



## TIDINGS

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Beaches Energy Services applauds artists living and working in our unique community. In 2012, each issue of *Tidings* will feature an artwork chosen for its ability to depict "The Art of Conservation" and our quality of life here at the beaches. March's featured work is a watercolor, entitled "Beach Access, Eighth Avenue, North Light" by local artist Kurtis Loftus. To view more of his work, visit [www.thekurtisgroup.com](http://www.thekurtisgroup.com). Read more about the entire Collection by visiting [www.beachesenergy.com](http://www.beachesenergy.com).



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BEACHES | ENERGY  
S E R V I C E S

*Ride the Green Wave*

## Community: Practicing the Fine Art of Conservation.

Providing a safe and reliable power supply, as well as environmentally sound programs to protect our sea turtles, are just two of the ways Beaches Energy Services shows its commitment to our customers and our environment—the entire community. Earth Day helps us all stay reminded of our need to protect the environment. *Living daily with an appreciation of our unique environment is an art.*



**Conservation Tip:** A programmable thermostat is ideal for people who are away from home during set periods of time throughout the week. By using pre-programmed settings, this smart investment can save you about \$180 every year in energy costs.



## Tidings Tips: Condition Your Air Conditioning System

The approaching spring and summer's heat makes it a great time to review your HVAC maintenance checklist:

- Trim bushes and shrubs around your outdoor units to allow at least two feet of clearance.
- Remove leaves and debris from inside the top grille of the outside unit.
- Replace your air conditioner filter.
- Rinse the coils on your outside unit.



Now is a good time to have your HVAC service professional do a spring check-up. In typical Florida homes, about 20 percent of the air that moves through the duct system is lost due to leaks, holes and poorly connected ducts. There are several things you can do to improve duct performance in your home. First, start by sealing leaks using foil tape (UL181) and mastic sealant. In addition, make sure that the connections at vents and registers are well sealed where they meet the floors, walls and ceiling.

## What Our Customers Tell Us

“Beaches Energy offered to perform, at no charge, a thermal test of our insulation using a ‘thermal camera.’ This involved evaluating the quality and thickness of the foam insulation that was applied by our insulation contractor. As a result, we had the contractor add insulation in several areas that were determined to be deficient. We now feel confident that we have an extremely tight, well insulated home.”

Dave Leininger

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

	February	March
Base charge, residential	\$4.50	\$4.50
KWH base charge	\$75.57	\$75.57
Power cost adjustment	\$47.84	\$47.84
Total	\$127.91	\$127.91

## ENERGY STAR Saves Money and Helps the Earth

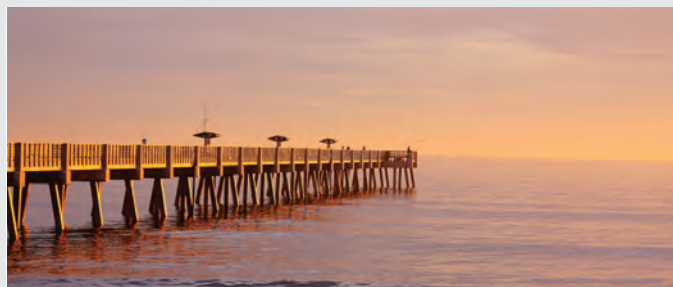
Did you know that as much as half of the energy used in your home goes to heating and cooling? If your HVAC equipment is not keeping your house comfortable, have it evaluated by a professional HVAC contractor.



If it's not performing efficiently or needs upgrading, consider replacing it with a unit that has earned the ENERGY STAR rating. ENERGY STAR systems have higher seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER) ratings making them about 14% more efficient than standard models.



**While you save, don't forget to make a difference on Earth Day 2012, March 31st.**



## Beautiful Beaches Are Reason to Celebrate!

Jacksonville Beach has pledged to uphold responsibilities to manage water quality, beach and inter-tidal conditions, hazards, services, habitat conservation, public information and education and erosion management. Beaches Energy Services celebrates our community's will to uphold it. Check out events happening this month on the beach at [www.jacksonvillebeach.org/visitors/special-events](http://www.jacksonvillebeach.org/visitors/special-events).

