

Stay Safe & Save Smart



At Ameren, safety is one of our core values, and we are taking actions to help ensure the safety of our co-workers, our facilities and the communities we serve. We understand the profound impact social distancing orders have had on small businesses and are here to help your business rebound quickly once orders are lifted. Managing your energy use is a simple way to reduce costs during a time when every penny is precious to your business. See below for some measures you can take to ensure your business is using as little energy as possible.

Tips on Saving Energy and Money from Ameren

Energy Saving Actions for Open Businesses

Many businesses including restaurants, grocery and convenience stores, gas stations, banks and more serve critical functions during a global pandemic, but may see significantly reduced foot traffic. The following tips will help you reduce your energy use while still conducting business during the stay-at-home orders.

- Unplug entertainment equipment like TVs, cable boxes and satellite receivers, which still use energy when turned off
- Turn off interior lights, signage and displays for dine-in restaurants, stores and unused business areas
- Unplug printers, copiers and administrative equipment when they are not in active use
- Unplug lamps, fans, space heaters, computer and monitor power supplies and phones at unused workstations
- Reduce your HVAC use in unused dining rooms or work areas by turning your thermostat down or off and opening windows where safe and possible
- Unplug clocks, vending machines, microwaves, dishwashers and unused break room equipment and consolidate refrigerators & freezers to unplug unused appliances
- Clean off air vents to improve HVAC air flow and reduce how hard blower motors have to work
- Close window shades to prevent overheating in unused spaces and reduce your cooling load

Energy Saving Steps for Closed Businesses

If your business has been closed by a stay-at-home or social distancing order, it's important to ensure your facility is using as little energy as possible to avoid unnecessary costs. In addition to the items above, use the below checklist to make sure your business is proactively cutting costs by reducing your energy use during this period.

- Set your thermostat to "unoccupied" or off, and set the HVAC fans to "auto" mode to maintain steady humidity
- Shut off leaky faucets, urinals or toilets and tag for repair, as well as unplugging water fountains to prevent unnecessary water cooling
- Unplug and defrost refrigerators, freezers and other unused appliances, disposing of perishable contents
- Unplug computers, sales terminals, phones and other electronics that use electricity even when turned off
- Arm security systems and ensure emergency lighting is functional before shutting off all remaining lighting

