

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
OF THE CITY OF STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI
FEBRUARY 28, 2025**

Be it remembered that the Mayor and members of the Board of Aldermen met in a Work Session on Friday, February 28, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. in the second-floor conference room of City Hall located at 110 West Main Street, Starkville, MS. Present were Mayor Lynn Spruill, Alderwoman Kim Moreland, Alderwoman Sandra Sistrunk, Alderman Jeffrey Rupp, Alderman Mike Brooks and Alderman Henry Vaughn. City Attorney Berk Huskison and City Clerk / CFO Lesa Hardin were also present.

Mayor Spruill opened the work session. The work session was properly noticed pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §25-41-13 and a copy of that notice is included in the minutes. The work session was live streamed on Facebook. The public and media were welcomed and attended. The session is also available for viewing on the City website.

Eric Smith, Jeff Martin and Keith Johnson of Ingram Equipment Company presented information regarding the availability of refuse trucks and equipment along with funding options. Chris Smiley presented the current ages of the fleet and the need for some replacements in the near future.

Utilities Director Edward Kemp gave an overview of the Smart Hub System available to utility customers. It features an alert system for notification to a customer should their usage exceed an average thus making the customer aware of potentially high future bills. There are many other features that the public are encouraged to explore.

The Mayor and members of the Board discussed items on the upcoming March 4, 2025 agenda. Department Directors were available to answer questions related to the items. All agenda items were discussed. Mayor Spruill then closed the work session.

SIGNED AND SEALED THIS THE 18th DAY OF MARCH, 2025.

MAYOR D. LYNN SPRUILL

Attest:

Seal

LESA HARDIN, CITY CLERK/CFO



**THERE WILL BE A WORK SESSION OF THE
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN ON
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2025.**

**AT 11:00 AM IN THE STARKVILLE CITY HALL
LOCATED AT 110 WEST MAIN STREET
IN THE SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

The public and media are invited to attend.

The City of Starkville is accessible to persons with disabilities. Please call the ADA Coordinator at (662) 323-2525 ext. 3119, in advance for any services requested.



