



No two days look the same for NorthWestern Energy Community Relations Manager Paul Babb, and that’s how he likes it.

“Our job is to be the customer’s advocate,” Paul said. “Whether it’s a residential customer, a business owner, a community leader or a government official, we help people navigate NorthWestern Energy and ensure they have the information they need.”

In his role, Paul serves as a bridge between NorthWestern and the local community. Whether he’s communicating about planned outages, supporting economic development or working with large customers such as hospitals, universities and manufacturers, his focus is building relationships and finding solutions.

A Montana Tech graduate with a degree in Technical Communications, Paul spent eight years in local government before joining NorthWestern. The role combined his passion for communication with the relationships he had built throughout southwest Montana.

“It’s all about relationships,” he said. “When you have strong relationships and communicate well, it makes everything easier.”

One of Paul’s favorite parts of his job is seeing NorthWestern Energy make a meaningful difference in local communities. Earlier this year, the company donated \$10,000 to help the Butte Family YMCA replace failed pool boilers, allowing the pool to reopen after several weeks of closure. Paul has served on the YMCA Board of Directors for more than 14 years, and many NorthWestern Energy employees are members and volunteer as youth coaches.

Paul also serves on the Special Olympics Montana Board of Directors, where he sees firsthand how community partnerships can create lasting impact.

Paul’s recipe for the month is Pomodoro sauce, a fun, simple and healthy recipe he discovered years ago in Runner’s World that quickly became a family favorite.



Pomodoro Sauce

INGREDIENTS

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 3 garlic cloves, crushed
- 3 16-ounce cans peeled, whole Italian plum tomatoes, such as San Marzano
- 1 teaspoon Sicilian oregano (optional)
- 1 teaspoon salt, or to taste
- 1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

POMODORO SAUCE DIRECTIONS

- Heat oil in a saucepan over medium. Add garlic and sauté until golden brown, about three minutes.
- While garlic browns, pour tomatoes into a bowl. Squeeze with your hands to break tomatoes up. This is a fun way to get your kids involved.
- Add tomatoes and their juice to the saucepan. Add oregano, if using, salt and pepper.
- Simmer on low for 45 minutes. Add a little water if needed to keep sauce from becoming too thick. The sauce should be bright red; if the sauce turns brick red, the sauce is too thick.

TO MAKE PASTA POMODORO

- Simmer pomodoro sauce on low.
- Add one pound of pasta to a pot of boiling, salted water.
- Two minutes before the pasta is cooked, remove pasta from water and add to sauce.
- Cook until tender, allowing pasta to absorb sauce. Add a little pasta water if needed to keep sauce liquid.
- Drizzle with olive oil. Sprinkle with Italian cheese, such as Grana Padano. Garnish with basil. Serves six.

CONTACT US

MONTANA	
Customer Contact Center	888-467-2669
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NEBRASKA AND SOUTH DAKOTA	
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NorthWesternEnergy.com



We are proud of the diversity in the communities we serve. To better serve the needs of some of our customers, we translate important customer information into two languages: Spanish and Karenic. To request translated customer information, please contact us at the numbers listed above.

Estamos orgullosos de la diversidad en las comunidades a las que servimos. Para satisfacer mejor las necesidades de algunos de nuestros clientes, traducimos información importante del cliente a dos idiomas: español y karénico (Karen). Para solicitar información traducida del cliente, contáctenos a los números indicados arriba.

ပသးခုဒီးပင်ကမာလာဘဉ်ပသးလာ ပမာစာဘဉ်ပာကမ္မာဂ်ဖိအါကလုင်အါဉ် လာအအိဉ်လာ လီကဝီဖဲအံနုဉ်လီ။ ဒ်သီးပမာစာဘဉ်သုကအါထီဉ်အဂီၢ်, ပကွဲးလီလင်ကတိကျိဉ်ထံ တၢ်စုၢ်အရုဒိဉ်တဖဉ်ဆူ (Spanish)စပဲနးအကျိဉ် ဒီး (Karen)ကညီကျိဉ် နုဉ်လီ။ သုမုၢ်လိဉ်ဘဉ်လိဉ်လာ ပာကွဲးကျိဉ်ထံ အံၤဖဲဒီး, ဝံသးစုၢ်သးကျိးပာသုဖဲ လိတဲခိနီၢ်ဂံၢ် ဒ်အအိဉ်ပျါလာတၢ်ဖိခိဉ် အသီးနုဉ်လီ။

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Energy Connections

Customer Bill Insert
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In this issue: Control you renergy | Energy saving tips
We’re here to help | Pomodoro Sauce recipe



Bright ideas to save

Back-to-School

Don't just close the lid, power it down! Turning off laptops and tablets when they're not in use helps save energy.

