



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

How To Read Your Digital Meter

It may look like just a humble piece of equipment, but your digital meter is a powerful tool to help manage your electric use and become more energy efficient! Using innovative digital meter technology and online account management through MVEA's SmartHub program, the digital meter allows you to monitor your electric use, not by the month, but down to the day and the hour. Make sure to log into SmartHub, and click on "My Usage" to find daily and hourly energy use data that will help you evaluate electric use patterns to forecast future bills. In addition to SmartHub, and the information provided on monthly bills, members who would like to physically monitor their electric use can take periodic reads from the screens on the digital meter.



Screen Saver & Segment Check *(This Screen Appears On All MVEA Digital Meters)*

The first screen in the sequence simply verifies that the display is working properly, lighting up, with no fading or blinking of any digit.



Delivered Energy *(Net Meter Accounts DO NOT See This Screen)*

This number is your total energy used, measured in kWh, since the meter was installed. This is the reading we use on your bill every month—subtracting last month's reading from this month's reading to calculate your monthly energy use. To calculate how much energy you are using, just record one reading then record another reading at a later date and subtract to find the difference.

kWh = Kilowatt-hour, the basic measure of energy use.

For MVEA members with net meter accounts, the digital meters have three rotating screens to view net and received energy readings. The screens rotate every six seconds. The first screen, "Screen Saver & Segment Check", is shown above.



Net kWh Reading *(Net Meter Accounts Only - Screen 2)*

The number on the Net Reading screen will fluctuate (increase and decrease) based on whether energy is delivered by MVEA (positive kWh) or power is generated and put back onto the grid as Received Energy (negative kWh, see below) throughout the month. MVEA bills are calculated with the Net Reading as **it is the difference between what the system has generated and the amount of energy used.**

The arrow on the screen is a useful tool. When the left arrow is displayed (as pictured) the home is delivering energy to the grid. When the right arrow is displayed, the grid is sending power to the home.



Received Energy Reading (Negative kWh) *(Net Meter Accounts Only - Screen 3)*

This screen shows the amount of energy received by MVEA and put back onto the grid. **It represents the surplus in energy generated after the member's energy use needs have been satisfied.** This reading is not an indication of total member energy produced, only the energy produced and put onto the grid. This reading will only increase, it will not decrease.

rEC = Received Energy

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