

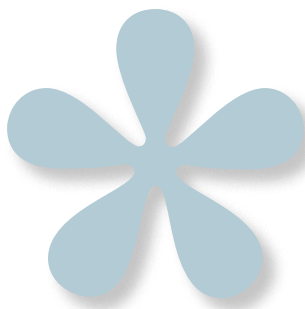


UTILITIES&YOU

April 2018



Earth Day
every day



EFFECTIVE APRIL 1

Power Rate Adjustment

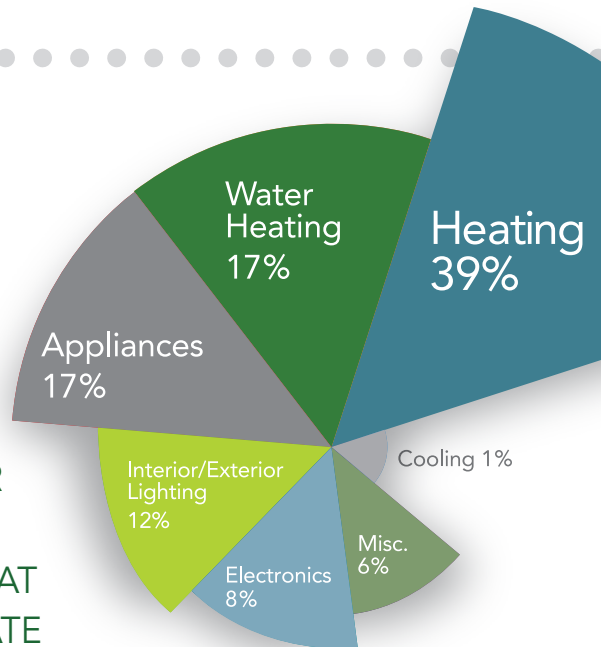
Tacoma Power customers' next bill will reflect a power rate adjustment. Residential power bills will increase an average of \$5.88 per month. This is the second of two rate increases for Tacoma Power that were approved by the Public Utility Board and Tacoma City Council in 2017.

SAFE, RELIABLE POWER

The increased power rates will allow Tacoma Power to continue to operate and maintain the system that keeps our customers' homes supplied with safe, reliable power every day. While we know any increase has an effect on people, Tacoma Power customers still enjoy some of the lowest rates in the Puget Sound region. Learn more at MyTPU.org/Power2018. U*

How do you use energy in your home?

TRY OUR ONLINE ENERGY CALCULATOR FOR A FREE REPORT ON YOUR HOME USE AT MYTPU.ORG/CALCULATE



TACOMA POWER AVERAGES



HOW TO SAVE ENERGY

Tips to lower your bill

- Turn lights off in unoccupied rooms.
- Lower thermostat temperature in unoccupied rooms, at night and when not home.
- Change or clean your heating system's filters regularly.
- Set your refrigerator temperature to 38°F and your freezer temperature to 0°F.
- Keep your refrigerator and freezer two-thirds full. An empty appliance uses more energy.
- Use air-dry settings and other power saving features on your dishwasher.
- Unplug unused electrical devices. U*



BUDGET
BILLING



CHOOSE
YOUR DATE



ENERGY EFFICIENCY
PROGRAMS

3 ways to manage your bill

YOU CAN TAKE ANY OR ALL OF THESE THREE STEPS TO REDUCE YOUR BILL AND MANAGE YOUR PAYMENTS

- Use the Budget Billing program to receive monthly bills (instead of every two months). Your bill will be the same amount every month. Enroll at MyTPU.org/MyAccount or (253) 502-8600.
- Choose your billing date from among several options.
- Save energy and money by using our energy efficiency programs. We'll give you money to do things like get new windows and insulate your home. Saving energy will lower your bill. Go to MyTPU.org/Rebates or call (253) 502-8363 for more information. **U***

TPU PAY BOX



SPRINGING UP SOON

TPU Pay Boxes Get an Upgrade

Did you know you can pay your utility bill at local grocery stores? TPU has pay boxes throughout our service area to give you a convenient location where you can make your utility bill payment.

