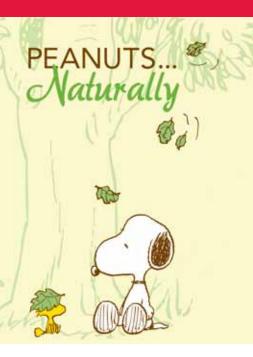
January 2012 | A newsletter to inform customers of Roseville Electric



Peanuts Characters are Coming to Roseville

Snoopy, Charlie Brown, Woodstock and the rest of the Peanuts gang are coming to Roseville and you can be one of the first to see them!

The Roseville Utility Exploration Center, 1501 Pleasant Grove Blvd., is hosting the grand opening of *Peanuts...Naturally*. This temporary exhibit, opens 5- 7 p.m., on Fri., Feb. 3.

This **FREE** opening celebration will feature tasty treats provided by the Roseville Whole Foods Market, photo opportunities with life-size Peanuts characters, and lessons on how to draw your favorite Peanuts character.

If you can't make it to the grand opening celebration – don't worry – the exhibit is here through April 29! Come and experience nature through Peanut's creator Charles Shultz's eyes and views on the universe; carefully interpreted through his character's unique, and sometimes wacky understanding of their world.

The *Peanuts...Naturally* temporary exhibit is *FREE* and runs Feb. 3 – Apr. 29, 2012. The exhibit is open Tuesday- Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information call (916) 746-1550 or visit

www.roseville.ca.us/peanuts

Be Storm Ready

with Tips from Roseville Electric

The winter season is upon us and although the temporary loss of power due to weather in Roseville is uncommon, we encourage customers to always be storm ready.

Before a storm hits, Roseville Electric suggest customers pick up debris in their yards, take down outdoor table umbrellas and remove and store lightweight patio furniture and cushions to prevent them from being carried away by the wind and into power lines.

You should also know where your electric service panel is located and how to operate the main circuit breaker just in case you need to turn power on or off in your home.

It is important to prepare an emergency kit and keep it in an easy to find location. Some retailers have emergency kits available which include: a manual can opener, a battery operated clock, flashlights, a corded telephone, bottled water and extra batteries. It is also advisable to purchase a battery operated radio or television to get news updates and safety warnings.

If the power goes out don't panic, call Roseville Electric's outage hotline at (916) 774-5428 to immediately report power failure. We recommend customers turn off major appliances and computer equipment to avoid damage from possible power surges when power is restored. Avoid opening your refrigerator or freezer during outages to keep food fresh.

Most importantly don't approach, drive over, or touch downed power lines – they may still be energized. If you come upon a downed power line, call 9-1-1 right away. For more information on storm preparedness visit

www.roseville.ca.us/bestormready





Staying Connected

Via Social Media

Roseville Electric customers can get the latest storm updates when they follow us using their favorite social media tools. Follow us on Twitter @RsvIElectricPIO and "like" our Facebook page (Roseville Utilities) to receive updates from your community-owned electric provider.

Making **Ends Meet**

Roseville Electric is committed to helping customers keep the lights on this winter by providing two assistance programs; the Electric Rate Assistance Program (ERAP) and the Medical Rate Assistance Program (MedRate).

Qualifying residential customers who meet the income criteria can receive a 15 percent discount on their monthly electric utility bills. Customers who are also dependent on a medical device can receive an additional discount. Income requirements for both programs are defined by Placer County and the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD).

For information about these programs, including the household income requirements and an application call (916) 774-5300 or visit www.roseville.ca.us/ERAP







Ten Steps to Save Energy and Money

Saving energy is easy and affordable especially when you know where to start! Roseville Electric's energy specialists have recommendations from simple tips to long-term investments to improve your home's overall comfort and efficiency.

Let's start simple, install a programmable thermostat to control the temperature while you're at home and away. Then, head to your local hardware store; pick up caulking, tape and weather stripping to seal leaky windows, doorways and air vents. These low cost improvements are easy to do and provide the most energy savings bang for your buck.

Customers seeking a larger reduction in monthly energy costs can take a few more steps. First, replace all incandescent lights with compact fluorescents (CFLs) or Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs). Second, take a peek in your attic to check out your ducts. If there are visible cracks, holes or disconnected pieces; call a specialist to have them sealed. And, while you're in the groove of upgrading your home's energy efficiency, consider planting shade trees in areas that will block the sun from streaming directly into your home during the sizzling summer months allowing your air conditioner to operate at its highest level. Now that you're committed, take it to

the next level by making energy saving investments in ENERGY STAR® appliances, new heating and cooling equipment and rooftop solar electric systems. These investments, although a bit more costly, will save you money and energy in the long term while enhancing the value of your home. Check with your bank or credit union for special home energy upgrade financing programs.

For more tips on how you can lower your bill, including a free customized online home energy audit call (916) 79-POWER (797-6937) or visit

www.roseville.ca.us/lowermybill

Energy Myth Busters: The Top 5 Energy Myths "De-Bunked"

At Roseville Electric we love chatting with customers. Often times we get asked about tips and suggestions regarding energy saving habits, tools and technologies. In an effort to help our customers, let's de-bunk the top five energy myths we hear.

Myth: Leaving lights, computers, and celing fans on uses less energy than turning them on and off.

Truth: In most cases, the small surge of power needed to start a device is much less than the power that is wasted by leaving it on when it is not needed.

Myth: Duct tape is the best choice for sealing ducts.

Truth: Although it may seem like the miracle tool, duct tape has very low durability when used to seal ducts, according to laboratory research. On new installations, duct tape will not last long without extensive surface preparation, especially in dirty or dusty locations. Over time, duct tape will fall off as the adhesive dries out and the tape starts to wrinkle. Mastic or metal-backed tapes (available at your local hardware store) are better choices for duct sealing.

Myth: When appliances and other electronics are turned off, they are off.

Truth: Many appliances and home electronic devices continue to use power after they have been turned off—sometimes as much as if they were on. This is

known as standby power or phantom load. The only way to stop the drain of power from these devices is to unplug them. **Myth:** CFLs are more harmful for the environment than traditional bulbs because they contain mercury.

Truth: CFLs do contain a trace amount of mercury that can be emitted into the atmosphere if the bulb is broken. However, mercury is also emitted into

the atmosphere as a result of electricity generation. Replacing traditional incandescent lights with CFLs will help reduce mercury emissions because CFLs are more efficient and use less electricity. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, a typical 60-watt incandescent bulb will result in 5.8 milligrams of mercury emissions over its lifetime. A comparable CFL bulb will emit only 1.8 milligrams—even if it ends up in a landfill. Recycling CFLs will result in even lower mercury emissions.

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Myth: Setting the thermostat higher or lower will heat or cool your home faster.

Truth: Homeowners often set the thermostat higher or lower than necessary, thinking it will

warm or cool their home faster, but furnaces and air-conditioners work at the same speed, no matter what the thermostat setting. A home will warm up to 70 degrees just as quickly if the thermostat is set at 70°F as it will if it is set at 80 degrees. In fact, more energy may be wasted as the heating or cooling system continues to run to reach the higher set point.

For additional ways to save energy at home call (916) 79-POWER (797-6937) or visit **www.roseville.ca.us/lowermybill**

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FIND US ON THE WEB: WWW.ROSEVILLE.CA.US/ELECTRIC



Have a Question?

If you have an energy-related question or want to know about an energy-efficiency technology or product, let us know. You can reach us by e-mailing rosevilleelectric@roseville.ca.us or by calling 79-POWER (797-6937).