WORK SESSION

CITY OF STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

FEBRUARY 28, 2025

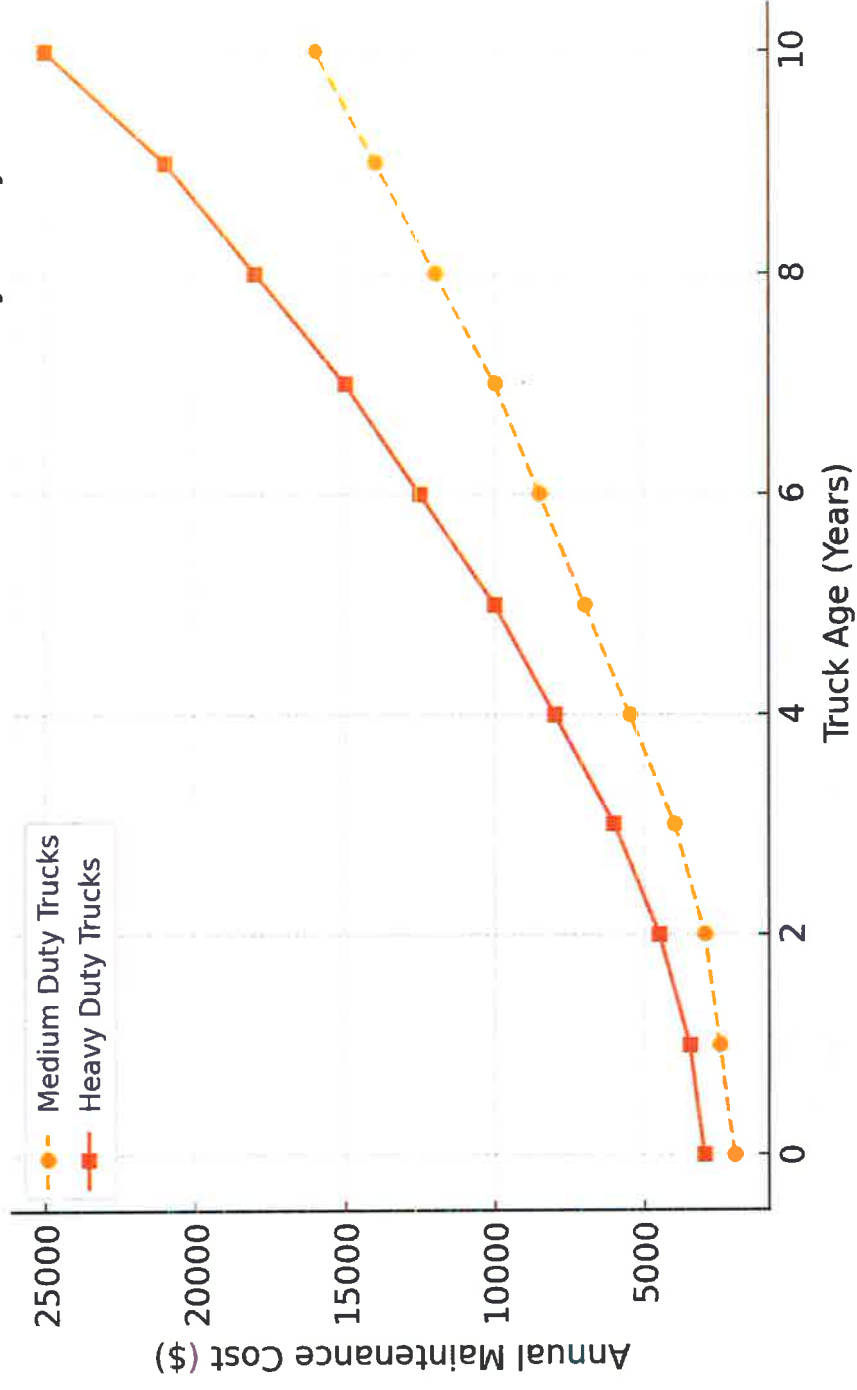
11:00 a.m.

- A. CALL THE WORK SESSION TO ORDER**
- B. INFORMATION FROM ERIC SMITH OF INGRAM EQUIPMENT COMPANY REGARDING THE SANITATION DEPARTMENT TRUCK AVAILABILITY AND FUNDING OPTIONS**
- C. INFORMATION FROM EDWARD KEMP ON THE SMART HUB SYSTEM AND ITS ATTRIBUTES FOR CUSTOMERS**
- D. DISCUSSION OF THE AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE MARCH 4, 2025 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN FOR THE CITY OF STARKVILLE.**
- E. ADJOURN MEETING**

Maintenance Costs: Medium & Heavy Duty Trucks

- Maintenance costs for medium and heavy-duty trucks tend to increase as the vehicles age, influenced by factors such as mileage, usage patterns, and maintenance practices. Here's an overview of how these costs evolve over time:
- **Early Years (Years 1-3):**
- **Lower Maintenance Costs:** Newer trucks generally incur minimal maintenance expenses, primarily limited to routine services like oil changes and tire rotations.
- **Predictable Expenses:** With most components under warranty, unexpected repair costs are rare during this period.
- **Mid Lifecycle (Years 4-6):**
- **Increasing Maintenance Needs:** As trucks age, components begin to wear, leading to more frequent repairs and part replacements.
- **Cost Escalation:** Studies indicate a significant rise in maintenance costs between the third and fourth year. For instance, fleets adopting a three-year lifecycle could save approximately \$42,830 in maintenance and repair costs per truck compared to a seven-year lifecycle.
- [Trucking Info](#)
- **Later Years (Years 7 and Beyond):**
- **High Maintenance Expenditure:** Older trucks often require extensive repairs, including major engine and transmission overhauls.
- **Increased Downtime:** The frequency of breakdowns may rise, leading to more downtime and impacting operational efficiency.

