



## TIDINGS in this issue

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Show That You CARE

**2013 BEACHES COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS:** Introducing Maurice Rudolph, Past President of the American Red Cross Lifesaving Corps, which has been watching over the Jacksonville Beaches for over a century. Maurice sees the youth programs of the ARCVC as extremely valuable to the future of our community. Pictured here is Maurice Rudolph at top, Tommy Cassarro at left, and George Paugh on the right. Read more about Beaches Community Champions at [www.beachesenergy.com](http://www.beachesenergy.com).



BEACHES | ENERGY  
SERVICES

*Ride the Green Wave*

### A Legacy of Leadership, Fitness and Community Responsibility

Beaches Energy Services salutes Maurice (Mo) Rudolph and all of the volunteer lifeguards who help prevent accidental drowning and teach open water safety to youth ages 9–15. This year, Mo celebrates his 25th year with the Lifesaving Corps. Since joining at age 16, he is a firm believer in the corps' ability to develop community responsibility and contribute to society and the greater good. Training programs give instruction in open water lifesaving skills to local residents and expand to international shores via the "Lifeguarding without Borders" initiative. Volunteers staff the station and the beach on Sundays and holidays, and Beaches Energy Services appreciates their contribution and leadership, which strengthens our community.

## Ways to Show You CARE

Occasionally elderly, disabled or low-income members of our beaches community are simply unable to pay their utility bill because of a sudden or temporary financial crisis. The Beaches Energy Services CARE Program is designed to help until they can sort out their situations. The CARE Program depends on your help to make it work. We encourage our customers in Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Ponte Vedra Beach, and Palm Valley to donate a small amount each month to the CARE Program. It's easy to be a friend and donate. You can volunteer to make monthly contributions by simply completing a sign-up form, which you can download from [www.beachesenergy.com](http://www.beachesenergy.com). Beaches Energy Services will match all contributions, doubling the impact of your generosity.



## Tidings Tips: Smart Ways to Keep Your Home Cool

- When you are home in summer, set your thermostat to 78 degrees and raise it 3-5 degrees when you are away.
- Keep blinds or drapes drawn during the heat of the day.
- If you have an inefficient central heating/cooling system, consider replacing it with a high efficiency heat pump. Beaches Energy is offering a \$300 rebate for 15 SEER heat pumps and a \$100 rebate for 14 SEER heat pumps.
- Clean or replace your cooling system filters monthly. Dirty filters restrict air flow, causing the system to use more energy.
- Use your fans when rooms are occupied. The increased air movement can make you feel 3-5 degrees cooler.
- Keep shrubbery, leaves and debris from blocking the air flow around the air conditioning condenser coil.
- Leave your central heating and cooling system thermostat fan control switch in the "auto" position.



## E-Billing Saves Paper, Time and Resources

Save time, energy and resources by opting to receive your energy bill online. Go paperless at <http://www.beachesenergy.com/my-account/> and apply for E-bill notifications.

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

	July	August
Base charge, residential	\$4.50	\$4.50
KWH base charge	\$75.57	\$75.57
Power cost adjustment	\$44.84	\$44.84
Total	\$124.91	\$124.91

## SAVE With a FREE Residential Energy Audit

Increasing your home's energy efficiency is good for everyone. Beaches Energy Services offers free residential energy audits to help you get started saving energy and money. At your convenience, our Energy Advisor will perform a detailed energy analysis of your home and make recommendations to help reduce your energy bill. Call 904-247-6241 to schedule your free Energy Audit – and start to save!

We also provide energy tips and have resource tools at [www.beachesenergy.com](http://www.beachesenergy.com) where you can perform a do-it-yourself analysis of energy consumption throughout your home while learning how to reduce energy use and save money. Through the energy calculator, you will be able to estimate the annual energy use and cost to operate your home energy systems and appliances. When making energy saving home improvements, call our office to speak with our energy analyst and ask about our rebates—we are here to help.

## Smart Landscaping Saves Water and Energy

Curb appeal is a big factor most homeowners must consider, and landscaping is a large part of that. Summer months can be the costliest for households during the year, due to heavy usage of water and air conditioning. A well-designed landscape with shade trees adds beauty to your home and can reduce cooling costs. Energy-conserving landscape strategies will depend on where you live, and in our hot and humid climate, you can:

- Pay attention to the weather. Overwatering your plants and lawn costs you money, isn't good for the plants and results in a great deal of water runoff. Avoid locating planting beds close to the home if they require frequent watering.
- Take advantage of daylight. Days are longer during the summer, which means natural daylight can provide the lighting in your home for longer hours.
- Set up a rain barrel—a very effective way to save water during the spring and summer months. For every inch of rain that falls on a 750 sq. ft. roof, you can collect 450 gallons of water. This can be utilized to water plants, flowers, gardens, and lawns and reduce your overall water consumption.
- Shade reduces energy costs. Strategically plant trees and shrubs around your home. Shade can reduce the radiant heat gain and cool the air before it reaches your home's walls and windows.



## Hurricane Flood Protection

Hurricanes and other tropical storms are the primary source of flooding in our community. You can find additional information concerning flooding, flood insurance, and flood protection at [www.jacksonvillebeach.org](http://www.jacksonvillebeach.org).