

LINES

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DECEMBER 2008

Assistance Increases for Winter Energy Bills

Atlantic City Electric customers having problems paying their energy bills can look for extra help this winter.

Recently approved federal legislation increases the average assistance amount for participants of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) from \$355 to \$550 per family in 2009.

Customers seeking help should call 1-800-510-3102 or visit liheap.org for application information and eligibility guidelines. Help for customers in a temporary crisis also is available by calling New Jersey SHARES at 1-866-657-4273 or log on to njshares.org.

Keeping South Jersey Safe from Fire

Atlantic City Electric's Emergency Services Partnership Program donated 1,290 smoke alarms through the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety in October. It's part of our commitment to fire safety education for customers.

The donations included 90 special smoke detection units for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Over the past eight years, the utility donated 13,300 regular smoke alarms and 380 special needs smoke alarms for distribution to Garden State residents.

Our Commitment to Bettering the Lives of Others



Laura Whalen (center) of Partnership for the Delaware Estuary instructs Dara Robinson and Jailynn Hernandez on planting a tree as part of Atlantic City Electric's "Green Take Your Child to Work Day" held earlier this year.

Atlantic City Electric's commitment to making a difference in the lives of our neighbors is evident through our proud employees who donate their personal time and resources – not just during the holidays, but all year round.

In 2008, employees volunteered more than 2,000 hours for Special Olympics, Ocean Drive Marathon, the American Heart Association, Clean Ocean Action Beach Sweeps and other efforts.

In addition to employee time and resources, we've donated thousands of dollars to support about 350 organizations in southern New Jersey this year.

We sponsor the United Way Rubber Ducky Regatta, National Night Out and Big Brothers, Big Sisters Cycle for Kids Sake among many others.

Our community outreach during the holiday season includes donating gifts and meals to the Community Food Bank of New Jersey – Southern Branch and the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services.

Community outreach efforts are important to us and we will continue to help improve the quality of life of the communities we serve.

POWER OUT? CALL 1-800-833-7476

Use Caution When Decorating for the Holidays

Many people celebrate the winter holidays by cooking, entertaining and decorating. Stay safe by following the National Fire Protection Association's tips for holiday decorating:

- buy flame-retardant, flame-resistant or non-combustible materials whenever possible,
- only purchase lights and electrical decorations with UL, CSA or ETL-SEMCO certification marks,
- inspect new and previously-bought light strings – replace damaged items before plugging them in,
- keep children and pets away from light strings and decorations, and
- always be sure to turn off all decorations and light strings before leaving home or going to bed.

For more fire prevention and decorating safety information, visit nfpa.org.

Did You Know?

I've heard that LEDs are more efficient for holiday lighting, but they cost more than traditional lights. Are they worth it?

Yes. Light-emitting diodes (LEDs) are small light sources illuminated by the movement of electrons through a semiconductor material – and they are worth the extra money.

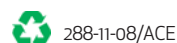
According to ENERGY STAR®, LEDs are very energy efficient when producing individual colors, such as those used in many holiday lights. LEDs use up to 90 percent less energy than incandescent bulbs to produce the same amount of light.

The amount of electricity consumed by just one 7-watt incandescent bulb could power 140 LEDs – enough to light two 24-foot strings of bulbs.

Still not convinced? ENERGY STAR qualified LEDs are worth the extra money because they:

- last up to 10 times longer than traditional incandescent strands,
- are cool to the touch, reducing the risk of fire,
- don't have filaments or glass so they are much more durable and shock-resistant than other light strings,
- come with a three-year warranty, and
- will absorb their initial cost after about one to two years of use.

Learn more about LEDs by visiting energystar.gov.



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IN SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY:

Jan 1-4: *Old-Fashioned Christmas Exhibit*; Carriage House Gallery, Emlen Physick Estate, Cape May; 609-884-5404.

Jan 17: *Philharmonic of Southern New Jersey's Winter Concert*; Eastern Regional High School, Voorhees; 856-779-2600, www.psnj.org.

Jan 18: *Barbone Street Jazz Band*; American Legion, Brooklawn; www.tristatejazz.org.

Jan 17: *First Local Free Black Settlement Exhibit Opens*; Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts, Cape May; 609-884-5404, www.capemay-mac.org.

FOR MORE THINGS TO DO IN THE REGION, click on "About Us" and then "In the Community" at atlanticcityelectric.com.

To include a future event in Lines or online, fax to: 302-283-6095, or send an e-mail to Lines@atlanticcityelectric.com.

Use Candles with Care

Candles add to the warmth and festivity of holiday celebrations. Unfortunately, candles cause thousands of home fires annually through misuse, resulting in property damage, injury and even death.

The National Candle Safety Association offers the following tips for keeping your home and family safe:

- never leave a burning candle unattended – extinguish it before going to bed or leaving home,
- never place a burning candle near something that can catch fire, and
- keep burning candles out of the reach of children or pets.

Atlantic City Electric suggests using battery operated candles – they're much safer. Learn more at candle-safety.org.

Customer Service, Mon-Fri, 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.: (800) 642-3780
TTY Telephone Number for Hearing Impaired: (800) 898-8056
To Report Power Outages: (800) 833-7476