

# DPU Scoop



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## Do you qualify for protection from winter disconnection?

The rule regarding eligibility for protection has changed. Between November 15 and March 15, DPU will not disconnect your services if you meet TWO requirements:

1. Your account is not past due on November 15 OR you have a current payment arrangement at that time.
2. You are eligible for Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) OR for DPU's Utilities Assistance Program (UAP).

Visit [ladpu.com/assist](http://ladpu.com/assist) to learn more about DPU's winter moratorium, rule GR 13.06, and how you can apply for or support UAP.



## ¿Califica para la protección contra la desconexión invernal?

La regla sobre derecho de recibir protección ha cambiado. Entre el 15 de noviembre y el 15 de marzo, DPU no desconectará sus servicios si cumples con DOS requisitos:

1. Su cuenta no tiene un balance antes del 15 de noviembre OH tiene un plan de pago vigente en ese momento.
2. Usted es elegible para recibir Asistencia de Energía para Hogares de Bajos Ingresos (LIHEAP) OH para el Programa de Asistencia de Servicios Públicos (UAP) de DPU.

Visite [ladpu.com/assist](http://ladpu.com/assist) para obtener más información sobre la moratoria de invierno de DPU, la regla GR 13.06 y cómo puede solicitar o apoyar la UAP.

## Shout Out to the Rocky Mountain Elk

Valles Caldera is home to the Rocky Mountain Elk, the second largest elk herd in New Mexico. These animals provide visitor enjoyment, revenue to local economies, and sustenance for families. Primarily grazers, elk have a diverse habitat range but are often found in open grasslands or meadows near forest edges. In mountain regions, they generally stay in higher elevations during warmer months and migrate to lower elevations in the winter.

Elk are an important food source for bears, mountain lions, coyotes, and numerous scavenger species. Elk browsing and nitrogen deposition can affect vegetative production, soil fertility, and plant diversity. Thus, changes in elk abundance over space and time can alter plant and animal communities at Valles Caldera.

### Mating Season

The mating season (rut) generally occurs from early September to mid-October. Elk gather in mixed herds—many females and calves, with a few bulls nearby. Bulls bugle to announce their availability and fitness to females and to warn and challenge other bulls. When answered, bulls move toward one another and sometimes engage



in battle for access to the cows. They crash their antlers together, push each other intensely, and wrestle for dominance. While loud and extremely strenuous, fights rarely cause serious injury. The weaker bull ultimately gives up and wanders off.

To learn more about the wildlife of the Pajarito Plateau, visit the County website: [lacnm.com/wildlife](http://lacnm.com/wildlife)

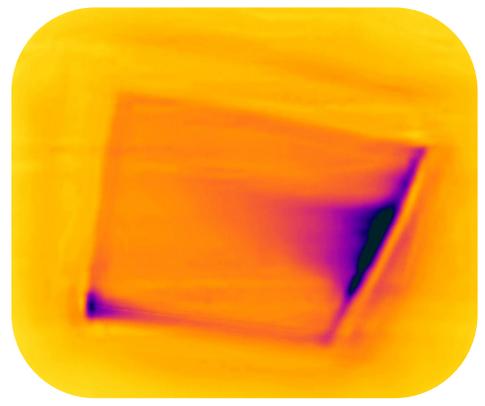
To learn more about living with wildlife, visit NM Game & Fish: [lacnm.us/NMGF](http://lacnm.us/NMGF)

## Efficiency Improvements: Where to Start?

DPU is unable, at this time, to provide energy audits. However, we have created an energy assessment you can perform on your own using a thermal camera. The FLIR thermal camera connects to a smartphone (Android or iPhone) and stores any photos you take directly to your phone's photo storage, not to the camera.

Using the following tools will help you understand where you should focus first:

- ◆ Thermal camera and DIY Energy Assessment
- ◆ Lifestyle and home improvement goals
- ◆ Consumption usage from the AMI portal
- ◆ Funding guidance and resources at [ladpu.com/IRA](http://ladpu.com/IRA)



*Thermal image of an attic access point. The darker areas indicate air leaks where colder air is coming into the living space.*

While the DPU will not perform these energy assessments for you, the conservation staff will help you interpret results, provide potential solutions, and understand your utility consumption patterns.

