



Ride the Green Wave

# **Water Conservation Means Not Taking It For Granted.**

Conservation and the use of alternative water supplies will help ensure our future water resources. By installing rain barrels, cisterns or rain gardens, you can harness our seasonal rainfall and enjoy water for irrigation or other outdoor uses. Harvesting rainwater can also help reduce your water bill, and allows you to use stored water even when water restrictions are in force. Discover other smart ways to save energy and water by scheduling a FREE residential audit and taking advantage of Beaches Energy Services rebates on household improvements like heating and air conditioning systems, attic insulation, window film and solar screens.





### **Tidings** Tips: Weatherproofing, Smart **Landscaping and Rebates Save-A-Lot!**

Often, the biggest use of water is outdoors for lawn and landscape irrigation. Using our water and energy wisely during the hot summer months can help reduce water and energy use. A well designed landscape with drought tolerant plants can add beauty to your home, conserve water and protect the environment. Taking simple steps to reinforce the weather tightness of your home and creating watersaving strategies will save you money and preserve our natural resources:

- Caulk around your windows and door to help keep the temperatures more consistent inside your home, reducing the loss of conditioned air and lowering your energy usage.
- Add insulation to your attic for a great way to reduce heat gain in the summer and keep your home more comfortable.
- Reduce cooling costs with shady landscapes. Strategic planting of trees, shrubs, and plants around your home can reduce the radiant heat gain and cool the air before it reaches your home's walls and windows.
- **Install a rain barrel.** This is a very effective way to save water during the spring and summer months. For every inch of rain that falls on a 750 square foot roof, you can collect 450 gallons of water. Rain water can be utilized to water plants, flowers, gardens, and lawns and reduce your overall water consumption.
- Take advantage of daylight. Days are longer during the summer, providing natural daylight that lights your home for longer hours.
- Take advantage of rebates! Beaches Energy Services offers a total of \$1,800 in energy saving rebates for home improvements such as A/C heat pumps, solar water heaters, and heat pump water heaters. For example, there is a rebate of up to \$300 for upgrading your attic insulation to certain specifications. You can find all of the rebate requirements, instructions and an application for each rebate on our website. Visit the rebates section at www. beachesenergy.com and Save-A-Lot!

Electric price for 1,000 kilowatt-hours		
	July	August
Base charge, residential	\$4.50	\$4.50
KWH base charge	\$76.57	\$76.57
Power cost adjustment	\$42.84	\$42.84
Total	\$123.91	\$123.91

#### The Many Ways to Pay Your Bill

**Automatic payment service** gives you the convenience of having your monthly utility bill automatically drafted from your checking account. It's quick, easy and free.



Payment by phone is available 24 hours a day and offers the flexibility

paying with a check for free. You may also pay by credit card through Western Union Speedpay for a \$4.95 fee for each transaction up to \$500.00.

On-line payments can be made at www.beachenergy.com. Electronic check payments are accepted at no cost to you, and credit cards can be processed for a \$4.95 fee for each transaction up to \$500.00.

Customers may always pay in person with cash, checks or money orders at the customer service department at City Hall, 11 N. 3rd Street, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00p.m. weekdays. The drive though window is open 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. We also accept utility payments made through your personal online bill pay option provided by your financial institution.

### It's Easy to **Enroll in E-billing.**

Beaches Energy customers are enrolling in electronic billing, making it easier and faster to review and pay their utility bill. To sign up, register at www.beachesenergy.com, and remember to set up your email contacts to accept beachesenergy.com.



# Good Neighbors CARE. Sign up today!

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, and it depends upon your help to make it work. We encourage our customers in Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Ponte Vedra Beach, and Palm Valley to help your neighbors by giving a small amount each month to the CARE Program. You can volunteer to make monthly contributions by

simply completing a sign-up form, which you can download from www. beachesenergy.com. Beaches Energy Services will match all contributions, doubling the impact of your generosity.

