

Connections

Stay warm for less

Get cozy and save money this winter with help from Energy Trust of Oregon. Avista customers are eligible for incentives on home improvements like furnaces, windows, water heaters and insulation.

Need help installing? Local trade allies can help you make these improvements that lower your energy bill while keeping your home comfortable all winter long.

Visit energytrust.org/incentives to see how you can save.



Helping students start the school year strong: Operation School Bell

Back-to-school shopping is a milestone for many families, but for some, it's a financial burden. With average costs topping \$800 per student, nearly one in four children lack access to basic supplies.

In Klamath Falls, OR, the Assistance League of Klamath Basin is working to change that through its flagship program, Operation School Bell. Starting in late September, eligible students receive a \$135 shopping certificate to use at Fred Meyer, where discounts help stretch every dollar. Forty-one schools currently participate, with extra support available for graduating seniors.

Thanks to local partnerships and a recent grant from the Avista Foundation, the program continues to grow—reaching more students each year. These resources not only provide clothing and supplies but also boost students' confidence and readiness to learn, helping them feel valued and supported as they enter the classroom.

Founded in 1986, the League is a volunteer-run nonprofit with no paid staff. Members raise \$150,000 annually to support youth-focused initiatives including Children in Foster Care (CFC), which provides \$140 certificates to foster families, and Project USA, which funds the painting of large, colorful USA maps on playgrounds.

To support its mission year-round, the League operates Findables, a gently used furniture store whose proceeds benefit local youth programs.

Visit klamathbasinassistanceleague.org to learn more or get involved.



Holiday cooking

The kitchen is the heart of a home—especially during the holidays.

With increased activity and stress, it's important to prioritize natural gas safety.

Unattended cooking is the leading cause of fires. Keep your family and home safe by following these tips:

- **Storage:** Don't store combustible items in the oven (storage containers, etc.)
- **Keep it clean:** Make sure range and oven burners are clean and free from oven mitts, towels, etc.
- **Don't block:** Never cover appliance controls, air openings, or vents
- **Right tools:** Use the right tools and ensure pot handles are turned inward
- **Follow instructions:** Don't use gas range flames to heat a room or dry clothes
- **Be prepared:** Have a fire extinguisher nearby and know how to use it
- **Check alarms:** Make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are working properly
- **Stay clear:** Avoid loose clothing, spray cooking oil, and paper towels near an open flame
- **Children and pets:** Be aware of children and pets underfoot while cooking—especially if control knobs are low and accessible to children



Visit myavista.com/gassafety for more safety tips. Have a safe and happy holiday season!



Need a hand with your energy bill?

We're here to help.

We know life doesn't always go as planned. If you're finding it tough to keep up with your energy bill, you're not alone—and support is available.

Avista offers a variety of assistance programs for qualifying customers, including flexible payment plans and help with home energy upgrades to improve efficiency and lower costs.

You may also qualify for My Energy Discount, a program that lowers natural gas bills every month for two years.

Visit myavista.com/ORassistance to see what's available.

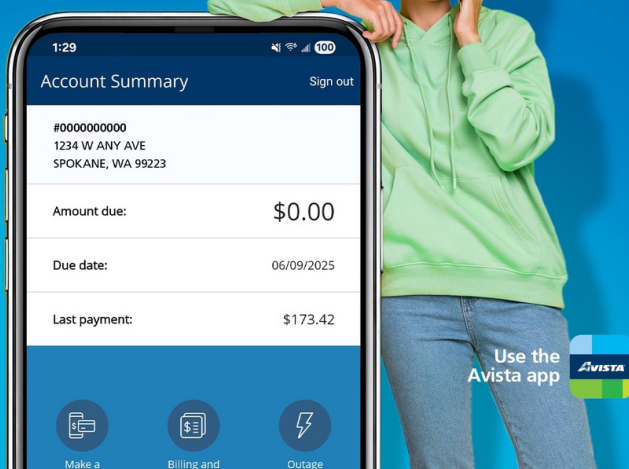
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Giveaways ahead—don't miss out!

We're here to help you stay safe, save energy, and make the most of every season.

Follow @avistautilities on Instagram and Facebook to stay in the loop and enter to win exciting prizes all year long. From energy-saving tools to seasonal goodies, you never know what might pop up—so don't miss your chance!



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