

HELPING OTHERS IN TOUGH TIMES

If you can help others during these tough economic times, please consider a contribution to the Salvation Army's Good Neighbor Energy Fund. There are green donation envelopes enclosed with all electric bills in January and February.



This worthy cause helps area individuals and families in temporary financial crisis who cannot pay their energy bills and do not qualify for federal or state funds. This could include the working poor, elderly, and others with short-term problems. Thank you!

CONCORD LIGHT CARES

Enhanced central AC rebates available

Concord Light is making it more attractive than ever for you to make energy-efficient choices on your home's central air conditioning system.

Enhanced rebates are now available on the installation of certain energy-efficient heat pumps and central air conditioning units. The new rebate amounts are earned according to each unit's size and energy efficiency rating (EER).

Rebates range from \$75 to \$150 per ton of cooling capacity, depending on the unit's EER rating. To qualify, a unit needs a minimum EER rating of 11. The maximum rebate is for units with an EER rating of 14 or above. Depending on the size of the unit installed, these amounts represent a two- to three-fold increase over our former flat \$150 rebate.

"Customers who make very efficient

choices will save three ways," said Dan Sack, Concord Light's Director. "They'll enjoy an immediate rebate, save on their own energy bills, and help hold down the town's power costs by reducing our need to buy expensive peak energy."

The enhanced rebates are part of Concord Light CARES—Conservation And Renewable Energy Services—a group of new utility initiatives aimed at electric capacity reduction and electricity conservation.

Holding down Concord's peak demand for electricity makes sense because it cuts the town's power supply costs and also reduces the region's need for expensive and often environmentally unfriendly peaking power plants. For more details on the AC rebate program, visit concordma.gov/cmlp or call 978-318-3151.

We're your hometown utility

Concord Light is owned by the people of Concord, which means it operates for the sole benefit of our customers and their community. Since 1898, our hometown utility has been a valuable local asset.

Unlike the big, investor-owned companies, Concord Light has no outside stockholders to satisfy. As a result, all

utility benefits flow back to our customers in the form of lower rates, greater reliability and superior customer service.

If you ever have any questions or concerns about your electric service, please feel free to call or stop by our office. We're right here in town and we're happy to help.

BILL COMPARISON

Concord Light	\$121.38	925 kilowatt-hours January 2009
NStar	\$186.93	

briefs

We're collecting solar data. We continue to collect data on the two solar demonstration projects now operating at the homes of two local families. Watch upcoming *LightLines* for performance details on both the domestic hot water and photovoltaic installations.

Green power update. We've been patiently waiting for our green power option to become a reality during complex construction challenges at the Acton Hydro plant. Work has ceased for the winter and the plant's owner plans to resume construction in the spring. If all goes well, the owner now expects the plant to be operating by the fall of 2009, producing green power that could eliminate the need to burn some 30,000 gallons of oil annually.

DON'T TOUCH THAT WIRE!

There is just one rule to follow if you see a fallen power line—stay away. To stay safe:

- Don't go outside to investigate downed lines you see. Stay inside and call for help.



- Consider every wire to be live and dangerous.

- Do not touch downed lines or use any object to move them.

- Never drive over downed power lines.

- Do not approach a car that is touching power lines.

- Call Concord Light or 911 for help.

Free calendars feature student art

Congratulations to the 13 winning artists in Concord Light's annual calendar contest. Their outstanding work is featured in the 2009 calendars that are available free while supplies last at Concord Light and the Townhouse. Our thanks to the hundreds of local third- and fourth-graders who participated by translating electric safety and conservation lessons into colorful artwork.

This year's winners are Caroline Crass, Eliane Judge, Lauren Medeiros and Grace Pacelle of the Alcott School; Alyssa Atton, Michael Bonanno, Fiona MacKenzie, Mireille Manzella, Megan Murphy, Lia Sgarzi and Emma Walker of the Thoreau School; Kylee Bowen and Sophia Kramer of the Willard School.



Mireille Manzella of the Thoreau School had safety in mind with this illustration that is featured in September in our 2009 calendar.



Lauren Medeiros of the Alcott School created art with a conservation message for the cover of Concord Light's 2009 calendar.

ETS still costs less than oil or gas

Even with the falling cost of fossil fuels this winter, heating with ETS—electric thermal storage—is still well below the cost of oil or natural gas.

According to current estimates,* heating with the most efficient ETS units can save nearly \$1,000 a year compared to the cost of heating a 3,000 square foot home with oil. The same ETS units can still beat natural gas prices by hundreds

of dollars as well.

ETS uses low-cost electricity during off-peak hours to store heat that can be used any time. ETS works with a variety of heating systems, including forced-hot-water, forced-hot-air, and individual room units. For more details call 978-318-3151 or e-mail jodell@concordma.gov.

*prices as of 11/20/08



Concord Municipal Light Plant

Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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