Maintenance Costs for Medium and Heavy Duty Trucks



Garbage Truck Monthly Payments



Rearloader

Lease amount

\$277,500.00

Lease rate

5.500 %

Residual amount

\$130,000.00

Lease term

3 ☐ Months ☒ Years

Number of advance payments

0

Show payment schedule

COMPUTE

Calculator Results

Your lease payment will be \$5,049.73.

Automated Sideloader

Lease amount

\$425,000.00

Lease rate

5.500 %

Residual amount

\$220,000.00

Lease term

1 ☐ Months ☒ Years

Number of advance payments

0

Show payment schedule

COMPUTE

Calculator Results

Your lease payment will be \$7,198.49.



Starkville
UTILITIES

W.E. CONNECT

SED



Starkville UTILITIES

Board of Aldermen
Work Session
February 28, 2025



AGENDA

- Why are my utility bills so HIGH??
- Payment options and strategies
- Tools for customers to manage their utility bills
- Energy Audits & Workshops
- Communication and Outreach efforts
- SmartHub demonstration



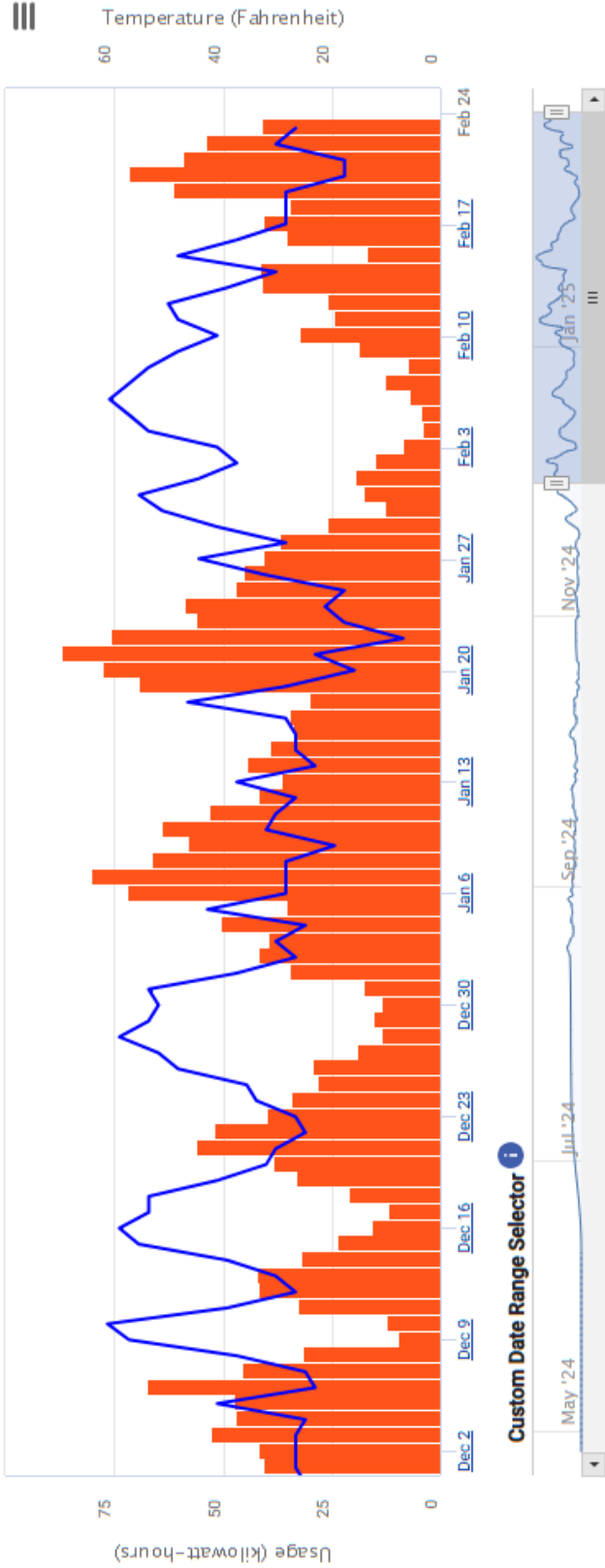
Why are my Bills so HIGH???

