

Electric Dispatch

May 2007 A newsletter to inform the customers of Roseville Electric



7 Daily Habits of Energy-Efficient People

- 1 Set thermostat to 78° in summer.
- 2 Close drapes and blinds on hot, summer days.
- 3 Do only full loads of wash, check dryer lint trap and vents for clogging. Hang laundry to dry when possible.
- 4 Turn off computers, printers and monitors when not in use. Avoid using screen savers—they waste energy.
- 5 Turn lights off when leaving a room.
- 6 Do only full dishwasher loads, use the energy saver, air dry cycle or open the door and air dry.
- 7 Unplug chargers and infrequently used electronic devices.

Take Action to Help Reduce Peak Load: Become a Roseville Power Partner

At least once each week, another global warming story hits the news. While the problem can feel overwhelming, if each of us takes action, together we can bring about change. One of the simplest, yet most effective actions you can take is to join the Roseville Power Partners team.

What is the Roseville Power Partners program?

It's a volunteer program that allows Roseville Electric to cycle air conditioners for a short time when electricity demand is highest. When everyone reduces their AC electric use by an unnoticeable level, the savings add up to a big benefit for all of us—today and tomorrow.

Will I notice the cycling?

Programs like Power Partners have existed for many years and customers typically don't notice a change at all. Only the compressor cycles, allowing fans to continue running so that most people are not aware when the cooling unit is cycling.

Why is this program so important to Roseville Electric?

The program is only effective if we have good participation, so we want to encourage everyone to sign up—the earlier the better. If we have enough Power Partners, we can really cut down on the city's peak power demands.

What is peak demand and why does it need to be cut?

California has ample electricity supplies most of the time, but when the thermometer climbs above 100°, air conditioners send electricity demand through the roof. Those demand spikes strain the power grid potentially causing power outages for everyone. By participating in Power Partners—and cycling air conditioners for short periods—we can keep demand at lower levels.

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Roseville Electric

Roseville Assists Customers in Need

We're here for customers who need a little extra help and support. The City of Roseville and Roseville Electric offer two programs designed to assist low-income families:

- Residents who qualify as low income may be eligible for housing rehabilitation loans and grants. Information is available at www.roseville.ca.us/housing or by calling 774-5270.

- Households in the very-low income range may be eligible for rate assistance on their energy bill. Find out more by calling 79-POWER (797-6937).
- Low income seniors are eligible for free minor household repairs. Contact Senior Independent Services at 782-6247.

When you call the numbers provided, staff will be happy to answer questions and provide help in determining if you qualify for rate assistance or housing rehabilitation support.



For more information, go to www.RosevilleElectric.org or call 79-POWER (797-6937).

Help Reduce Peak Load, continued

How do you cycle my air conditioner?

We install a switch on or near your outside air conditioner unit that allows us to cycle off and back on again. When a demand hits a certain level, we'll interrupt Power Partners' central air conditioning units for short periods of time—no more than 30 minutes per hour.

How will I benefit from the program?

You will help your community manage power on these critical peak days. We'll also give you an initial \$20 incentive the first year to sign up and have a device installed and you'll receive an additional \$10 every summer you participate. Your incentive payments will begin appearing as credits on your bill after your switch is installed.

This sounds easy, so how do I sign up?

We will soon begin to install the air conditioner switches so we would like everyone to sign up now. To be eligible, you must be a Roseville Electric customer with a central air conditioner. Also, you must agree to remain on the program for at least one year after your device is installed.

To enroll call 1-877-754-3566 and provide your account information. We'll contact you to schedule a time to install the switch device. The switch is installed on the outside unit, so you don't need to be home for us to perform the installation.

Are there any other programs I can take part in?

Absolutely! Become a Green Roseville customer and we will buy the amount of electricity you use from 100 percent renewable sources. You can also plant shade trees through the Roseville Shade Tree Program and take advantage of our generous rebate programs to help pay for high-efficiency measures that include air conditioners, appliances, windows, insulation, and more. To get the details on these programs, visit our Web site at www.RosevilleElectric.org.



Did You Know?

You may be spending up to 13 percent of your energy bill on things like your microwave clock, instant-on entertainment convenience and plugged-in battery chargers?

We would never think of leaving our cars turned on 24 hours a day so that we could jump in and go, yet that's what we unwittingly do with electronic appliances. According to several studies, instant-on convenience, clock features and cell phone chargers left plugged into the outlet may account for 7 to 13 percent of your household energy bill. In the big picture, it adds up to an annual energy waste of at least 64 million kilowatt hours, the output of 18 typical power generation facilities.

It's a problem big enough that a law went into effect in January limiting standby power amounts allowed on new electronics and appliances sold in California. But unless you recently purchased everything you own, there's a good chance you're leaking energy.

What can you do?

Unplug devices you use infrequently or for limited times. Walk around your home and see what's plugged in and not in use. You may find printers, coffee machines with clocks, stereos, DVD players, video game consoles, tool and toothbrush chargers, cell phone chargers, and more. When you need to use them, simply plug them in again. Added benefits could include protecting your home against electrical fires and extending the life of the equipment and appliances you own.



Roseville Electric's Green Energy Program

Step Up to Green Roseville and Leave a Smaller Footprint

In a 1995 speech to the United Nations, Native American leader Carol Jacobs cautioned that "we must tread lightly on the earth, for we are walking on the faces of our children yet to come." Though most people have never heard of Carol Jacobs, her ideal of treading lightly on the earth has gained support and momentum as the effects of mankind's heavy footsteps have become increasingly clear.

Roseville Electric offers its customers several opportunities to put that ideal into practice. One important way is by choosing to purchase renewable energy generated from the wind and sun through our Green Roseville program. The average Green Roseville residential customer pays about \$12 a month for the program, covering our higher cost to buy 100 percent of the power they use from renewable energy sources.

So every time you pay your Green Roseville utility bill, you can think of it as a gift to the children of tomorrow.

Signing up for Green Roseville is easy. Learn more about Green Roseville and sign up today by visiting the Green Roseville section at www.RosevilleElectric.org



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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 emailing rosevilleelectric@roseville.ca.us or by calling 79-POWER (797-6937).