Control your energy

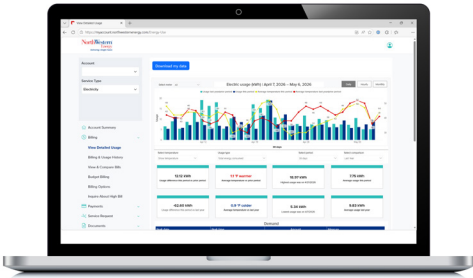
Detailed energy usage

We now offer tools to help you understand and manage your energy with a new detailed usage tool within your My Energy Account. This tool allows you to:

- View your natural gas and electric usage data by hour, day, week or month.
- Compare energy consumption to daily temperatures.
- Identify patterns and trends in your energy consumption.

How do I view my detailed energy usage?

- Login to My Energy Account.
- Select “Billing” from the menu.
- Click “View Detailed Usage.”



- Select whether you want to see data by day, hour or month.
- Select the time period for which you want to see your data.
- Selected a comparison time period.
- You can also choose to show temperature.
- Or you can download your data using the blue button at the top left.

*Net metering customers will have additional tools that will allow them to see how much energy they export to the grid and how much they consume.

Check out our new video to see how you can turn your energy usage data into savings opportunities!



Save energy this fall and winter with these tips

Preparing your home for winter

It might not feel like it yet, but winter is coming, which means now is the perfect time to start thinking about preparing your home for the change in seasons to help you not only save energy but also keep you and your family safe.

Colder weather, shorter days and increased heating use can all contribute to higher energy bills during the winter months. Taking a few simple steps this fall can help improve your home's energy efficiency and keep energy costs under control.

Why energy bills often increase in fall and winter

Heating is typically the largest contributor to seasonal energy use. Even if you leave your thermostat at the same setting, your heating system must work harder when outdoor temperatures fall.

Other common factors that can increase energy use in the fall and winter include:

- Shorter daylight hours that require more indoor lighting
- Hosting family and guests
- Engine block heaters
- Space heaters
- Heated garages
- Hot tubs
- Heat lamps for animals or heated water troughs

Five ways to improve winter energy efficiency

1. Check your insulation - insulation helps keep warm air inside during the winter and outside during the summer. Cold walls and floors can be signs that your home needs additional insulation.

2. Schedule a heating system inspection - a well-maintained furnace operates more efficiently and safely. If you can't remember the last time your furnace was inspected, it's probably time to schedule a checkup. Experts recommend having furnaces, natural gas appliances, vents, flues, chimneys and gas lines inspected regularly by a qualified professional. Also, stock up on furnace filters and replace them monthly during the heating season.

3. Seal air leaks - inspect doors and windows for drafts. If you can see daylight around frames or feel cold air entering your home, seal leaks with caulk, weatherstripping or a door sweep. Small fixes can add up to meaningful energy savings.

4. Use your thermostat wisely - set your thermostat as low as is comfortable when you're home and awake. Lowering the temperature while you're sleeping or away from home can help reduce heating costs throughout the winter.

5. Make the most of natural heat and light - open curtains on south-facing windows during sunny winter days to let the sun help warm your home. Close curtains at night to reduce heat loss. If windows are particularly drafty, consider installing insulating drapes or applying clear plastic window film for added protection.

We're here to help

If you're concerned about higher seasonal energy bills, we're here to help. Programs and options may be available to help manage energy costs, including:



Budget Billing for a more predictable monthly bill year-round



Payment Assistance Programs for qualifying customers



Payment Arrangements for eligible accounts

Visit our website, log in to your My Energy Account, or call Customer Service at 800-245-6977 to learn more about available options.

A little preparation now can help improve comfort, reduce energy waste, and keep winter energy costs in check all season long.