Usage Explorer

DAILY USAGE - 12/01/2024 - 02/25/2025

Customer Since: December 1, 2022

 Daily usage is only available for a portion of the selected date range.



Meter: 21409032 - kWh
Display: ☒ 

Display: ☐ High Temp  ☐ Average Temp  ☒ Low Temp 

Takeaways

Weather is primary influence on utility (electric) bills

- January 9: 19°
- January 22: 7°



PAYMENT OPTIONS AND STRATEGIES

Budget Billing (Formerly known as Levelized Billing)

- Single amount
- Based on 12 months of usage
- Recalculated in January and July each year
- Prints advance notice on bill for recalculation
- Must have \$0.00 balance and 12 months of history

Partnership with local churches and organizations

- Contact Prairie Opportunity, Helping Hands, local churches, or other organizations for utility bill assistance
- Require pledge letter with name, account number, and amount to be paid on organization letterhead

Extensions

- Four extensions are allowed per calendar year
- Customers must apply for an extension on or before the due date, application can be done online or in person
- Allows 14 days from the due date to make payment

Pick a due date

- Allows customers to pick a date from any cycle for account to be drafted
- Available Dates: 4th, 12th, 22nd, 27th



TOOLS TO MANAGE YOUR UTILITY BILL

Alerts and Notifications

Bill Available Notification

- Notification sent via email or text or both
- Notification that your bill is ready to view
- No more waiting on mail delivery

Delinquent Notice

- Notification sent via email or text or both
- Notification that your account is past due

Courtesy Call for Pending Disconnect

- Automated Phone call two days prior to disconnect date
- Notification to allow you time to pay to avoid interruption of service

Your Electric Bill is Available

John Smith,

Your bill is available for the following account:

Account: 123456
Service Location: 1234 Easy ST
Service Description: Mobile Home

Amount: \$120.00
Due Date: Feb 25, 2025
Paid With: Draft Type
Draft Date: Feb 25, 2025

