

# Energynews

www.delmarva.com you can use | may 2006

## DELMARVA POWER:

Average  
Residential  
Monthly  
Electric Usage

839 kWh  
1995

1001 kWh  
2005

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Q:** *What time of day should I wash and dry clothes to save energy?*

**A:** Unfortunately, the time of day you choose to do laundry will not save energy. However, there are some steps you can take while doing the laundry that will save energy and money, such as washing clothes in cold water and line drying clothes when possible. Delmarva Power also recommends that you run the laundry during the evening hours when the demands on the electrical system are at their lowest. For additional energy-saving tips, visit our web site at [www.delmarva.com](http://www.delmarva.com).

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## Electrical Usage Up Among Delmarva Power Households

Today, technology has made great strides in giving consumers more energy-efficient products, but those great strides could be getting swallowed by a growing appetite for electricity.

In fact, Delmarva Power residential customers are using, on average, 29 percent more electricity today than what they used a decade ago. That statistic, though, shouldn't come as a surprise considering today's larger-sized homes, oversized televisions and fascination with electronic gadgets.

In the global market, there is a direct connection between the world's increasing demand for energy and its rising costs, particularly when supplies are down. That's why the consumer's best weapon against rising energy prices is conservation. If you use less, you not only pay less but you demand less and, therefore, you are impacting the overall global market in a positive way.

This spring, as the weather turns warm, take the following steps to help save energy – and money – in your home:

- Set your thermostat between 75 and 78 degrees to save on your home cooling costs.
- Turn off your window air conditioner when you leave the room for several hours.
- Don't place lamps or television sets near your air conditioning thermostat. Heat from these appliances is sensed by the thermostat and could cause the air conditioner to run longer than necessary.
- Use duct sealant or aluminum tape to seal cracks between each section of an air duct on your central air conditioning, heat pump or forced-heating system.
- Open the windows on cooler days, and during cooler hours when humidity levels are low.
- Clean or replace air conditioning filters according to the filter manufacturer's directions.

For more energy-saving ideas, visit [www.delmarva.com](http://www.delmarva.com) and click on Energy Know How, or call Customer Care at 1-800-375-7117 and request our *85 Ways To Save Money and Energy* brochure.



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## Celebrate Electrical Safety Month, Stay Safe Year-Round

May is Electrical Safety Month – a good time to celebrate safety and remind ourselves to practice electrical safety year-round. Electricity is dangerous as electrical shocks kill nearly 400 people in the U.S. every year and injure thousands more, according to the Electrical Safety Foundation International.

As the weather gets warmer, many of us will be spending more time outdoors, planting trees, boating, painting the home, all of which have the potential for causing us to come in contact with electrical wires and lines. Here are some valuable tips for staying safe around electricity:

- Never touch a power line with your body or an object, such as a ladder. Coming into contact with a power line can result in serious injury or death. If you see a downed line, assume that it is live and call Delmarva Power:

**(800) 898-8042** – New Castle County, Delaware; Cecil and Harford counties, Maryland;

**(800) 898-8045** – Kent and Sussex counties, Delaware; Eastern Shores of Maryland and Virginia.

- Teach children to never play around power lines, electrical substations and other electrical equipment.

- Do not fly kites or model airplanes near power lines.

- Protect outside electrical outlets. Make sure that your outside outlets have a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) to protect you from potential shock.

- When working near power lines always make sure there is at least 10 feet of clearance between the lines and yourself and any equipment you may be working with.

- Always wear shoes when using outdoor electrical equipment.

- When boating and you come near power lines make sure there is at least 10 feet of clearance between your boat, including masts, and power lines.

**For more safety tips  
visit our Web site:  
[www.delmarva.com](http://www.delmarva.com)**



**Need a Speaker?**  
If you would like to have a company representative talk to your community group or civic association, contact our Speakers Bureau at 800-355-0368 and schedule a speaker at no cost.

### Delaware (Area code 302)

**Jun 3: Milton Garden Tour & Garden Market;** Union & Magnolia, Milton; 302-684-3804

**Jun 3: Fishing Derby;** Martinak State Park, Denton; 410-479-8120

**Jun 10,11: Tomorrow's Secrets Spiritual & Holistic Health Expo;** Nur Shrine, New Castle; [tomorrowsecrets@yahoo.com](mailto:tomorrowsecrets@yahoo.com)

**Jun 17: Wilmington's Annual Pushmobile Derby;** Wilmington; 302-655-9455, 302-377-8669, [fuzzysoap-box@aol.com](mailto:fuzzysoap-box@aol.com)

**Jun 24: Delaware Seaside Train Show;** Bethany Beach Fire House; 302-537-5557

### Maryland (Area code 410)

**Jun 3,4: Talbot Kennel Club's Dog Agility Trial;** Queenstown; [www.tabotkennelclub.org](http://www.tabotkennelclub.org)

**Jun 11: Tuckahoe Triathlon;** Tuckahoe State Park, Queen Anne; 410-820-1668, [www.dnr.maryland.gov](http://www.dnr.maryland.gov)

**Jun 11: 20th Annual Scottish Festival;** Quaker Bottom Rd., Havre de Grace; 410-939-2299, 888-419-1762, [steppingstonemuseum@msn.com](mailto:steppingstonemuseum@msn.com)

**Jun 23,24: 57th Annual Delmarva Chicken Festival;** Byrd Park, Pocomoke River, Snow Hill; 800-878-2449

### New Jersey (Area code 609, 856)

**Jun 3: Appel Farm Arts & Music Festival;** Elmer; 800-394-1211, [www.appelfarm.org](http://www.appelfarm.org)

**Jun 3: Strawberry Festival & Craft Show;** Friendship School, Palermo; 609-390-5656

**Jun 3,4: Delaware Bay Days Festival;** Bivalve; 856-785-2060 x100, [www.bayshorediscovery.org](http://www.bayshorediscovery.org)

**Jun 18: 2006 Harley Davidson Raffle;** Rio Grande Rescue Squad, Wildwood; 609-465-8871, 609-780-0612

### Virginia (Area code 757)

**Jun 17: Chincoteague Community Center Bluegrass Concert;** [www.chincoteaguecenter.org/2006-bluegrass.html](http://www.chincoteaguecenter.org/2006-bluegrass.html), 757-336-3030

**Jun 30: Annual Volunteer Fireman's Carnival;** Chincoteague Island; <http://www.chincoteague.com/pony/ponies.html>

For more events: Click on "In Your Community" at our Web site. Atlantic City Electric Region, visit [www.atlanticcityelectric.com](http://www.atlanticcityelectric.com); Delmarva Power Region, visit: [www.delmarva.com](http://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](mailto:Energy.News@pepcoholdings.com).

### 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](mailto:Energy.News@PepcoHoldings.com)

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