



BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES
 205 East 28th Street • Bryan, TX 77803
 email: ContactBTU@btutilities.com

btutilities.com

Hours of Operation
 Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM

Board of Directors

- Mr. A. Bentley Nettles, Chairman
- Ms. Rosemarie Selman, Vice Chairman
- Mr. Pete J. Bienski, Jr., Secretary
- Mr. John A. Bond
- Mr. Paul Madison, Sr.
- Mr. Andrew Nelson
- Mr. Buppy Simank
- Mr. Jason Bienski, Ex-Officio
- Mr. Kevin Boriskie, Ex-Officio

General Manager

Gary Miller

Executive Directors

- Doug Lyles
- Randy Trimble
- Wes Williams
- David Werley, Chief Business Officer

Division Managers

- James Bodine
- Nick Cook
- Shawndra Curry
- Ken Lindberg
- Clay Lindstrom
- Gary Massey
- Mary Downs

City of Bryan

- Kean Register, City Manager
- William J. Smith, Chief Financial Officer

Important Numbers

Billing/Collections/Connects
 (979) 821-5700

Electrical Outage/Lines Down
 (979) 822-3777

Line Design
 (979) 821-5770

Social Media

- BryanTexasUtilities
- BTU_BryanTX
- cityofbryan

Regular Board of Directors MEETING NOTES | **March 20, 2023**

Approval of an Easement Located at the RELLIS Campus

The Board approved an overhead electric line easement located at the RELLIS Campus in Brazos County.

Approval of a Contract for Work Zone Traffic Control

The Board approved a contract with Altus Traffic Management, LLC for traffic control around BTU Distribution construction project sites.

Approval of a Proposal for the Shady Lane Substation Project

The Board approved a proposal regarding the rebuilding and expansion project for Shady Lane Substation.

Approval of a Recommendation to the Bryan City Council to Sell Property for a TxDOT Road Widening Project

The Board approved a recommendation to the Bryan City Council for a partial sale of property, formerly the Nall Lane Substation, along William J. Bryan Parkway to TxDOT for a road widening and improvement project.



BTU Distribution Center



BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES KIOSKS

WAYS TO PAY **CASH** **CHECK** **CARD**

Bring your BTU account number, BTU bill, keycard or reminder letter. Payments can be made 24 hours a day via the "e-payment" option by calling 979.821.5700. Account number and credit card required.

BILL PAYMENT LOCATIONS

- BTU Drive Thru** – 205 E. 28th St. (Open 24 Hours)
- HEB Grocery** – Tejas Center on Villa Maria
- HEB Grocery** – Texas Ave. & Hwy 21

BEAT THE PEAK

Increased energy usage causes **electrical demand** to **peak** in the afternoon from