This spring, we'll be replacing our old kiosks with updated technology. You'll be able to pay by check, deposit cash, or use a credit card. For locations and more information, visit MyTPU.org/PayBox. **U***

Mayor Woodards' Challenge to Reduce Water Use

Help your fellow citizens in Tacoma reduce water consumption this year! For the month of April, cities across the country join the Mayor's Challenge to save water over the coming year. Last year 4,855 cities took 421,891 pledges to save 2.2 billion galls of water. Sign up with Mayor Woodards to save today at mywaterpledge.com. U*

Where Your Drinking Water Comes From

Have you ever thought about what life would be like without access to clean, safe, and reliable water? Water is not only important to our personal health and safety, but also vital to our economy and the environment.

Tacoma Water is proud to operate one of the finest water systems in the country. For more than 100 years, we've managed the Green River watershed, which serves as our primary water supply. This forested land serves as a collecting point for melting snow and seasonal rainfall. In addition to the watershed, Tacoma Water also owns and manages 24 wells in and around Tacoma. These wells pump water from underground aquifers to help supplement our water supply.

PROTECTING OUR WATER SUPPLY

In partnership with watershed landowners, we continually test the water quality and help identify potential issues before they reach our intake system. We also monitor and test the well water for bacteria and traces of more than 150 different metals and chemicals.

YOU CAN HELP TOO!

The fewer pollutants that seep into the soil, the cleaner our watershed and water supply will be. Here are a few ways you can help:

- Recycle used antifreeze and motor oil
- Pick up after your pets to prevent waste pollution in storm drains
- Landscape with plants native to the area to minimize the need for fertilizers and pesticides

By supporting our work through your water bill, you are helping to ensure we can continue to provide clean, safe, and reliable water for generations to come. U*

Celebrate Earth Month

Lower your carbon footprint
Conserve resources | Get involved

Tree care award

For the 13th straight year in a row, the National Arbor Day Foundation named Tacoma Power a **Tree Line USA Utility** for its dedication to quality tree care. Taking care of trees near power lines makes sure our customers experience fewer outages from branches falling on power lines. Providing you with reliable electricity is important to us, and we're thrilled for our employees to be recognized for their dedication to keeping your lights on.

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1

We've Got a Rebate for That

Tacoma Power is making changes to our incentive offerings to help you save energy and money on your electric bills by making energy efficient improvements. Qualifying property owners will now choose between a rebate and our seven-year, zero-interest loan when taking advantage of our incentives.

Owner occupied electrically heated homes may qualify for a \$1000 rebate on a central heat pump and beginning April 1, you can install a qualifying smart thermostat yourself and be eligible for our \$50 rebate. And, we will

be adding a rebate to replace double pane metal windows. Grants will be available for windows and insulation to qualifying customers.

We have redesigned our programs for rental properties. We are increasing our weatherization incentives for insulation, making it easier for rental property owners to make energy efficient upgrades to their properties so their tenants can save money on their electric bills. Go to MyTPU.org/Rebates today to see if you qualify! U*

Offset Your Carbon Footprint and Support Local Renewables



For as little as \$3 extra per month, Tacoma Power customers can match a portion of your electricity use with Renewable Energy Credits by enrolling in our Evergreen Options program. Your purchase can be used to offset your carbon footprint beyond your electricity use and to support the regional development of new renewable energy sources like wind and solar. Learn more at MyTPU.org/Evergreen. U*



Hydroelectric Vehicles at the LeMay Museum

You read that right! If you live in Tacoma and you drive an electric vehicle, it's likely that the energy that fuels your car is hydro power. Tacoma Public Utilities is teaming up with the LeMay – America's Car Museum this spring to showcase electric vehicles in our community through their "Powering the Future" exhibit. We'll also be unveiling a new public charging station and hosting a free ride and drive event. Find out more at MyTPU.org/EVs.



PLAN AHEAD

Reserve Your Campsite at a Tacoma Power Park

If your summer vacation plans involve enjoying the great outdoors, consider camping at one of Tacoma Power's four splendid parks.

- ALDER LAKE PARK (near Eatonville)
- MAYFIELD LAKE PARK (near Mossyrock)
- MOSSYROCK PARK (on Riffe Lake near Mossyrock)
- TAIDNAPAM PARK (on Riffe Lake near Glenoma)

The parks are located on the shores of lakes formed by our hydroelectric dams (which, by the way, generate clean, renewable electricity).

