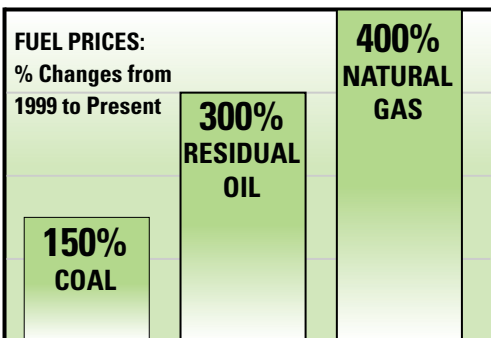


Energynews

www.delmarva.com you can use | apr 2006



Graph Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration

DID YOU KNOW?

Q: *Our house is heated with a heat pump that uses resistance heaters as back-up in cold weather. Should we set the temperature back at night to save money or will that cost more in the long run when we turn the temperature back up in the morning, causing the heat pump's resistance heaters to run longer?*

A: No, you should not set the temperature back on heat pumps unless you have a programmable electronic heat pump thermostat with adaptive recovery. Otherwise, the most energy efficient mode for heat pumps is for them to stay at a constant setting.

(continued on back)

Energy: Know How To Save As Prices Go Up

Consumer energy prices for the Mid-Atlantic area shot up 22.5% in the last 12 months, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The dramatic increases in fossil fuel prices, which set the wholesale price for electricity, are illustrated to the left.

Unfortunately, when fuel prices go up, so does Delmarva Power's cost to purchase electricity. Delmarva Power buys power from suppliers through state-supervised auctions. The lowest bids are then used to reset electricity "supply" rates for customers. Here's a look at upcoming electric rate changes in states that Delmarva Power serves:

Delaware

In Delaware, our customers' rates have been set at or near 1999 levels for the past six years. That will change next month when electricity rate caps there are lifted and reset to reflect today's energy market prices. Delmarva Power is working with state officials on a phase-in option for the significant rate increase that is set to occur next month.

Maryland

This will be the third year that electricity supply rates are adjusted in Maryland to reflect current energy market prices. Maryland customers have gradually felt the impact of higher energy prices, with a 10.5% increase in 2004 and a 5.6% increase last year. Based on current information, we expect our Maryland customers to see their

monthly electric bill increase, on average, by \$35.00 on June 1st when their electricity supply rate is adjusted to reflect today's energy market prices. Delmarva Power is working with state officials on ways to ease the impact of the electric rate increases driven by rising fuel costs. Please watch for more information on this issue.

Virginia

On June 1st, electricity supply rates will be adjusted in Virginia to reflect current energy market prices. The last time these rates were adjusted for our Virginia customers was in January 2005, when rates increased on average 13.6 percent. Based on current information, we expect our Virginia customers to see their monthly electric bill increase, on average, by \$33.00 on June 1st when their electricity supply rate is adjusted to reflect today's energy market prices.

Unfortunately, the high price utilities are paying for power these days is beyond their control. At Delmarva Power, we're hopeful the market will reverse its upward trend by the time supply rates are reset next year.

In the meantime, we encourage our customers everywhere to use energy wisely. For energy-saving tips, go to our website, www.delmarva.com, and click Energy Know How. Or, call our Customer Care Center at 1-800-375-7117 and request a copy of our *85 Ways To Save Energy & Money* brochure.



A PHI Company

energy
KNOW HOW™

Delmarva Power Celebrates Earth Day

The first Earth Day was celebrated on a cheerful spring day in April nearly 36 years ago. And, in the years since, April has been designated as Earth Month. This year, Delmarva Power again plans to participate in numerous environmental activities throughout the month, ranging from river cleanups to recycling events.

Delmarva Power's commitment to being a good environmental steward is not limited to a particular day or month; it is a year-round commitment and the company has received many recognitions and awards for that stewardship.

For the past several years, the company has been named a Tree Line Utility by the National Arbor Day Foundation in recognition of the way it cares for trees along its rights-of-way. Those rights-of-way also serve as habitats for a variety of wildlife. Additionally, each year the company recycles several tons of materials we use to keep the electricity flowing—everything from wires to the tires and batteries we use in our service vehicles. That effort extends to our employees who work indoors, and recycling bins are located throughout all of our facilities.

