

## SBEC USAGE UPDATE: 1.8.2018

We have just experienced some of the coldest temperatures that we've seen in several years. Average high temperature in Dec-Jan is normally in the 60's, with average low temperatures in the 40's. Over the past 38 days, 12 nights have been at or below freezing, with an additional 20 nights in the 30's & 40's. To top it off, on 18 days the high temperature never topped 60 degrees.

What does this tell us: Since December 1, 2017, 31% of our nights were at or below freezing with an additional 84% below the normal average low temperature. 47% of the days never reached the normal average high temperature. With that information in mind, do not be surprised if your electric bill is higher than expected. Electric resistance strip heating is costly to operate, and we have seen increased usage on almost everyone's accounts when compared to last month or even last year.

What can you do in the future to keep your utility bills as low as possible and still stay warm? We recommend keeping your thermostat set at 68 degrees while you are home, and then turning it down 3-5 degrees while you are away. Another good tool is to use Usage Explorer in Smarthub to monitor your usage. By looking at the graphs, you can see your electricity consumption in relation to the outdoor temperatures.

### Daily Usage

Sample of Usage Daily Usage from December 24th-January 7th



### Hourly Usage

Sample of Usage Daily Usage from December 30th-January 7th

