

# WHY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE?

## SAVE MONEY WITH LOWER RATES

Members with U-Shift switches on their electric water heaters receive a monthly bill credit. These switches help save members money in the long term by helping the cooperative minimize future rate increases.

## SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT

Through the U-Shift program, the co-op saves money in avoided power purchases, which helps stabilize rates. This reduces pollution from power plants that operate only during peak periods. The program relies on the participation of members who allow U-Shift switches to be installed on their electric water heaters.



# MORE INFORMATION

## How Can I Save Energy When Heating Water?

- 1 Set the temperature no higher than 120 degrees (115 degrees can work for households with only one or two residents).
- 2 Drain a few gallons from the bottom of the water heater each month to reduce sediment.
- 3 Insulate exposed hot water lines.
- 4 Limit shower length.
- 5 Install low-flow shower heads.
- 6 Fix dripping faucets.

## When Should I Replace My Water Heater?

There is no way to know precisely when an electric water heater needs to be replaced. In fact, most of the parts (heating elements, thermostat, anode rod, etc.) can be replaced over the life of a water heater. However, when corrosion sets in, particularly on the body of the water heater, it is time to replace it. If there is a major malfunction, such as a leak in the body of the heater, a leak around fittings, or the appearance of excessive corrosion, you may want to replace it, particularly if it is more than 10 years old. To protect your home and floors, it may be best to install an overflow pan under the water heater in case a leak does develop.



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WATER HEATING



## SAVE MONEY SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT



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## CLAIM YOUR REBATE

Adams Electric offers a \$50 bill credit to any member who purchases a new electric water heater (any size, any type, any brand) if they agree to allow a U-Shift switch to be installed on it (or have the connection transferred from their old water heater to the new one). Members will also receive the \$50 rebate if they agree to allow the switch to be installed on a previously uninterrupted water heater. The U-Shift switch and installation is a \$215-value, installed for free on electric water heaters by the cooperative.

## GET CREDIT

Members who allow a U-Shift switch to be installed on their electric water heater receive a \$10 monthly bill credit (\$5 for heat pump water heaters) for as long as the switch remains installed and operational. A signal is sent over the power lines to activate the switch during periods of system-wide high electricity use.

*Note: Credit exclusions may apply.*

## FAQ's

### When are the normal hours of power interruption?

U-Shift switches are activated based on times of projected peak demand and may vary, especially depending on the weather. Typically, winter interruption can occur from 7 a.m.-noon, and then again from 5-9 p.m. Summer shifting periods are typical from 1-7 p.m. On occasion, interruption can occur outside of these windows. Barring a power emergency, Adams does not shift use on major holidays or weekends.

### How will I know that my switch is being interrupted?

Alerts are posted on the co-op's Facebook page ([facebook.com/adamsec](https://www.facebook.com/adamsec)) during shifting periods. If the U-Shift switch attached to your water heater is showing an amber light, this also means a U-Shift period has been initiated. The green light on the switch should always be lit.

### Why should I buy a larger water heater?

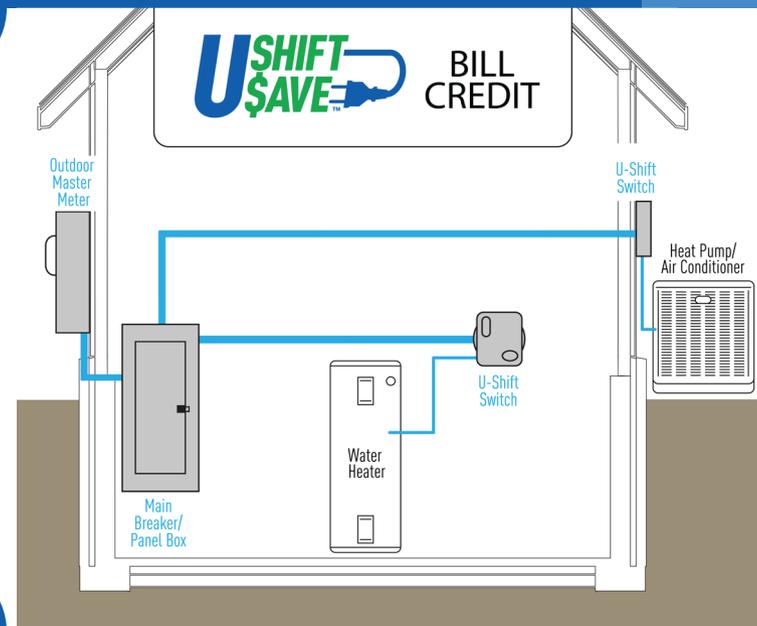
Even though Adams Electric interrupts electricity use only when necessary, a larger capacity water heater means less chance of running out of hot water during periods of interruption. Remember that newer water heaters are well-insulated and can keep water hot for longer periods of time with little standby loss.

### What about heat pump water heaters?

Heat pump water heaters promise high efficiencies and lower operating costs. The purchase of a new heat pump water heater or add-on unit qualifies for the co-op's \$50 rebate, and \$5 monthly bill credit, if the member allows a U-Shift switch to be installed.

### What about tankless water heaters?

Adams Electric only recommends the use of natural gas or propane-fired tankless water heaters. Electric tankless water heaters cannot be interrupted as part of the co-op's U-Shift program, therefore adding to demands during periods of peak electric use. In addition, electric tankless units may require a service upgrade to accommodate the increased electrical demand.



*Note: Adams Electric cannot guarantee the duration or extent of any periods of interruption due to the ever-changing nature of electrical demand on the power grid that provides power to the co-op's substations and metering points. Members participating in the U-Shift incentives must understand that periods of interruption can be extended without notice due to unforeseen circumstances on Adams Electric's distribution system and the energy supply grid. Credit exclusions may apply. U-Shift credits are subject to change without notice. Rebate requests should be made within six months of purchase. Contact Adams Electric or visit [myenergy.adamsec.coop](https://myenergy.adamsec.coop) for a rebate claim form. Please allow up to 90 days for the switch to be installed following request. (This must occur before the credit is awarded.)*