



TIDINGS

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BEACHES | ENERGY
SERVICES

Ride the Green Wave

Plan. Prepare. Don't Panic.

It's hurricane season. When a hurricane is coming, watch for warning flags at the beach and listen to media information. Hurricane hazards come in many forms, including storm surge, high winds, tornadoes, and flooding. This means it is important to prepare your home and family in advance. At beachesenergy.com, find evacuation routes, vital checklists, and shelters. Evacuate if told to! Whether the order is to leave or 'shelter in place,' shut off appliances and AC and unplug all cords, except for the refrigerator (read about surge arrestors on page 2). If power is lost and restored, re-plug gradually. If water enters your home, safely cut power off at the breaker box if it is possible. Do not restore power without an expert inspection.



Tidings Tips: More Storm Safety

- Avoid all contact with downed power lines, whether sparking or not. Do not touch a person in contact with a line. Remember that debris may cover a line. Call our 24-hour emergency line at 904-247-6171.
- Portable generators have benefits but can be very dangerous. Download an excellent safety brochure at our home page under Useful Resources.
- Colorless, odorless, deadly carbon monoxide is the greatest threat. Do not operate a generator indoors or in a partially enclosed space. Buy a carbon monoxide alarm.
- Never plug a generator into home wiring. This produces backfeed—the energizing of electric distribution lines. Utility workers or neighbors can be electrocuted.
- Don't store generator gasoline in living areas or near pilot lights. Vapors can travel and ignite. Before refueling a generator, always turn it off and let it cool.



Electric price for 1,000 kilowatt-hours

	June	July
Base charge, residential	\$4.50	\$4.50
KWH base charge	\$74.57	\$74.57
Power cost adjustment	\$50.84	\$50.84
Total	\$129.91	\$129.91

Free Energy Audits Pay Off

We love to hear from customers who have seen their bills drop after a home energy audit. You can join them! Energy audits through Beaches Energy Services, either at-home or on-line, are free to residential customers. Both types of audit produce energy-saving recommendations **specific** to your home and habits—most of them simple. Both also provide much eye-opening information. Explore Energy Depot's extensive features at our web site (even an energy calculator for appliances), or call 904-247-6241 to schedule an appointment with our auditor.

Beaches Energy Services cautions our customers about phone solicitation by firms offering "free" energy audits. Before letting an unfamiliar company come into your home, inquire carefully.



Meter-Based Vs. Plug-In Surge Protection

A First Line of Defense. Plugging appliances into home surge suppressors is a familiar way to protect appliances from lightning strikes, which can surge electricity into power lines. A meter-based surge arrestor—installed by Beaches Energy Services—stops the surge at the meter, before it enters your home. It handles surges 100 times greater than plug-in suppressors.

Protect Major Appliances and Air Systems. Lightning surges can destroy expensive motorized appliances like refrigerators and air conditioning. We offer this program to give customers peace of mind. The residential monthly charge of \$3.50 includes free installation, maintenance, and a limited damage warranty.

What About Electronics? Computers and media equipment can be super-sensitive to surges. Also, they usually have another electrical entry point, such as a telephone or cable line. We recommend that customers use high-quality plug-in suppressors for electronics.

Our meter-based surge arrestor device is strictly a power line surge suppressor that will protect all motor-driven appliances, from pool pump to dishwasher. To find out more, call us at 904-247-6241 or go to My Account at beachesenergy.com.