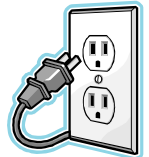


You are in Control of Your Water & Electric Bill

The Stratford Water & Electric Department receives many phone calls each month with questions about local utility bills.

Your monthly bill is comprised of up to three services — water, electric, and sewer — depending on your location in the village. The amount of electricity and water you use is the single largest factor to your monthly utility bill and is the one factor you can control.

Let's talk specifically about electricity! While many of the appliances and electronic devices we have in our homes require only small amounts of electricity to operate, some appliances — such as your clothes dryer — are more energy intensive. By controlling how often and for how long you use your energy intensive items, you can make a difference in your monthly usage.



Houseguests or additional family members living in your home mean more laundry, more cooking, and extended use of other electronic devices.

In the summer, you may cook less, use your lighting for shorter periods of time, and use your air conditioner or fans. Winter months bring shorter days and longer nights, which means you'll have more indoor activity and use more energy.

The number of days in your billing cycle may vary slightly from month to month. The more days you've used energy, the higher your usage and your electric bill will be.

A few suggestions to reduce the amount of electricity used by your household:

- ⇒ Turn off the television when nobody's watching.
- ⇒ Unplug chargers for cell phones, MP3 players and coffeepots — they can add 5% to your electric bill.
- ⇒ Replace the incandescent light bulbs in your home with compact fluorescent lights (CFL). CFL's use 75% less energy and can last up to 10 times longer.
- ⇒ Only run full loads when using the dishwasher, washing machine and clothes dryer. You should also clean the lint trap from your dryer after each cycle.

More seasonal energy savings tips can be found at www.focusonenergy.com.

The Stratford Water & Electric utility recently applied to the Public Service Commission for an electric rate review. The PSC will review the request and make a final determination on how the local rates will be affected.

The main emphasis of the rate review is to re-structure the local electric rates to level off the Power Cost Adjustment Charge (shown as the PCAC on your monthly bill). The PCAC fluctuates each month and reflects the difference between the local electric rate and the monthly charge for power purchased from Wisconsin Public Service.

After the PSC's review, local utility customers will be notified in advance of any change in the rates. You may contact Roseann Johnson at 687-4166 if you have any questions regarding the proposed electric rate review.



Is Your Contact Information Current?

Have you given up your land line and switched to cell phones? The Stratford Water & Electric Dept. has had difficulty contacting residents using the contact information on file. (In most cases, the local "687" phone number has been disconnected.) If you have recently made the switch to a cell phone, please contact the Water & Electric office to update your information. The utility office will attempt to notify customers when a water or power outage is planned or if we notice an unusually high meter reading.

Contact Roseann Johnson at 687-4166 or by email at stratfordutility@fibernetcc.com to update your contact information. You may also make a note on the payment stub when paying your monthly Water & Electric bill.

Stratford Branch Library News

The Library writes a new chapter in convenience, offering pre-loaded *Playaways*, digital audio books to patrons. Each palm-sized unit is permanently loaded with an audio book to make listening as simple as pressing "PLAY".

Half the size of a deck of cards, *Playaway* is the simplest way to listen to a book on the go. With no tapes or CDs, each *Playaway* can hold as little as two or as many as eighty hours of content on each unit. Using clearly marked buttons, *Playaway* gives listeners the ability to move back and forth within or between chapters and alter the speed of a narrator's voice. Additionally, *Playaway* has a universal headphone jack that works with almost any type of headphone or mobility accessory. With many titles available for check-out, you provide a AAA battery and your own headphones.

For more information about *Playaways* at Stratford Branch Library, please contact the library at 687-4420 or visit the Marathon County Library website at www.mcpl.us.

Stratford Library Hours

Monday 10:00 am — 5:00 pm

Tuesday 1:00 — 8:00 pm

Wednesday 10:00 am — 5:00 pm

Thursday 1:00 — 5:00 pm

Friday 1:00 — 5:00 pm



Is Your Street Light Out?

If you notice a street light out, you can report it by leaving a message at the Public Works shop, 687-4118. Provide your name and address and a location of the street light needing service. *Thanks!*

Frequently Requested Phone Numbers

Energy Services 715-842-3111
(heating season assistance for low-income residents)

Building Permit Request (Jerry Frodl) 687-4118

Burning Permit Request (Dale Heil) 687-2110

First Call for Information Dial 2-1-1
(or 715-848-2255 or 1-800-922-5590)

Marathon County Courthouse 1-800-236-0153

Record Review (local newspaper) 223-2341

Stratford Branch Library 687-4420

Stratford Post Office 687-4140

Veolia Environmental 387-3101
(residential garbage and recycling service)

WE Energies 1-800-662-4797
(local natural gas provider)



--- **Clip & Save** ---

Village Facilities are Popular Gathering Places



The Village of Stratford is proud to have parks and facilities available for public use. Klemme Park, the Community Hall and Klemme Reserve are very popular sites for family gatherings, class reunions, birthday parties, and events of all sorts. Village residents may rent the facilities for a \$25.00 daily fee — non-residents are charged \$50.00 per day. A \$25.00 refundable deposit is also collected with the reservation. Each facility includes indoor and covered serving and seating areas and a stove and refrigerator. The parks have playground equipment and lawn space for outdoor activities. Klemme Reserve has a heated pavilion and is available for winter rentals.

Dates are already being booked for 2009. Reservations can be made by calling the Village offices during business hours to first confirm availability. A brief description of each facility and the Rental Agreement can be obtained by visiting the Village/Chamber website at www.stratfordwi.com. Click the [Parks and Facilities](#) link under the [Village Government](#) tab.



How is Your Tax Dollar Spent?



The Village of Stratford collected over \$1.6 million dollars in property taxes for the 2007 tax year. Taxes assessed to local property owners support the services of several areas of government.

This is how each of your 2007 tax dollars were allocated:

State of Wisconsin	.87%
Northcentral Technical College	9.50%
Village of Stratford	24.81%
Marathon County	27.52%
Stratford School District	<u>37.30%</u>
	100.00%

VILLAGE OF STRATFORD

265 North 3rd Avenue, P.O. Box 12

Stratford, WI 54484-0012

www.stratfordwi.com

Clerk / Treasurer	687-4166
Police Dept. (non-emergency)	687-3131
Water & Electric Dept. (billing)	687-4166
Water & Electric / Public Works Shop	687-4118