

OPT OUT NOW

You will receive a Smart Meter unless you opt out now. See insert or our website for where to send.

Our Public Service Commission has now ruled that customers may opt out of smart meter installations. Currently there is no opt out fee. Protect yourself, your loved ones, and your home today!

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Write to your state representatives and tell them to support HB 1038: Smart Meter No Cost Opt Out. We should not have to pay extra to protect ourselves from the demonstrated risks associated with wireless Smart Meters.

2. Tell your utility company and the Public Service Commission you want to OPT OUT of your Smart Meter installation now and protect your home or business.

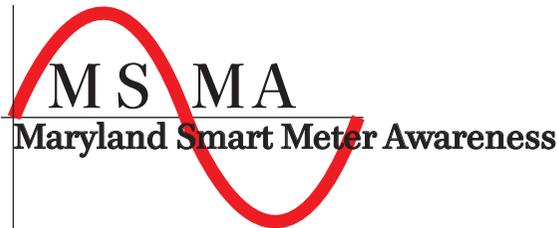
3. Strengthen our voice by joining MSMA - it's free and you will receive monthly e-mail updates.

4. Inform others. This debacle has already cost tax payers billions. Can you imagine having to pay even more to protect your family from these meters, or worse yet, become one of the many people who have experienced negative effects from Smart Meters?

There are safer solutions to meet our energy needs than to increase our radiation exposure, compromise security, and commit customers to years of untold rate increases to support this technology.

Did you know that despite mounting evidence and court actions related to the adverse cost, safety, and health effects of Smart Meters, your utility is moving forward with forced Smart Meter installations?

We're all for progress and conservation, but not at the cost of our health and privacy.



What is Maryland Smart Meter Awareness (MSMA)?

MSMA is a grass roots, all volunteer group serving Maryland. We are a nonpolitical, highly diverse group of concerned citizens who have come together at a critical time to inform our neighbors and protect our consumer rights to safety, privacy, and choice. Our volunteers are average citizens who want utilities to act responsibly by deploying safe and tested solutions.

MarylandSmartMeterAwareness.org

WHAT IS A SMART METER?

DO I HAVE A CHOICE?



Utility companies are replacing our current analog meters with untested Smart Meters

Are you aware of the risks associated with these new meters and that you have a right to opt out of your installation?

What is a Smart Meter?

Smart Meters are new generation utility meters that monitor and automatically transmit your energy usage via wireless signals on the microwave spectrum. Smart Meters require an unprecedented wireless mesh network infrastructure, both indoors and outdoors. This mesh network blankets entire communities with non-ionizing radiation, about which non-industry funded scientists issue dire warnings. On the surface, Smart Meters seem like progress, but they are the Trojan Horse of our time.

What's the big deal?

Unlike safe analog meters, Smart Meters allow utilities, third parties, and government access to precise information about your private life, emit RF microwave radiation linked with health and environmental problems, increase utility bills, and can catch on fire or damage appliances. Folks in 32 states and all over the world are rejecting Smart Meters and demanding a halt and a recall. Nevertheless, utilities are spreading misleading information and continuing to force Smart Meters on the public. We have a right to say NO!

Contrary to what utilities tell us,

- **Smart Meters do not save money or energy**
- **Smart Meters have never been safety tested for health effects**
- **Non-industry funded scientists issue dire warnings about non-ionizing radiation**
- **Smart Meters violate our privacy & compromise security**

SMART METER FACTS

- Three attorneys general have filed objections stating that they are too expensive and consumers will never see any real savings.
- Ratepayers are reporting bill increases.
- Smart meters provide the utilities with a tool to control our energy use during peak times, saving themselves money, not the ratepayers.
- Through incentive programs (rebates), time of use pricing (higher rates during peak times), and remote power rationing, utilities can increase their profits while passing on the enormous costs of this expensive roll out onto ratepayers.
- Businesses and households who cannot lower usage during peak times - i.e. retirees, disabled Americans, individuals using medical equipment, telecommuters, home businesses, and stay at home moms - can expect to pay even more for electricity.
- Smart Meters are not ANSI or UL certified.
- Smart Meters have been associated with over 900 fires.
- Shortly following Smart Meter installation, customers have reported incidents of wiring and appliance damages.
- Smart Meters pulse RF radiation anywhere between 14,000 to 190,000 times each day according to utility documents.
- Is this radiation harmful? Independent studies - not industry funded - say YES. See the report of 1800+ studies at www.BioInitiative.org
- Upon installation of Smart Meters, people report headaches, ringing ears, dizziness, breathing problems, insomnia, nausea, cognitive problems, memory loss, muscle spasms, and heart problems.
- The American Academy of Environmental Medicine (AAEM) recommends a moratorium on Smart Meters based on double-blinded, placebo controlled research of RF radiation, particularly if a household member already suffers from any of 40 conditions listed, particularly those with chronic illness.
- In addition, many prestigious medical institutions, scientists, and experts all over the globe have released similar warnings of negative health effects. Children, pregnant women, seniors, people with immune deficiencies, medical conditions, and implants are especially at risk.
- Smart Meters have been shown to interfere with vital medical equipment such as pacemakers.
- Smart Meters transmit personal information about our daily activities and are, in effect, a new form of surveillance. Anyone with access (authorized or not) can tell whether you are home or not; what appliances you are using; whether or not your home alarm system is on or what medical equipment you are using.
- There is no law protecting disclosure or sale of our sensitive information which is stored for years. This information is extremely valuable to third parties such as insurance companies, marketers, law enforcement, and criminals.