Pay Now

100%

USAGE EXPLORER

Quick Date Range

Interval

▼

Interval

OR

▼

Usage Type

Usage

▼

Start Date

01/17/2025 12:00 AM

Usage

▼

End Date

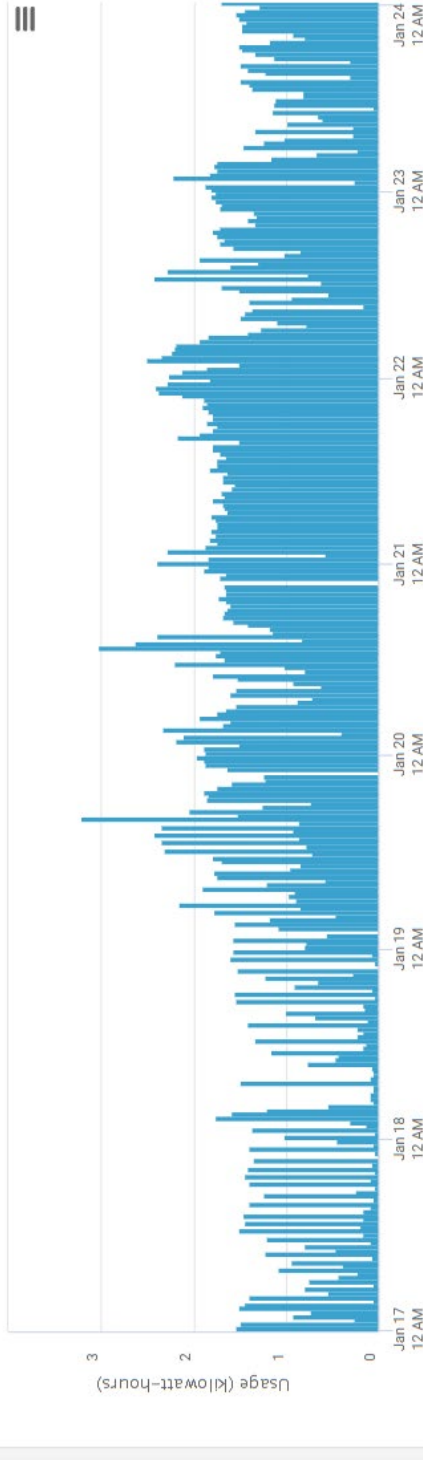
01/24/2025 12:00 AM

Meter

21409032

INTERVAL USAGE - 01/17/2025 12 AM - 01/24/2025 12 AM

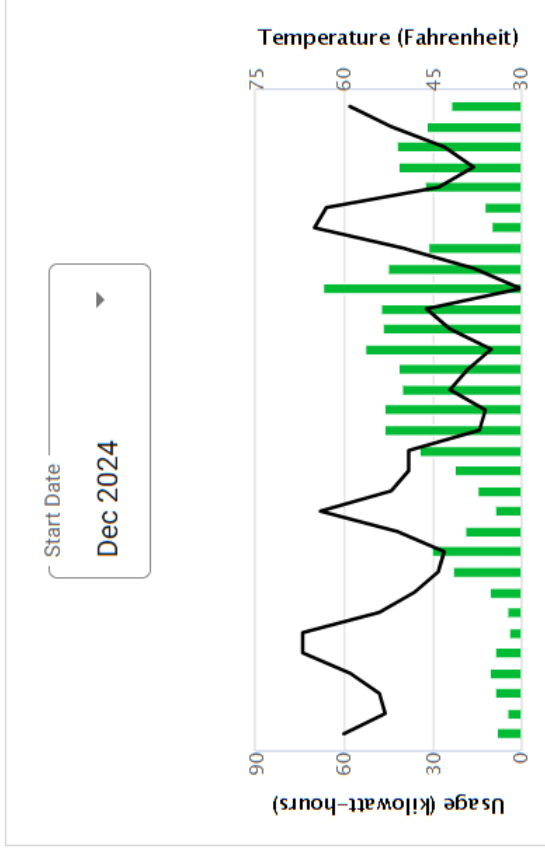
INTERVAL USAGE - 01/17/2025 12 AM - 01/24/2025 12 AM





TOOLS TO MANAGE YOUR UTILITY BILL

Usage Comparison



Takeaways

- Helps identify changes from prior month or prior year
- Can graph temperature to understand how hot and cold extreme days can impact usage
- Tabular format for more historical data



TOOLS TO MANAGE YOUR UTILITY BILL

Usage Alerts

Usage Alert Notification

- Can receive via email or text or both
- Notification usage threshold has been exceeded
- Helps understand higher usage real-time

Usage Alert   x

sud-noreply@smarthub.coop
to me ▼

You have the following usage alerts:

