 years old, 7 to 8 years old, 9 to 10 years old, and 11 to 12 years old.
- 1st-3rd Group category: (groups are a minimum of 2 contestants of any age).
- Pet Costume Contest: 3 p.m.
- Overall: The show will close with an Overall Grand

For a complete list of City of Marietta events, please visit MariettaGA.gov and click on Calendar of Events.

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