

POWER Source

September 2007

Customers first.
Energy that lasts.

Your best \$15 investment

One of the most affordable home improvement projects for fall is a home energy audit. For just \$15, we'll inspect your home and give you a detailed report with recommended energy-saving measures, their estimated cost and how much they should reduce your energy bill. Sign up for an audit online at eon-us.com or by calling 1-800-251-7808. ■



LGE

an e-on company

5 minute task

Purchase and install fluorescent nightlights in several hallways and rooms. This low-energy lighting will keep you from going "bump" in the night without leaving wasteful lamps and overhead lights on. ■

Last chance to make money-saving improvements

Fall projects reduce taxes, energy bills

If you're considering home improvements – such as installing a new furnace or heat pump, adding insulation or replacing your old water heater – it's time to take action. Many of these purchases will not only reduce your energy bill, but can **earn you federal tax credits if they're made before December 31, 2007**. Tax credits are generally more valuable than tax deductions, because credits reduce your taxes dollar for dollar.

The U.S. Energy Policy Act offers a maximum \$500 credit for improvements made between January 1, 2006 and the end of this year such as:

- A \$300 tax credit for installing a high-efficiency air conditioning system or heat pump



- A tax credit of \$150 for a new furnace or boiler
- Up to 10% of the cost of new, energy-efficient windows or skylights, not to exceed \$200

- Up to \$300 for buying a new ENERGY STAR® qualified water heater
- 10% credit toward the cost of home insulation, not to exceed \$500

Save your receipts and any ENERGY STAR documentation. Find complete details at energystar.gov (search for Federal Tax Credits). Your tax preparer can provide more information. ■

Help make the world a greener place



Now you have more power to improve the environment by joining our new Green Energy program.

Green power costs more than conventional power, so we have to pay the difference to make the difference. By adding Green

Energy payments to your bill, you can now help offset the carbon impact of your energy usage. For every \$5 of Green Energy you buy each month,

we'll ensure that 300 kilowatt hours (kWh) in renewable-energy (with zero carbon emission) is delivered onto our regional electric grid. Specifically, your purchases will help cover the higher costs of landfill and wind power from Kentucky and surrounding states. Sign up or get more details at www.eon-us.com/green. **Or call 1.800.981.0600, Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.** ■

Home improvement tips

Before you start checking projects off your list, remember:

- Tools and ladders must be kept at least 10 feet away from overhead lines. Carry ladders parallel to the ground and look up each time you move the ladder.
- Don't use water on an electrical fire. Keep a class C fire extinguisher nearby.
- Outside your home, use only outdoor-approved lighting fixtures and bulbs.

- If you're adding new landscaping, leave at least three feet of space around your electric meter for accessibility. Also, check the expected growth of any trees you're planting: tall-growing varieties can interfere with overhead power lines, which could lead to power outages.
- If you're planning to dig, call Kentucky811 before you dig. Allow at least two business days before you begin your project to have underground utility lines marked. ■



"Air cleaners" that pollute your air

If you have a certain type of home air cleaner – an ozone generator sold as an air purifier – you may be reducing

the quality of air you breathe, rather than making it better.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, such "air cleaners" aren't effective

at cleaning the air, but they do increase your exposure to ozone, which can cause shortness of breath, chest pain and throat irritation, and may worsen asthma and other respiratory diseases.

If you want to clear the air in your home, start by opening doors and windows to increase ventilation. Choose air cleaners that don't produce ozone, such as HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) vacuums and "No Ozone" air purification systems. ■



Keep more of your money

Colder weather means your HVAC system will be working harder, and costing you more to operate. Here are four quick ways to rein in your energy bills:

- Have your heating system professionally inspected and serviced.
- Clean or replace your furnace's air filter every month.
- Check registers or air returns to be sure they're not blocked by furniture, drapes or other items.
- If you have a wood-burning fireplace, be sure the chimney is cleaned and inspected by a qualified chimney contractor. ■

Liquid assets

Long, hot showers increase your water and energy bills, as a standard, non-conserving showerhead uses up to five gallons of water per minute. Instead of buying a low-flow showerhead, you can easily and affordably install a flow restrictor, a perforated disk the same diameter as your shower's water pipe:

1. Unscrew the showerhead.
2. Run soap around the threads of the pipe.
3. Place the flow restrictor against the showerhead's washer.
4. Screw the showerhead back on.

External restrictors are also effective and easy to install, although they are visible from the exterior of the showerhead. ■

CONTACT INFORMATION

Louisville Gas & Electric Company

Monday – Friday
(7 a.m. – 7 p.m.)
(502) 589-1444

Outside Louisville area
(800) 331-7370

For hearing/
speech-impaired
Dial 711

24-hour Natural Gas
Trouble/Emergencies
(502) 589-5511

24-hour Electric
Trouble/Power Outages
(502) 589-3500

Customer Service Center

701 South Ninth Street
Monday – Friday
(8 a.m. – 5 p.m.)

Business Service Center

Monday – Friday
(7 a.m. – 6 p.m.)
(502) 627-3313

Outside Louisville area
(800) 331-7370

Kentucky 811- Locate Service Dial 811

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Visit our website at
www.eon-us.com

Fall fun

Plan to get up early for the pancake breakfast that kicks off the Southwest Community Festival Saturday, October 13. The family fun continues until 5 p.m. with craft booths, entertainment, a car show and Kids' City. The festival will be held at Sun Valley Park, 6505 Bethany Lane in Louisville.



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