1. Account 113951001 with meter 21413102 had usage of 30.609997 at 2/23/25 12:00 AM - 2/24/25 12:00 AM.

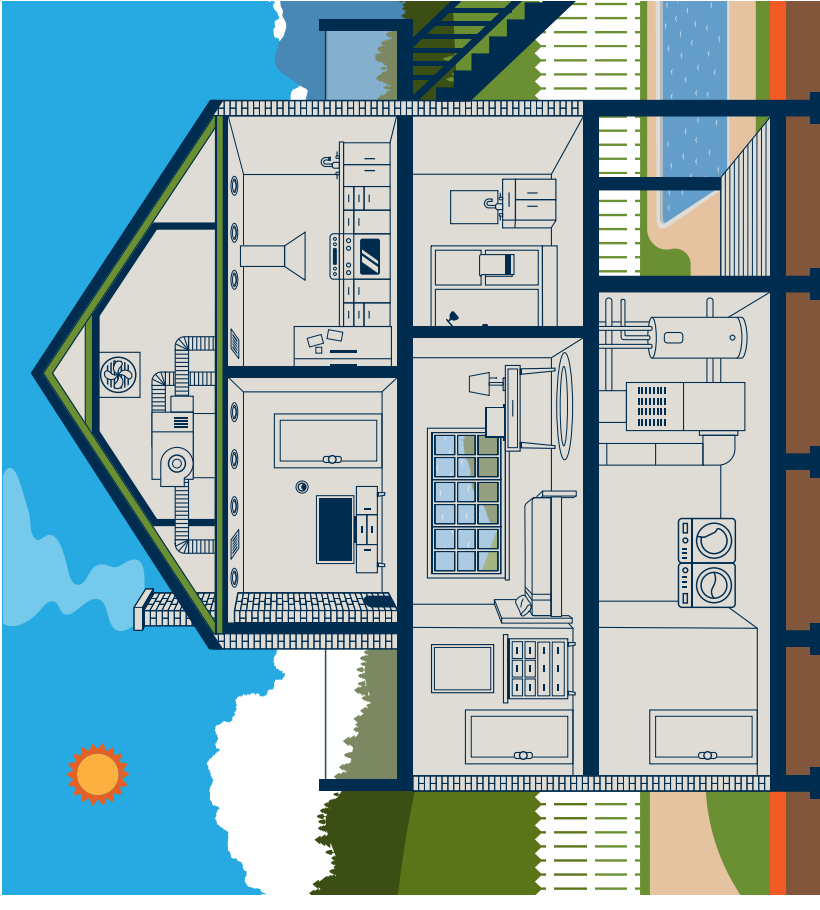
Starkville Utilities
Account [123456](#) with meter
[123456](#) had usage of [13.3](#) at
1/31/14 9:12 AM - 1/31/14 10:12
AM.



ENERGY AUDITS

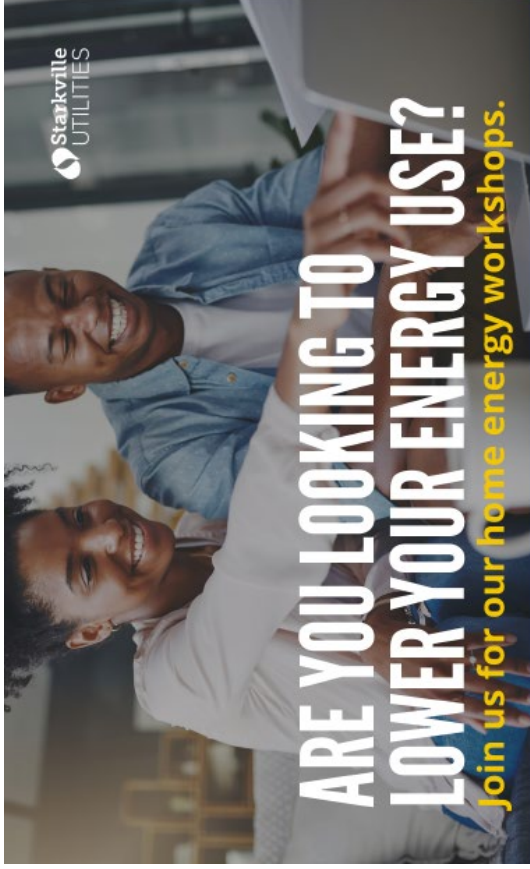
Opportunities for Customers to evaluate their home energy usage

- Do-it-Yourself Home Energy Audit
 - Self paced online assessment
 - Participants receive \$10 Home Depot gift card and Free home energy savings kit.
 - <https://energyright.com/residential/services/home-energy-assessment/>
- Home Energy Evaluation
 - Performed by Home Energy Advisor
 - No cost to customer
 - Provide detailed home energy savings report
 - Call 855-237-2673 to schedule the appointment





ENERGY WORKSHOPS



- Typically held in Spring and Fall
- 60 minutes
- Opportunity to learn ways to save \$\$\$ on your utility bill
- Each participant receives a home energy kit (Valued at \$40)
- Upcoming workshops: April 8 – 10

