



Electric Dispatch

March 2010 | A newsletter to inform customers of Roseville Electric

Upgrade Your Appliances and 'Double Dip' on Rebates

If you've been thinking about upgrading your old clothes washer, refrigerator and room air conditioners to a newer, energy efficient model then now is the time. Using federal stimulus funds, the California Energy Commission has a \$35.2 million dollar "cash for appliances" program. The cash for appliance rebates are in addition to rebates offered by Roseville Electric and Environmental Utilities allowing customers to double dip when upgrading energy efficient electric appliances.

The program is designed to take less efficient appliances out of circulation while providing a boost to the economy through consumer spending. The state is partnering with appliance retailers, like Sears®, to assist with advertising and hauling away old appliances. To take advantage of the state's rebates new appliances must bear the ENERGY STAR™ label and meet energy commission requirements.

The state rebate amounts are:

- **\$75 for refrigerators**
- **\$100 for clothes washers**
- **\$50 for room AC units**

Like most rebate programs this "cash for appliances" program is available for a limited time. Don't miss out on your chance to take advantage of this one-time 'double dipping' opportunity by combining a state rebate with rebates offered by Roseville Electric and Roseville Environmental Utilities.

Visit www.roseville.ca.us/rebates for information about the Roseville program and www.cash4appliances.ca.gov for information on the State program.



Local Professionals

Host Green Living Workshops

Join your friends and neighbors on a journey of sustainability; where some of the region's best minds in green gardening, solar design, water and energy conservation, recycled art and waste reduction provide interactive workshops and events at the Roseville Utility Exploration Center.

Some classes and camps are designed specifically for children while others are appropriate for mixed age groups. In most cases the program fees are one price for the whole family to encourage participation and keep costs at a minimum.

Download a free copy of the Exploration Center's Green Living Workshop brochure at www.roseville.ca.us/explore or call 746-1550 to request one to be mailed to your home. Be sure to register for classes early as space is limited!



Roseville Electric

Don't let Mylar Balloons **Ruin the Party**

Mylar balloons may sparkle and come in a variety of shapes and colors, but they are also made of a metallic material that can be dangerous around utility lines. Mylar balloons that escape or are let go can cause short circuits, blackouts and equipment failure if they come in contact with power lines.

As graduation and holiday season draws near it is important to keep these tips in mind:

- Always secure a weight to metallic balloons
- Never release Mylar and metallic balloons outdoors
- Keep metallic balloons away from utility and power lines
- Never use metallic ribbon with metallic balloons, it is illegal (CA 1559.653.1)
- Always deflate metallic balloons and dispose of them properly

"Mylar balloons pose a threat to Roseville Electric's power system and its reliability," says Mike Parker, Roseville Electric's dispatch supervisor. "If balloons become entangled in utility lines do not try and retrieve them. Call Roseville Electric's dispatch center at 774-5428 immediately and someone will come out to remove them."

Mylar balloons may seem like innocent party favors but are quickly becoming uninvited guests all across the state. The Los Angeles Times reports the total loss to utilities and businesses from Mylar balloon related incidences is estimated at more than \$120 million every year.

Roseville residents can help reduce the risk of Mylar balloon related incidences in by celebrating responsibly and purchasing latex balloon products whenever possible.





It's Earth Day and **We're Gonna Celebrate!**

You're invited to join more than 3,500 of your friends and neighbors as we celebrate the earth on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at the Roseville Utility Exploration Center in Mahany Regional Park.

Sponsored by Roseville Electric and Roseville Environmental Utilities this FREE event features children and family activities and is the centerpiece of two weeks worth of Earth Day related activities in Placer County.

Reconnect with nature exploring the event's various activity zones. Nibble on tasty treats in the organic food market while you enjoy a show by children's entertainer Dr. Solar, a talented magician and ventriloquist. Cruise over to the alternative transportation zone to check out the newest hybrid and fuel cell vehicles. Finally, don't forget to chat with the more representatives from 70 local businesses that feature a variety of earth friendly products and services to help you and your family live a healthy lifestyle.



The City's Sustainability Action Committee is **Looking for your Input!**

The City's Sustainability Action Committee welcomes any and all environmentally friendly ideas to create a more sustainable community and reduce greenhouse gases. Submit your ideas in person at the City's Earth Day celebration and comment on the work of the Committee to date in preparing a community-wide Sustainability Action Plan by visiting the City's website at www.roseville.ca.us/greencommittee

Lower Your Bill - Save Money and Energy

Whoever said that "knowledge is power" was right on the money – literally! At Roseville Electric we believe that you hold the key when it comes to lowering your energy bill and we can show you how.

The first step in reducing your energy use is to understand how you use energy in your home. Take a free online customized energy and water audit. Understanding how you use resources at home will help you get started in making your home more efficient

Secondly, using our energy calculator, see how much it costs you to run the most common household appliances including, refrigerators, televisions, pool filters and air conditioners. The

calculator takes into consideration how much energy you use and gives you an estimate using Roseville Electric's rates.

Finally, learning how to read your own electric meter can help you determine how much energy your family uses on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. Roseville Electric provides you with a simple worksheet that teaches you how to read your meter and track your readings.

Remember, you can also lower your bill by taking advantage of Roseville Electric's generous rebates and by planting shade trees around your home. Visit www.roseville.ca.us/lowermybill or call us at 79-POWER.

Spring is an Excellent Time to Plant Shade Trees

Now is a great time to save energy and beautify your home with shade trees from Roseville Electric. The new Shade Tree program offers Roseville residents a \$30 rebate for each qualifying tree you purchase and plant on your property. Trees not only add beauty and value to your home but they can also save you up to 40 percent on summer cooling costs.

Visit www.roseville.ca.us/shadetree and select a species of tree (or trees) from the recommended tree list. Next, go to your favorite nursery or home and garden store and purchase the trees. After you have planted your trees complete the rebate application available on Roseville Electric's website. Attach a copy of your shade tree receipts and mail them in to collect your rebate. Roseville Electric customers can get rebates for up to six trees per home.

There are two things to remember when planting your new shade trees. First, do not plant shade trees on the north side of your home. They provide no value when it comes to lowering cooling costs. Secondly, avoid planting trees that may shade a homeowner's solar electric system. This includes your system and your neighbor's system. You can still plant trees; you will need to select a smaller variety to avoid this from becoming an issue. For questions about our Shade Tree rebates call 79-POWER.



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