**Want to see the thermal cameras in action?**

**Join us October 26 at the Little Theatre for our 2nd Annual Ghost Hunt, 6:30-8:00 p.m.**

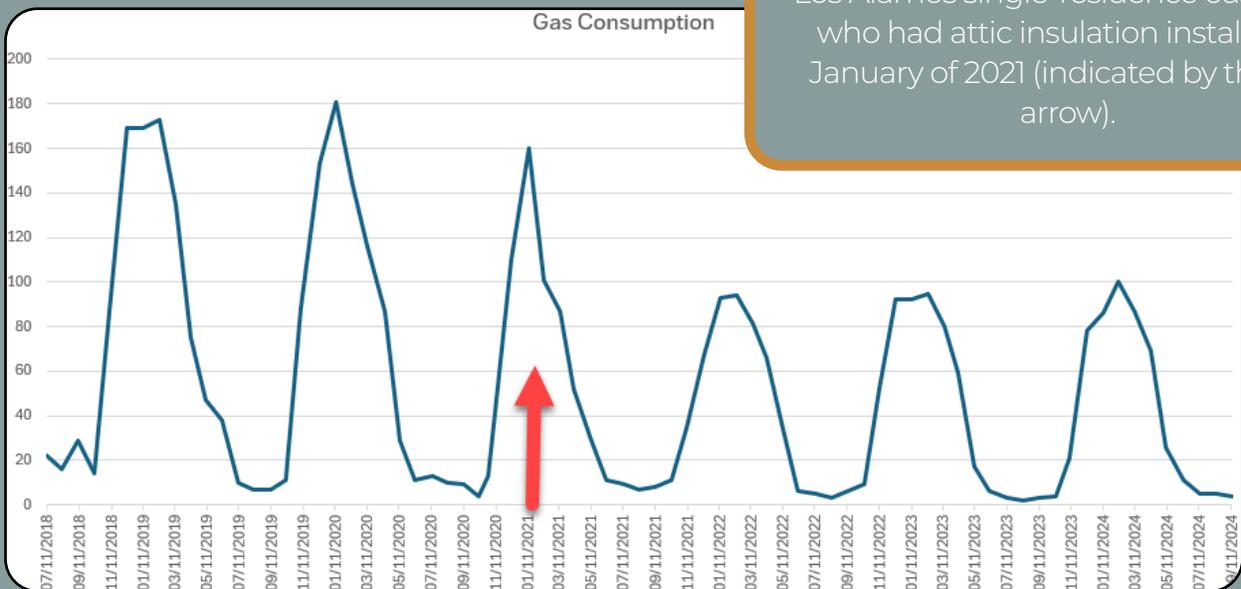
|                    | <u>Ease of installation</u><br>Easy-----  | -----More Technical   |
|--------------------|---|---|
| <b>Cost</b><br>Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• foam sealers for outlets and switches</li> <li>• child safety plugs for outlets</li> <li>• curtains/shades/etc.</li> <li>• water heater blanket</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• weatherstripping around doors and windows</li> <li>• ducting insulation</li> </ul>   |
| High               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• chimney draft blocker</li> <li>• hot water piping insulating tubes</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• window glass repair</li> <li>• crawlspace/basement insulation</li> <li>• attic insulation</li> <li>• minor roof hole/penetration repair</li> <li>• wall</li> </ul> |

## Money-Saving Measures

If you find yourself in need of assistance for weatherization measures, check out [ladpu.com/weather](http://ladpu.com/weather) for a variety of assistance programming available through partner organizations.

To the left is a table of general weatherization measures loosely organized by ease of installation and cost. This is not an exact nor comprehensive list.

This gas consumption chart shows the reduction in gas consumption from a Los Alamos single-residence customer who had attic insulation installed in January of 2021 (indicated by the red arrow).



## Events Galore!

Ghost Hunt at Los Alamos Little Theatre on October 26 from 6:30p-8p

Heat Pump Panel Discussion at PEEC on Oct. 30 from 6:30p-7:30p

Insulate, Insulate, Insulate: A Talk on Insulation at PEEC on Nov. 7 from 6:30p-7:30p

Home Energy: Innovations and Insights at Council Chambers on Nov. 18 from 5:30p-8p