



# Understanding your natural gas pricing

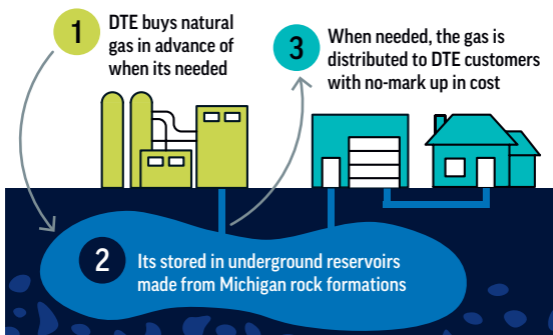
**DTE**

The DTE logo is positioned above a graphic consisting of a semi-circle at the bottom left with numerous thin, light blue lines radiating upwards and to the right, creating a sunburst or signal effect.

# How DTE buys natural gas

DTE Energy buys a steady supply of natural gas for you, buying throughout the year before the gas is needed, and then storing it underground in naturally-occurring rock formations. These reservoirs, located deep underground, hold the gas until demand increases.

Buying natural gas in advance helps stabilize the cost and insulates you from unexpected price changes. DTE passes the cost of natural gas we buy through to you with zero markup. That means you pay what we pay for the natural gas you use, as reflected by the **Gas Cost Recovery** charge on your bill.



Every customer, regardless of usage, pays the monthly **Customer Charge**. That charge helps pay for the cost of maintaining our gas distribution system, collecting usage data and preparing bills.

# Options for you

**Billing and payment programs** provided by DTE offer a number of options to meet your needs, including:

- AutoPay
- BudgetWise Billing
- eBill Paperless Billing
- Flexible Due Date
- Shutoff Protection Plan
- Low Income Assistance

Learn more at [dteenergy.com/options](https://dteenergy.com/options)

DTE offers many options for paying your bill including the DTE Energy mobile app, DTE payment kiosks, online, our automated phone system and mail. Fees will be charged for late payments.

## **DTE CleanVision Natural Gas**

**Balance** is an easy, affordable way to balance the environmental impact of your natural gas use.

For \$4 - \$16 a month, you can address up to 100% of an average household's natural gas use emissions. Learn more and join

today at [dteenergy.com/naturalgasbalance](https://dteenergy.com/naturalgasbalance)



The **Gas Customer Choice program** provides natural gas customers the option of purchasing gas at unregulated prices offered by an alternative gas supplier. For more information, visit [dteenergy.com/gaschoice](https://dteenergy.com/gaschoice)

# Factors that impact your bill

**Did you know?** There are many factors that drive energy use in your home. Here are the four key factors that will determine how high or low your energy bill may be.



## Usage

The primary factor that impacts your monthly energy bill is usage – the amount of energy used during a billing cycle.



## Weather

A couple of days of extreme weather – hot or cold – can make heating and cooling equipment run longer, increasing your energy use.



## Household changes

More people in the house often means appliances like your water heater and stove are used more or you may adjust the thermostat to make more people comfortable.



## Days billed

Fewer days in the billing cycle typically results in a lower energy bill, compared to a billing cycle with more days.

When you receive your next bill, take a few minutes to consider the impact these factors may be having on your energy bill.



## Safety and reliability

DTE Energy maintains a network of storage facilities, pipelines, mains and service lines that bring in natural gas from across the country and distribute it to your home. The **Distribution Charge** on your bill helps pay for maintenance and to continue delivering safe, reliable service to your home.

The **Reservation Charge** on your bill helps acquire enough natural gas to maintain safe and reliable service even during the most extreme high-use winter months.

We are also hard at work upgrading older lines with newer, safer materials that ensure your service is there when you need it. The **IRM Surcharge** on your bill helps DTE make these improvements.



## Did you know?

At DTE, we work to meet your needs for affordable, reliable, safe and cleaner energy. DTE is regulated by the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC), which means our prices are controlled and can only change when they are approved by the Commission.

To see the details of each natural gas rate, including the DTE Energy tariffs approved by the MPSC, go to [dteenergy.com/price](https://dteenergy.com/price) or request a copy at [mydteenergy@dteenergy.com](mailto:mydteenergy@dteenergy.com).

## Want more help?

Learn more about natural gas pricing at [dteenergy.com/price](https://dteenergy.com/price).

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