Our parks offer tent camping, RV sites with various hookups, ADA-accessible campsites and facilities, year-round day-use areas, boat launches, swim areas, group camp areas, kitchen shelters, hiking and fishing. Features vary depending on the park. At Mossyrock Park, we are in the process of improving the boat launch and building a new swim area. Check out MyTPU.org/LakeLevels for updates.

It's never too early to start planning your getaway! Make a camping reservation now by visiting TacomaPower.com/Parks or calling 1-888-226-7688. U*



U* trivia – answer and win!

U* readers don't waste water!

Congratulations and thanks to the 156 readers who correctly answered the trivia questions published in the January 2018 issue of U*. The correct ways to save water are "install water-efficient products" and "fix leaks." U*

Budget Billing can help manage your utility bill in what way(s)?

Be one of 50 randomly chosen customers with the correct answer, and you'll get a free TPU magnet clip. To enter, submit your answer online at MyTPU.org/Trivia by April 30, along with your name, phone number and mailing address. U*

City of Tacoma employees and their immediate family members are not eligible to win.
One entry per household.

Send comments and suggestions to:

u@cityoftacoma.org



U* Calendar



All events take place in the Tacoma Public Utilities Auditorium, 3628 S. 35th St., Tacoma, unless otherwise noted. Check our calendar online for more.

APRIL

7

FREE WORKSHOP

Solar Power: How It Can Work for You*

10:30 a.m. | Limited space; registration required; address below.

11 & 25

Public Utility Board Meeting | 6:30 p.m.

14

Sustainability Expo

Greater Tacoma Convention Center

10 a.m.–3 p.m.

FREE WORKSHOP

Native Plants to Enhance Your Habitat*

10:30 a.m. | Limited space; registration required; address below.

28

FREE WORKSHOP

Rain Gardens: Plan, Prep, Plant & Maintain*

10:30 a.m. | Limited space; registration required; address below.

MAY

9 & 23

Public Utility Board Meeting | 6:30 p.m.

12

FREE WORKSHOP

Yard Waste & Worm Bin Composting*

10:30 a.m. | Limited space; registration required; address below.

20

FREE WORKSHOP

Rain Barrels: How to Make & Maintain*

10:30 a.m. | Limited space; registration required; address below.

28

Memorial Day | TPU offices closed

JUNE

2

FREE WORKSHOP

Design a Sustainable Landscape*

10:30 a.m. | Limited space; registration required; address below.

9

FREE WORKSHOP

Heat Pumps: Ductless, Whole House, A/C, Smart Thermostats*

10:30 a.m. | Limited space; registration required; address below.

13 & 27

Public Utility Board Meeting | 6:30 p.m.

23

FREE WORKSHOP

Electric Vehicles: Why Now; What to Know*

10:30 a.m. | Limited space; registration required; address below.

FREE WORKSHOP

Build Green, Build Small Part 1*

1:30 p.m. | Limited space; registration required; address below.

30

FREE WORKSHOP

Build Green, Build Small Part 2*

10:30 a.m. | Limited space; registration required; address below.

* All **FREE WORKSHOPS** are located at:
The EnviroHouse | 3510 S. Mullen St., Tacoma
Call (253) 573-2426

You make the call

Area code (253)

Report a power outage.....	502-8602
Start or stop service.....	502-8600
Order Click! Cable TV.....	502-8900
Home weatherization.....	502-8363
Fishing recreation.....	502-8690
Fish & wildlife programs.....	502-8008
Education programs.....	502-8224
Power conservation.....	502-8377
Water conservation.....	502-8723
Report a water emergency.....	502-8384

Bill Payment Assistance

(available for limited-income customers)

- Electric bill assistance – Family Need Program
 - City of Tacoma residents572-5557
 - Pierce County residents..... (855) 798-4328
- Click! Cable TV discounts.....502-8900
- Water and Environmental Services payment assistance and discount rate info line502-8369



FREE EVENT APRIL 14

South Sound Sustainability Expo

Come learn about sustainable resource use at the City of Tacoma's South Sound Sustainability Expo. Tacoma Public Utilities will be on site to help you with tips for healthy, sustainable energy and water use. This free event includes workshops, a vendor expo, food trucks, a mini farmers market and other activities.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Greater Tacoma Convention Center
and Tollefson Plaza

southsoundsustainabilityexpo.org



UTILITIES

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u@cityoftacoma.org THE END



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