



## TIDINGS

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# ENERGY MYTH



BEACHES | ENERGY  
S E R V I C E S

*Ride the Green Wave*

### ENERGY MYTH #4:

New energy-saving windows save a lot of money.

Not for a very long while—that's the myth buster. Purchase cost can be high to replace standard windows with energy-efficient models. They do save energy, but recouping the cost through lower bills could take up to 40 years. Less expensive options are caulking, window film or screen, and drapes, blinds, and awnings. Contact our Energy Conservation Specialist at 904-247-6241 for advice specific to your home. He'll also know when new windows are a good choice. (See *Tidings Tips* for more window wisdom.)





## Tidings Tips: Considering New Windows

New energy-efficient windows, double- or triple-paned, can be right for your home, *definitely so* if old windows need replacement because of fogging or operating problems. Some thoughts when weighing replacement costs:

- Aesthetics and comfort will improve.
- You might replace only some windows. East- and west-facing windows benefit most from reducing solar heat gain.
- New windows protect furniture, art, and carpets from sun damage.
- Attractive windows improve a home's resale value.
- If you purchase new windows, doors, or skylights, Energy Star-qualified items are recommended. They save up to 15% in energy costs. Some are also eligible for a federal tax credit. Look for a new blue oval label, signifying both Energy Star- and credit-qualified.

### Electric price for 1,000 kilowatt-hours

	April	May
Base charge, residential	\$4.50	\$4.50
KWH base charge	\$73.57	\$73.57
Power cost adjustment	\$59.84	\$59.84
Total	\$137.91	\$137.91

## Hurry for Florida's Energy Star Rebates

If you buy an Energy Star appliance during Florida's 20% rebate program—April 16 through April 25—don't delay in submitting your rebate application. **State funds are limited.** The program includes refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, dishwashers, room air conditioners, and tankless gas water heaters. Go to [www.beachesenergy.com](http://www.beachesenergy.com) for more information.

## Federal Energy Tax Credits (for Windows Too)

Homeowners can receive income tax credits for certain home improvements purchased and installed from January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2010. Products include windows, insulation, doors, roofs, and heating and cooling equipment. The tax credit is 30% of the product cost, up to \$1,500. New home construction also qualifies for some credits. For full details, go to [www.energystar.com](http://www.energystar.com) (search for "tax credits"). **And don't forget Beaches Energy Services rebates: energy efficiency adds up!**



## Watering Restrictions Spring Forward

During Daylight Savings Time (DST), mandatory lawn-watering restrictions changed from once to twice per week. DST began Sunday, March 14, at 2:00 A.M.. Watering schedules are Wednesday/Saturday for odd-numbered addresses, Thursday/Sunday for even addresses, and Tuesday/Friday for nonresidential properties. Call 800-232-0904 for more information.