3-7PM



Just like 5:00pm traffic, electrical usage increases at certain times of the day

REDUCE ENERGY USE 3 TO 7PM



Delay running appliances like laundry machines or dishwashers



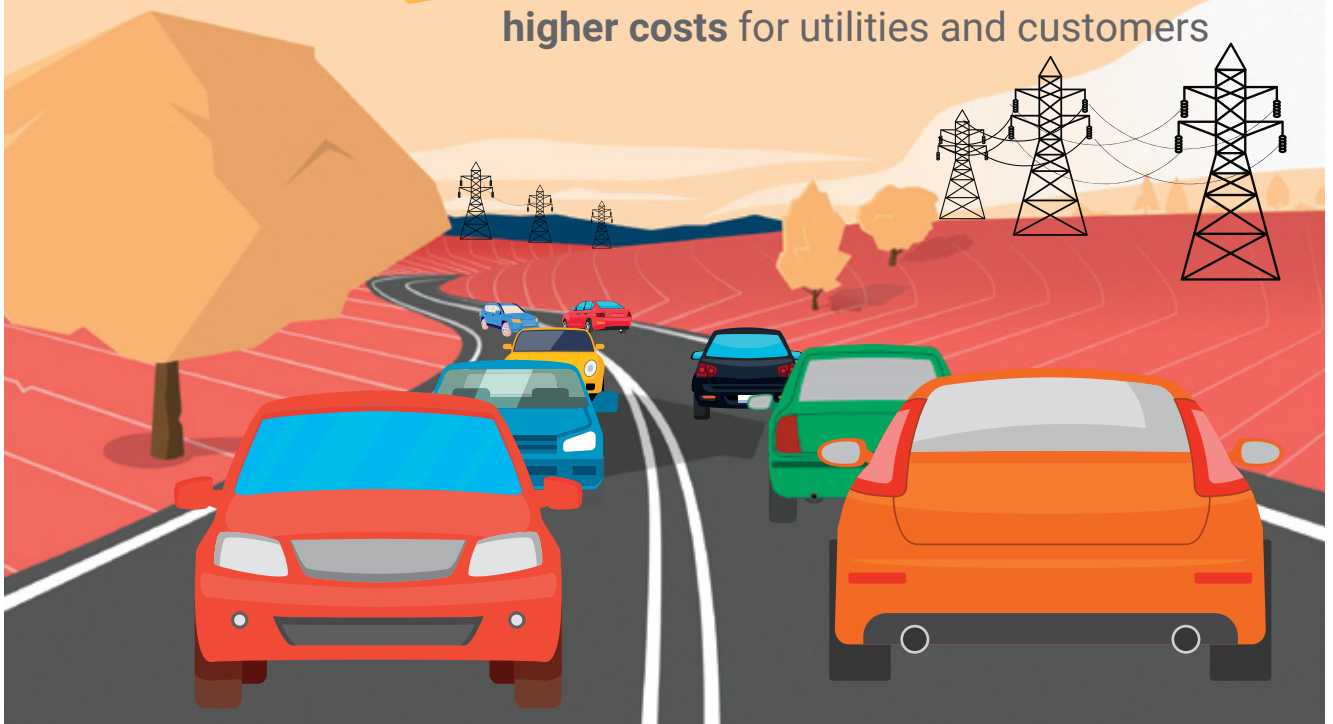
Turn thermostat up a few degrees



Turn off non-essential lighting

More energy creates a **traffic jam** on **transmission lines**

Traffic on transmission lines, known as "**transmission congestion**", can lead to **higher costs** for utilities and customers



ORGANIZE CORDS, FOR SAFETY'S SAKE



May is National Electrical Safety Month and the perfect time to focus on unassuming safety hazards in the home. The typical desk or entertainment center houses a tangle of wires and cables. These rats' nests not only look unsightly but also create obstacles. You can never tell which device connects to which socket—increasing the odds of unplugging the wrong cord. Organizing your cords not only makes your space look tidy but also keeps everything working efficiently and safely.



MAY IS NATIONAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

Multiple electrical cords can create a tripping hazard and could lead to a fire if they are all plugged into the same overloaded power strip or outlet.

Here's how to organize your cords—for safety's sake:

Dust the remaining cords and vacuum the floor and wall around the outlet.

More than one power strip plugged into a single outlet can overload a circuit and create a fire hazard.

Move the extras to other outlets. If you don't have enough outlets, call a licensed electrician to add more.

Invest in inexpensive cable ties.

Bunch the remaining cords together and wrap the tie around the bundle to keep them neatly together. Options for bundling wires include hook and loop fasteners, zip ties, clips, painters tape, and even empty toilet paper or paper towel rolls.

Label your cords for easy identification later.

You can use a label maker to type out a description then add spaces to leave enough tape for it to fold over on itself over a cord. Or try one of these DIY solutions: painters tape or bread tags.

Drill a hole into the back of your computer table or TV cabinet big enough for all of the cords to pass through.

That will keep them together and off the floor.

Unplug everything—your computer, extra monitors, scanner, phone charger, TV, speakers and printer.

In the process, you might find cords that are no longer attached to anything. Weed out those unneeded cords. A great way to store unneeded cords and cables is in a hanging shoe rack with pockets. Each pouch is the perfect size for a cord, and you can label the pockets for easy retrieval.

Remove all extension cords.

They're not designed for permanent use.



While organizing, keep electrical safety in mind. Don't bundle cables too tightly, risking a kink in the wire that could cause a fire. Never run cords under carpets or rugs where they run the risk of being compressed.

So, you are thinking about
**INSTALLING A PHOTOVOLTAIC
SOLAR SYSTEM**
on your home or property.

Chances are you heard about it from a neighbor or a salesperson who knocked on your door. How do you determine if solar is right for you?





The first – and most essential – step in deciding if you should install a solar system is determining all of the associated costs and benefits.

COSTS – consider all installation costs including the total construction amount.

- **System Costs** - Include any interest amortized over the life of the loan if you are utilizing borrowed funds.
- **Maintenance** - Consider costs to insure and maintain the system over its lifetime.
- **Fees** - Include costs of permits required by governing entities, such as the City of Bryan or City of College Station. There is a small inspection fee required by BTU. Customers who choose solar continue to pay the same rate for energy usage as they were prior to installing solar.

