Schools get A+ savings with PPL

There’s plenty of energy about saving energy in the North Pocono School District.

This is a place where they know their kilowatts, where student classroom duties go beyond the usual fare and include kilowatt-cutting jobs like turning off the lights and computers. It’s a place where teachers close classroom doors to help the heating and cooling system work more efficiently and where room light motion sensors are pointed just right, so lights go off when they should.

Since the Moscow, Pa.-based district first got involved in PPL Electric Utilities’ Continuous Energy Improvement program about three years ago, it has saved more than 2 million kilowatt-hours of electricity and saved more than $200,000, money that can now be used for education.

The savings come from physical and mechanical changes, such as new lighting, as well as behavioral changes, such as remembering to turn off lights, computers, copiers and more.

District officials say PPL’s ongoing guidance and energy monitoring tools have helped them get to a better place on energy use. “When we see the opportunity to save, we go after it, provided it makes sense,” said Dennis Cawley, the district’s business manager.

Wally Bell, North Pocono’s buildings and grounds director, said PPL has helped create a “culture of energy awareness.” His advice for other schools is to get started and keep at it. “Incremental change will get you where you need to go,” he said.

Ask Meg

What is the recommended temperature for my air conditioning in the summer?

To save energy and money, the federal Department of Energy recommends 78 degrees when you’re home. With a programmable thermostat, you can increase the temperature when you’re away and have it cool down for when you return. As always, make sure your AC unit is properly maintained. Looking for information on PPL’s energy efficiency programs? Visit pplelectric.com.

Have a question for our energy expert? Email us at connect@pplweb.com
Credit card fees now lower

If you use a credit or debit card to pay your electric bill, we have good news. The transaction fees are now lower.

The fee for residential customers is $1.50 per payment with a maximum payment amount of $1,000. There is no limit on the number of payments per day.

Previously, all customers paid a fee of $3.95 per transaction with a cap of $600.

Price to compare adjustment on June 1

The price to compare — what non-shopping customers pay for their electric supply — changed to 8.493 cents per kilowatt-hour for residential customers, effective June 1. That price will be in effect through Nov. 30.

By shopping for your electric supply, you could save. Check www.PAPowerSwitch.com for offers from state-approved suppliers. As always, make sure you understand all the terms of your supply contract, including whether the rate is fixed for a set period of time or can change over time. Also, make sure you know if cancellation fees apply.

Downed line? Stay away

Severe summer storms can sometimes bring down trees and power lines. If you come across a downed line, please stay far away. The ground around a downed line can be energized up to 35 feet away. Assume all downed lines are still carrying electricity.

Call us at 1-800-342-5775 (1-800-DIAL-PPL) and we’ll respond.

PPL volunteers clear the way

Nearly 30 PPL employees recently partnered with the Wildlands Conservancy to improve its half-mile sensory trail at the Pool Wildlife Sanctuary in Emmaus. The unique trail provides inclusive outdoor recreation for people with low or no vision and acts as a valuable educational tool.

Volunteers made repairs to the trail to make it safer and easier for visitors to use. They also worked on landscaping improvements and cleared brush where needed.

Don’t forget: We have news for you

If you’re involved with a newsletter that serves your group or community and need information for your publication, PPL Electric Utilities can help.

Just contact us at connect@pplweb.com and we can discuss how we can help with information on safety, energy efficiency and more.