



TIDINGS

in this issue

Green Halloween

Energy Awareness Month

Tidings Tips: Ghosts Beware!

ENERGY MYTH

ENERGY MYTH #10:

Appliances and electronics do not use energy when turned off.

Appliances draw energy for “standby power” even when off. This sneaky energy use has spooky names—vampire power, phantom loads, ghost power—but the cost is real. Ghost power is everywhere in your home: electronics that have a remote, a sleep mode, or a power-pack plug; battery chargers; appliances with lighted dials or clocks. They can use up to 5% of home energy use when supposedly off. Unplugging is the only solution, made easy with power strips. To banish the phantoms, just flip the switch.



BEACHES | ENERGY
SERVICES

Ride the Green Wave



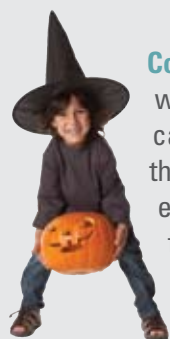
Spooktacular Energy Saving

Darkness may be the perfect atmosphere for Halloween, but little goblins need some light for trick-or-treating and fun-filled parties. Try these ideas for an energy-conscious Halloween.

Lighting. LED lights, available in festive colors and Halloween themes, last up to 133 times longer than incandescents, cost 80% less to use, and are safer because they're cool to the touch.



Solar lighting uses no electricity and, yes, you can buy spooky versions. Finally, shakable, battery-less flashlights are a bright idea for going house to house.



Costumes and Parties. Make creative costumes with what you have at home—adult clothes, cardboard, costume jewelry, foil—rather than buying a synthetic-fabric costume. With every party choice, from plates to decorations to favors, think, "Can this be reused or recycled?" Choose items with minimal packaging. Candy may be unavoidable, but consider crayons and other art supplies for some treats. Make this Halloween green and energy-lean.

Electric price for 1,000 kilowatt-hours

	September	October
Base charge, residential	\$4.50	\$4.50
KWH base charge	\$74.57	\$74.57
Power cost adjustment	\$58.84	\$55.84
Total	\$137.91	\$134.91

Hitting Our Energy Targets

Powering America: We're on Target. The theme for October's Energy Awareness Month is all about focus. Across the nation, in families and businesses, on the road and in the home, Americans are zeroing in on crucial energy targets. Using less energy lowers operating costs, cuts greenhouse gases, creates jobs, stimulates the economy, and leads to energy and economic security.



Each energy-efficient choice we make moves us closer to our target—from choosing CFLs and Energy Star products to keeping our thermostats at 68°



during the winter and 78° or higher during the summer. By replacing gas-hungry cars with fuel-efficient hybrids, we can push farther, faster. Investments in clean technologies? They hit the bull's eye. This month and every month, keep your eye on the energy target.

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Tidings Tips: Busting Ghost Power

- Office equipment not rated Energy Star can use up to twice as much energy to operate. Remember this when replacing computers, monitors, printers, modems, and faxes.
- Energy Star appliances and electronics also use less power in standby.
- For short breaks from your computer, use sleep mode, not an energy-eating screensaver. When away two hours or more, turn the computer off. Leaving it on 24/7 wastes energy and money.

