

## HUMAN RESOURCE COUNCIL PHONE NUMBERS

Please contact your local Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) for more details about assistance programs.

<b>BILLINGS</b> District VII HRDC	(406) 247-4778 (800) 433-1411
<b>BOZEMAN</b> District IX HRDC	(406) 587-4486 (800) 332-2796
<b>BUTTE</b> Action Inc.	(406) 533-6855 (800) 382-1325
<b>CONRAD</b> North Central Area on Aging	(406) 271-7553
<b>GREAT FALLS</b> Opportunities Inc.	(406) 761-0310 (800) 326-0955
<b>HAVRE</b> District IV HRDC	(406) 265-6743 (800) 640-6743
<b>HELENA</b> Rocky Mountain Development Council	(406) 447-1625 (800) 356-6544
<b>KALISPELL</b> Community Action Partnership	(406) 758-5433 (800) 344-5979
<b>LEWISTOWN</b> District 6 HRDC	(406) 535-7488 (800) 766-3018
<b>MALTA/GLASGOW</b> Action for Eastern Montana	(406) 377-3564 (800) 227-0703
<b>MISSOULA</b> Human Resource Council	(406) 728-3710

## Budget Billing

With Budget Billing from NorthWestern Energy, you don't have to worry about your natural gas and electric bills fluctuating like the weather does.

Budget Billing amounts are calculated based upon your past 12 months of usage and the rates currently in effect. Changes may be necessary in your Budget Billing amount due to an increase or decrease in your usage patterns and/or the rates in effect. Budget Billing is available no matter what the customer's income. Your bill must be paid in full for you to be eligible.

## Energy Efficiency Resources

For NorthWestern Energy customers who do not qualify for the Free Weatherization Program, NorthWestern Energy offers our Efficiency Plus (E+) Energy Audit for the Home. Some qualifications may apply. Customers receive customized information about where their energy dollar is going and how to better manage energy costs. Some measures to start saving energy right away may be installed. Homes may only be audited once under this program and homes must be five years or older.

Contact us for energy audit information:

📞 (800) 823-5995

🌐 [NorthWesternEnergy.com/Audit](http://NorthWesternEnergy.com/Audit)

Don't forget our Online Energy Efficiency Tools – You may be surprised at what is available to help you make smart energy saving decisions. Visit [NorthWesternEnergy.com/Eplus](http://NorthWesternEnergy.com/Eplus) for more great tips and ideas to help you with your home energy improvement projects.

Visit us  
Online



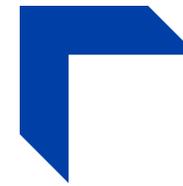
**DeVonne K.**  
Supervisor Care Center  
17 years of service

[NorthWesternEnergy.com/Eplus](http://NorthWesternEnergy.com/Eplus)



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## Energy Assistance and You

2019-2020

**NorthWestern**  
Energy

**E+** Efficiency  
Plus

## Introduction

Many Montanans are eligible for assistance to meet their energy needs but may not be receiving that help. NorthWestern Energy customers whose income meets certain guidelines may qualify for help with energy bills and measures to make their homes warmer and more efficient. NorthWestern Energy provides funds for the electric and natural gas bill discounts, Free Weatherization, and Energy Share through the Universal System Benefits Charge collected from Montana electric and natural gas customers. The Free Weatherization program is designed as a partnership between the utility and the State of Montana to help Montana citizens with their heating costs. In addition to utility funds, Energy Share also receives public donations to support its emergency energy assistance services.

## Income Guidelines

Generally, a household income falling within the guidelines below qualifies for help with home heating and energy bills. If you, or someone you know, have an annual income that is close to these guidelines, we encourage you to contact your local Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) office for more details on how to apply. Application forms for these programs may be available through your local NorthWestern Energy office and through other resources in your community, such as a senior citizen center or public library.

2019/2020 INCOME GUIDELINES	
Family Size	Income Not More Than
One	\$25,248
Two	\$33,017
Three	\$40,785
Four	\$48,554
Five	\$56,323
Six	\$64,091
Seven	\$65,548
Eight	\$67,005

## Low Income Energy Assistance Programs (LIEAP)

The federally funded LIEAP is available to persons who may not otherwise be able to afford to heat their homes or apartments during the winter. Between the months of October and April, customers may apply through their local HRDC office. Based upon income and heating costs, LIEAP payments are made on qualifying customers' accounts during the winter months. This reduces the amount a customer will have to pay for heating their home.

## Free Weatherization

Qualifying for LIEAP may mean that the home you rent or own can be weatherized at **NO COST** to you. Weatherizing your home can save you energy and money. An energy audit will be performed on your home to identify possible improvements to your home which may include:

- Perform an efficiency inspection on your furnaces, boilers and water heater.
- Install insulation as needed in the attic, walls, crawl space and floors.
- Seal air leaks.
- Wrap hot-water heaters and install water-saving shower heads and faucet aerators.
- Perform other safety and energy efficiency activities.

Also, homes heated with electricity from NorthWestern Energy may be switched to natural gas space and water heating.

A limited number of homes are weatherized each year. Weatherization of homes is based upon energy consumption, financial need and available funding. It is possible that it may take some time before your home is weatherized once you are qualified. Call your local HRDC office for more details.

## NorthWestern Energy Bill Discount

If you qualify for LIEAP, NorthWestern's low-income electric and natural gas discount is automatically made to the account for which you receive LIEAP assistance. The bill discount is in addition to the LIEAP payment. The discount begins with the next bill after we receive notice of your LIEAP eligibility. You may apply for LIEAP October 1 and we **encourage you to apply as early in the season as possible.**

## Energy Share



In a heating emergency? Energy Share, a non-profit organization, may be able to help provide a temporary boost to get you over an emergency situation such as a furnace going out, losing a job, or high medical bills. Help is distributed on the basis of need rather than on the type

of fuel – electricity, fuel oil, natural gas, propane or wood – the recipient uses. You may apply at your local HRDC office.