

Along the Lines

A Publication of Rolla Municipal Utilities



On Thursday, February 7th, the St. Robert Historical Preservation Society and RMU held a plaque dedication ceremony honoring the history of the RMU Office Building. The building was built in 1941 to house the Black USO in Rolla, MO. It opened to soldiers on February 7, 1942 and housed the USO throughout World War II. Thousands of soldiers used the building for recreational activities, including a ball room that was located on the second floor. In December of 1945, the federal government sold the building to Rolla Municipal Utilities, and it has housed our offices ever since. We want to thank the Rolla Chamber of Commerce, St. Roberts Historical Preservation Society, and City Administrator John Butz for attending. We are proud to have this plaque up to remember the great history of our building and all the soldiers who passed through here.

**Before starting
spring projects,**



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

811 is the national call-before-you-dig phone number. Anyone who plans to dig should call 811 or go to <https://missouri-811.org> a few business days before digging to request that the approximate location of buried utilities be marked with paint or flags so that you don't unintentionally dig into an underground utility line.

811 protects you and your community! Hitting a buried line while digging can disrupt utility service, cost money to repair, or cause serious injury or death. Always contact your 811 center, wait the required time for utilities to respond to your request, and ensure that all utilities have responded to your request before putting a shovel in the ground.

Is Solar Right for Me?

Will my savings be worth my investment?

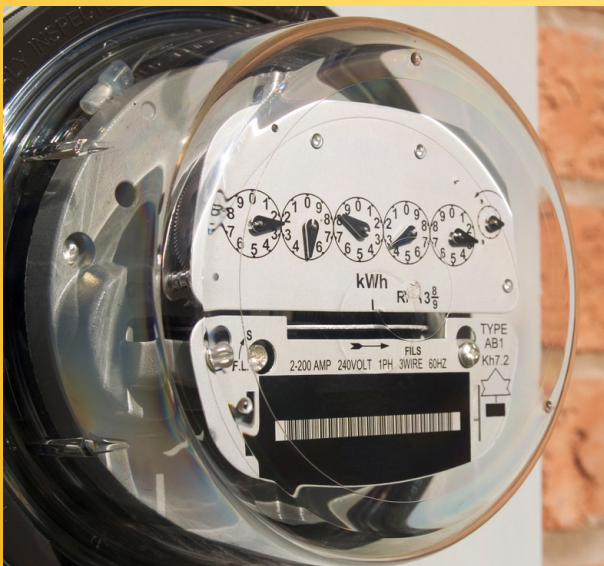
The first big question you need to ask is, does your monthly electric bill exceed the cost of your solar system plus your monthly Service Availability Fee (SAF)? You can't base the answer solely on the total of your RMU bill. Your RMU bill includes multiple services - electric, water, sewer and trash. A solar system only helps with the electric portion. RMU currently has a monthly electric SAF of \$24. The SAF is charged to every customer, every month. It is intended to help cover some of RMU's fixed cost such as transmission lines, substations and personnel.

Does the desired location for your solar panels receive adequate sunlight?

Solar panels work best when facing south. Consider the direction your house faces and where the panels should be placed in order to maximum the best sunlight. Remember solar is a 20+ year investment. Let us be your resource. We want to help you make the best decision possible to maximize the return on your long-term investment.

RMU Billing Dates

Occasionally we get questions about billing dates on RMU Statements. Namely that it appears as if a customer is being double charged for a day or two based on the dates of service. We tend to hear these type of questions when the current month's billing start date is earlier than the end date of the previous month. But fear not! RMU's billing is based on an actual meter reading and not the dates of service. Once a month your meter is read. Bills are generated based on the meter reading, which is what shows how much water and electricity is being used within the home or business. To illustrate, compare your current meter reading, subtract it from the previous reading and that is how much energy or water you consumed. The dates just give a general idea of the period that you are being billed for. Due to current technology limitations and the fact our meter reading may be performed the previous evening, the end date of billing period isn't always accurate. However, customers are not being double charged for a day since the bills are based on actual meter readings.



Electric Meter



Water Meter