

April 2008

Think 'green' as you spring clean

For many, clearing out and cleaning up is a rite of spring. As you tackle the clutter this spring, consider these simple energy-saving tips, which will help you save energy and protect the environment.

- **Clean or replace your heating and cooling system air filters.**
This quick and easy step will save your system from working harder than it should and help it last longer.
- **Vacuum your refrigerator coils.**
Use your vacuum's attachments, or a specially made refrigerator coil brush, to suck up dirt and debris and keep your compressor running efficiently.
- **Use your oven's self-cleaning feature while the oven's still hot.**
Use this feature only for big cleanups and time its use after you've already cooked something. Oven self-cleaning requires intense heat.
- **Rethink the spare refrigerator.**
Depending upon its size, age and location in the home, it could be costing you anywhere from \$50 to several hundred dollars a year.



e-power tip

Spare refrigerators can spell higher electricity bills. They're often old, inefficient models. If tucked in a hot garage, they may strain to stay cool.

The federal government's ENERGY STAR® Web site can help you estimate how much your backup fridge is costing you. Simply visit www.energystar.gov and select "Appliances," then "Refrigerators & Freezers."

The Web site's "Refrigerator Retirement Savings Calculator" can estimate how much you're spending based on model number or size, age and style.

- **Clean your dryer's lint screen every time you use it.**
Also make sure the exhaust vent is clean. A dirty vent or lint screen can reduce your unit's energy efficiency.
- **Dust off light fixtures.**
Dust buildup on light bulbs and lamp shades can limit light output and require you to use more lights than needed.

how to get in touch

Customer service:
1-800-342-5775
1-800-DIAL PPL
 Automated phone lines
 are open 24 hours a day,
 seven days a week.

Customer service
 representatives are available
Monday through Friday,
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Telecommunications Device for
 the Deaf: **1-800-231-7288 TTY**

Write to us at:
Connect
827 Hausman Road
Allentown, PA 18104-9392

Visit us on the Internet at:
www.pplelectric.com

Use landscaping to improve energy efficiency when planting this spring

Done right, landscaping can do more than beautify your property – it can save you energy and money.

Consider planting deciduous trees on the south- and west-facing sides of your home. As these trees mature, their leafy canopies can block the hot summer sun and lower your cooling costs. In the winter, they'll lose their leaves, allowing sun to warm your home.

Plantings can also provide shade for hard surfaces, like blacktop and walkways, that can get extremely hot in summer and radiate heat toward the home. And shading air-conditioning units can significantly improve their efficiency. Be sure you don't restrict your unit's air flow, though.

Last but not least, use evergreens, or a mixture of low-growing shrubs and taller trees, to create a buffer that will shelter your home from stiff winter winds.

With a little planning and patience, these steps can pay off in the long run.

Shading air-conditioning units can significantly improve their efficiency.

Plant smart around power lines

Picking the right tree for the right place helps everyone

Each year, trees and branches are a leading cause of power outages, and each year, we trim trees along thousands of miles of power lines to keep your electric service reliable.

By selecting the right tree for the right place, you can help us protect public safety, improve reliability, reduce tree-trimming expenses for everyone and ensure that your tree matures fully into its natural shape.

Tips to remember:

- Avoid planting trees near very large power lines (those with steel poles and towers). These lines are vital links in our delivery system, carry huge amounts of power and require big clearances.
- When planting near smaller, neighborhood lines, allow plenty of space.
- Consider how the tree will look – height and spread – when it's fully grown, and select trees that won't grow taller than 25 feet. Varieties like dogwoods, plums, crab apples and redbuds are appropriate.

Making a difference

PPL employees and retirees care about the communities where they live. One way they pitch in to make a difference is by supporting local United Way organizations.

PPL employees, in fact, have pledged to contribute more than \$1.9 million to the United Way in 2008.

These contributions will support the many community agencies whose good works in the community encourage, comfort and inspire.



"Highest in Customer Satisfaction with Residential Electric Service in the Eastern U.S. Seven Years in a Row."

PPL received the highest score in the East in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2001-2007 Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction StudySM. 2007 based on 29,042 total responses ranking the 14 largest providers in the East. Visit jdpower.com.