BENEFITS – solar production can be beneficial to many.

- **Reduced Utility Bills** - solar production may offset a significant portion of electrical usage depending on the size of the system, resulting in savings on utility bills.
- **Environmentally Friendly** - Customers who want to reduce their carbon footprint would also benefit from a carbon-free fuel source for most of their energy needs.
- **Tax Savings** - some residential customers may claim an investment tax credit (ITC) of 30% of the system costs. It is important to understand that the credit is only applicable if the taxpayer purchased the solar PV system and is not leasing it. The credit is also only applicable for the original installation of the solar equipment. Additionally, the ITC is a non-refundable tax credit, meaning that it is only applied to one's total tax liability. It may not be refunded in the form of a refund check, but the unused credit may be carried over to a successive tax year as long as the ITC is still in effect. It is encouraged to speak with a tax professional about how installing solar might impact your taxes.

While you are at it, solicit quotes from multiple contractors to make sure you are getting the best deal. Ask them if they employ certified electricians or if they are certified through a recognized program such as the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP).

Bottom line, you should fully evaluate all costs and benefits of solar before signing an agreement to install a system. If you have questions about solar or how to determine if it is right for you, contact us at:

solar@btutilities.com or 979-821-5715.

**HAVE A
SPLASHING
GOOD TIME
THIS SUMMER!**

**POOLS OPEN
MAY 28
FOR RECREATION SWIM.**



BRYAN AQUATIC CENTER	HENDERSON HARBOR	SADIE THOMAS POOL
Tuesday – Sunday, 1 – 7 p.m. Closed Mondays	Monday – Sunday: 1 – 7 p.m.	Monday – Friday: Noon – 5 p.m. Saturday – Sunday: 1 – 7 p.m.
3100 Oak Ridge Drive	1200 Ridgedale St	129 Moss St

DAILY ADMISSION: CHILD (AGES 4-11): \$2 / ADULT (AGES 12+): \$3

HOST A POOL PARTY! RENTALS ARE AVAILABLE.

REGISTER FOR A PROGRAM

SWIM LESSONS

Variety of classes available throughout the summer for ages 6 months to adults.

**AMERICAN RED CROSS LIFEGUARD
CERTIFICATION COURSE**

Cost will be reimbursed at the end of the season for those who work for us this summer. To apply to work as a lifeguard, visit: bryantxjobs.com.

JUNIOR LIFEGUARD PROGRAM

Aspiring lifeguards, ages 11-14, will learn lifeguarding skills and lifesaving measures.



Bryantx.gov/swim



1309 E. Martin Luther King Blvd. Bryan, TX 77803 / Office 979.209.5528 / Fax 979.209.5524



5 REASONS LAKE BRYAN SHOULD BE ON YOUR SUMMER BUCKET LIST!



LAKEBRYAN.COM



- 1 There are activities for all to enjoy!** Lake Bryan has nearly 850 acres of water for boaters, skiers and swimmers to enjoy. The park boasts more than 24 miles of mountain biking and hiking trails graciously constructed and maintained by the Brazos Valley Mountain Bike Association. Patrons can enjoy an afternoon paddling on the water by renting paddleboards or kayaks through Paddle EZ's convenient self-serve station.
- 2 Experience nature at your finger-tips!** A bird and wildlife watcher's delight. Bald eagles have been rumored to visit Lake Bryan on occasion. Or wet a line and try your luck at fishing. Lake Bryan has partnered with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) for several years to stock the lake with fingerling fish and improve fish habitat. This past fall, TPWD, Major League Fishing and BTU came together to install more than 100 pieces of fish habitat in the lake to promote fish spawning, shelter and ambush predation.
- 3 It's convenient!** Lake Bryan is the only public lake and boat ramp in Brazos County. A quick trip from Bryan/College Station transports you into a more relaxed, natural setting. Plus, at just \$5 per vehicle, the day entry fee is affordable for families.
- 4 There are hot eats and cold drinks!** The Cadillac Ranch Bar & Grill serves up delicious food and beverages alongside lively entertainment. Catch live music and take a spin on the dance floor every weekend throughout the spring, summer and fall seasons.
- 5 You can kick your shoes off and stay awhile!** There are 24 tent campsites and 13 RV campsites for those who want to get away. Sites can be rented online at lakebryan.com.