In celebration of Earth Month, we encourage our customers to plant and/or trim a tree. But we ask that you follow these safety guidelines:

- Plant low-lying trees, such as dogwoods, which are less likely to come in contact with power lines.
- Do not attempt to trim trees near power lines. It is dangerous and can result in injury or death. Consult a professional.
- Do not plant vines or other creeping vegetation near utility poles.

To learn more about tree planting and care visit the Arbor Day Website at: www.arborday.org To learn more about Earth Day visit www.earthday.gov.

Call Before You Dig

If you live in Delaware, Maryland or Virginia and you are planning to dig in your yard for any reason, call Miss Utility:

In Delaware:
800-282-8555

In Western Maryland:
800-257-7777

On Maryland's Eastern Shore:
800-441-8355

In Virginia:
800-552-7001

Support The Zoo

Come celebrate Earth Day at the Salisbury Zoo in Salisbury, Md. on Saturday, April 22nd. The daylong event kicks off at 9 a.m. with the 4th Annual 5K Zoo Stampede. Zoo activities, including environmental exhibits and entertainment, are underway from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 410-548-3188.

DID YOU KNOW? (continued from front)

If you have a question on energy use and efficiency that you would like to see appear in this column, please send it to:

Postal Address: Energy Know How Column,
P.O. Box 9239, Mail Stop: 79NC62, Newark, De 19714.

Fax: 302-283-6095,
Attn: Energy Know How Column

E-mail: Energy.News@PepcoHoldings.com
Attn: Energy Know How Column



Delaware (Area code 302)

May 1-14: *A Murder, A Mystery & A Marriage:* A Mark Twain Musical Melodrama; DE Theatre Co., Wilm.; 594-1100, www.delawaretheatrecompany.org

May 5: *Arasapha Garden Club's May Market;* Behind Town Hall, Old New Castle

May 6: *Garden Tour;* Mr. Olivet United Methodist Church, Seaford; 629-2466

May 20: *Brady Kohn Fndn. Children's Fair;* St. Anthony's in the Hills; 765-2875, www.thebradykohnfoundation.org

May 25: *Annual Delmarva Scholarship Golf Classic;* Cavaliers Country Club, Newark; 283-5825

May 26: *Nur Shrine: Royal Hanneford Circus;* Shrine Center, Rt 13, New Castle; 302-328-6100, 800-449-9331

Maryland (Area code 410)

May 5,6: *Garden Market & Plant Sale;* St. Mary Anne's Episcopal Church, North East; 410-658-6634, dnj@zoominternet.net

May 6: *Wye Parish Annual May Fair;* Old Wye Church, Wye Mills; 410-827-8484, wyparish@toad.net

May 13: *Fiberfest;* J. A. Purnell Museum, 410-632-0515, www.purnellmuseum.com

May 20,21: *Civil War Living History Weekend;* Havre de Grace; 410-939-2299, 888-419-1762, steppingstonemuseum@msn.com

New Jersey (Area code 609, 856)

May 5: *Disabilities Resource Center: Good Neighbor Golf Classic;* Harbor Pines Golf Club, 609-646-0388

May 6: *Red Hat Day* in Alloway; Town of Alloway; 856-339-4448, 856-339-0070

May 12: *2006 Teen Arts Festival;* Millville Riverfront Renaissance Center

May 20: *Far Shore Art & Music Festival;* Charlesworth Hotel, Fortescue; 856-447-4938

May 27-29: *Rankokus Indian Reservation Semi-Annual Arts Festival;* Rankokus Rd, Westhampton; 609-261-4747, Powhatan@powhatan.org

Virginia (Area code 757)

May 5: *Shore Health Services: Best of Virginia's Eastern Shore;* Eastern Shore Yacht and Country Club, Melfa; 757-442-2205, sschreiber@shs-inc.org

May 13,14: *12th Annual Migratory Bird Celebration;* Chincoteague Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Assateague; 757-336-6122

For more events: Click on "In Your Community" at our Web site. Atlantic City Electric Region, visit www.atlanticcityelectric.com; Delmarva Power Region, visit: www.delmarva.com. To include a future event either in ENYCU or online, fax to: 302-283-6095, or send an e-mail to Energy.News@pepcoholdings.com.