TUESDAY, APRIL 8		223 Dr. MLK Jr Dr. W
6 PM – 7 PM	Peter's Rock COGIC	
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9		
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Needmore Center	610 E Gillespie St
1 PM – 2 PM	Needmore Center	610 E Gillespie St
5 PM – 5:45 PM	First Methodist Church	200 W. Lampkin St
THURSDAY, APRIL 10		
10 AM – 11 AM	GTPDD/AARP Senior Group	106 Miley Dr
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Sportsplex Annex Bldg	401 Lynn Lane
11 PM – 2 PM	Sportsplex Annex Bldg	401 Lynn Lane
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	Episcopal Church	105 N. Montgomery St.

Think about your grocery bill and energy choices

ground beef or steak?

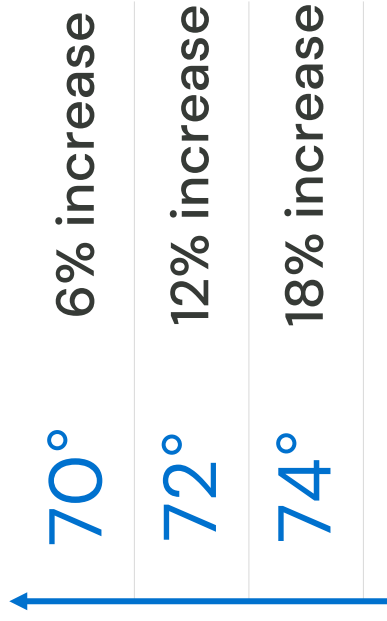


vs.

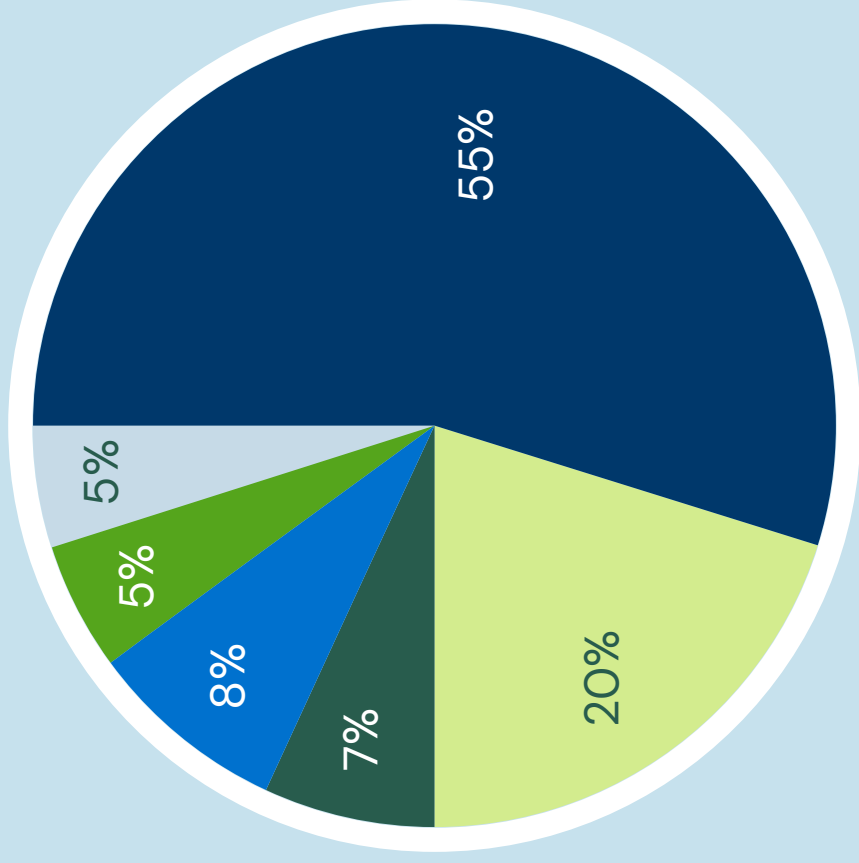




WINTER



Home Energy Consumption Breakdown



- Heating & Air Conditioning – 55%
- Water Heating – 20%
- Laundry & Dishwashing – 7%
- Lighting & Misc. – 8%
- Refrigerator & Freezer – 5%
- Cooking – 5%



COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

PO Box 927
200 North Lafayette St
Starkville, MS 39760-0927
Phone: 662-323-3133
Lobby Hours: 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. Monday - Friday
Drive Thru Hours: 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Monday - Friday
email: support@starkvilleutilities.com

Billing Summary

Previous Balance	\$191.27
Payment Received - Thank You!	-\$191.27
Balance Forward	\$0.00

Service Summary

	Past Due	Current	Total
 Electric	\$0.00	\$116.62	\$116.62
 Water	\$0.00	\$10.76	\$10.76
 Sewer	\$0.00	\$10.76	\$10.76
 Sanitation	\$0.00	\$21.00	\$21.00

Total Charges Due By 03/12/2025	\$0.00	\$159.14	\$159.14
AutoPay on 03/12/2025			\$159.14



Message Center

Brrr, January was cold! Starkville Utilities' bills a month behind, which means extra-cold days from January and February made a big impact. If your bill is higher, it's likely due to freezing temperatures this month and last month that drove up heating costs across the region.

When extreme weather strikes, SmartHub can help. Our convenient account system lets you track your energy consumption and make adjustments in real time. The more features you use, the more time and money you can save.

Take control today with SmartHub
><https://www.starkvilleutilities.com/smarthub/>

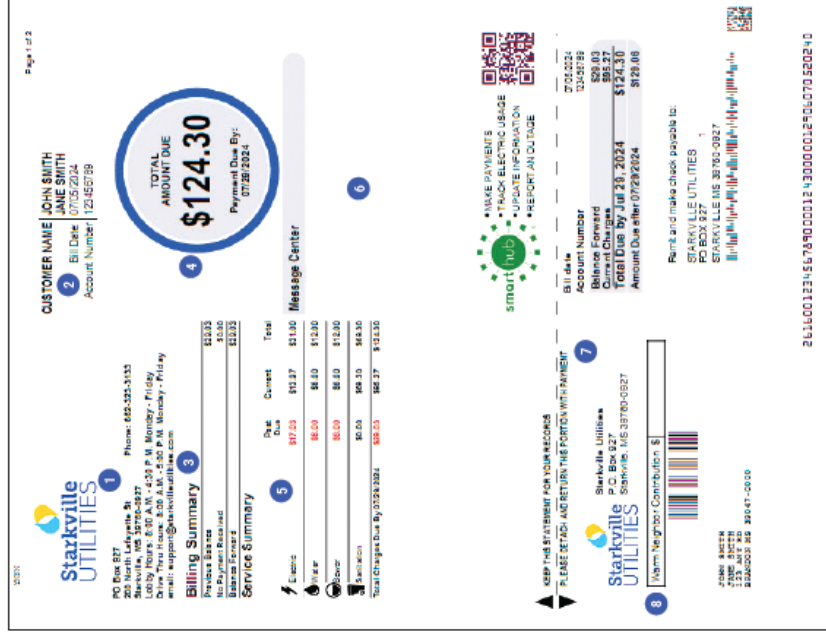




1. **Contact Information:** Our Customer Service contact information and office hours.
2. **Your Account Information:** Your account number and bill date for this statement.
3. **Billing Summary:** Any changes to your account since your last billing statement, including your most recent payments.
4. **Total Amount Due:** Summarizes total amount or budget amount due for service addresses included on this statement along with the due date. Automatic payments would be indicated, if you participate in this program.

6. Message Center: This area displays, messages related directly to your account or service as well as other messages from Starkville Utilities.

8. Warm Neighbor: If you would like to pay extra on your bill to assist those in need with their utility bill, add that extra amount at this location.





SMARTHUB DEMONSTRATION