

## Saving with **Energy Wise** is now even easier



**Shaun Lamp**

President & Chief Executive Officer

In addition to providing you with the reliable electric and internet services that drive your daily lives, GLE is committed to offering you many other time- and money-saving programs to further enhance your quality of life.

One great example of these efforts is our Energy Wise program which offers you rebates on the purchase of qualifying energy-efficient appliances and systems. This program not only provides you with up-front savings on the cost of new equipment or appliances but also delivers **long-term savings** through lower energy consumption.



As part of our drive for continuous improvement, at the start of 2024, we implemented an

even easier way to apply for rebates and incentives. You can now submit applications for residential and commercial lighting Energy Wise rebates directly through our website at [gtlakes.com/energy-wise](https://gtlakes.com/energy-wise). With the new system, you can just click or tap on the type of rebate you are applying for, then select the “Begin Your Application” button and you’ll be redirected to the appropriate application submission page.

The application process is especially handy when using a smartphone, which you can use to capture and upload images of the receipts needed for the application.

The new online rebate application process not only makes it easier for you to submit your Energy Wise rebate applications but also allows for faster processing times. That means you’ll receive your rebate bill credit or check sooner.

These enhancements to our rebate application system are paying real dividends for our members who have applied for Energy Wise rebates this year.

Through the end of October, GLE processed 1,710 residential and commercial rebates worth more than \$832,000, up by more than 200 rebates from the same period in 2023. In addition, members are enjoying continued savings thanks to the reduced energy consumption of the new appliances and systems the rebates helped them buy.

The Energy Wise program is a great partner for the consumer analytics tools we also rolled out earlier this year. These tools, which are available through your online account and through the GLE mobile app, provide a detailed analysis of your home’s electric use that may suggest that you consider upgrading to more energy-efficient systems and appliances for your home.



Together, these two programs offer members a powerful path to savings, both now and in the future.

Since its inception in 2009 as part of Michigan’s Clean Energy Act, thousands of GLE members have taken advantage of the rebates and incentives available through the Energy Wise program, formerly known as Energy Optimization. All rebates and incentives are funded through the Energy Optimization surcharge on bills. Starting in 2026 new state legislation goes into effect that may impact the design of our programs, expand rebate opportunities, and change the required program funding. More information will be shared with our members as it becomes available.

# Energy saving solutions right at your fingertips



One of the many ways GLE strives to improve lives of our members beyond providing reliable electric and internet services is by offering innovative cost-saving programs and services such as the new **consumer analytics tools** we rolled out earlier this year.

Accessible through your GLE online account or the GLE mobile app, the program provides you with much more detailed information about your home's energy use than was previously available.

The new system uses a process known as disaggregation to analyze the same power consumption data from your home's meter that is used to calculate your electric bill. The system doesn't directly detect which device, system, or appliance in your home is using power. Instead, it uses computer models to look for distinct "fingerprints" of power use that can be attributed to appliances, such as refrigerators, air conditioners, water heaters, and ovens. With the right software algorithms, the usage of specific appliances or home systems can be identified and estimated

## HERE'S A SUMMARY OF THE TOOLS AVAILABLE:



**Energy detail:** This tool will provide a breakdown of your home's electric use by the type of device, appliance, or system. Types of use include refrigeration, heating, cooling, laundry, cooking, water heating, lighting, entertainment, and always-on.



**Similar home comparison:** This tool will compare your home's energy use with similar-sized, average, and energy-efficient homes in your area. The tool offers tabs for total energy use, heating, cooling, and always-on energy use.



**Bill Analysis:** This tool will allow you to compare your home's energy use across billing cycles.



**Bill projection:** This tool will provide an estimate of what your next electric bill will be based on your recent usage patterns.



**Build your home profile:** Members can increase the accuracy of the estimates the consumer analytics tools provide by completing a short survey about their home and the systems in it.



**My recommendations:** This tool will provide recommendations for potential energy- and money-saving steps you can take based on your home and your usage patterns.



The information provided through these tools may highlight opportunities for you to cut your energy consumption and costs by taking steps such as upgrading to more energy-efficient appliances and systems for your home.

To learn more about the GLE's consumer analytics tools, [visit: gtlakes.com/analytics/](https://gtlakes.com/analytics/)



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