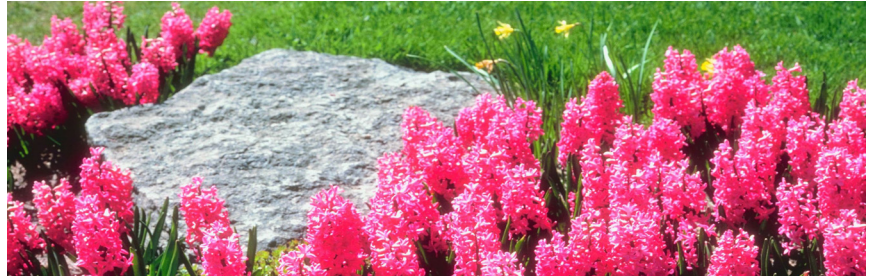


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What's New?

Changes to Electricity Pricing for the Public Sector - May 1, 2009

On May 1, 2009 Ontario's public sector including municipalities, universities, schools, hospitals and other designated customers will move from paying the Regulated Price Plan (RPP) to a market-based, or hourly price for electricity.

This change applies to all accounts with consumption greater than 250,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) per year which is equivalent to an electricity bill of approximately \$2,000 per month

Public sector consumers still paying the fixed RPP have been paying 5.6 cents per kWh up to 750 kW (from November 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009 and 6.5 cents per

kWh over 750 kWh. Most consumption is charged at the higher rate of 6.5 cents per kWh.

The average market price with adjustments for 2008 was 5.6 cents per kWh.

Many public sector customers have already moved to market prices to save money

For information about the change in electricity pricing for the public sector, visit the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)

IESO Website

www.ieso.ca/publicsector

Electricity Pricing

www.ieso.ca/electricitypricing

"Smart Talk" on Smart Meters

A vendor has been selected to supply Orillia Power customers with the new smart meter. An installation vendor is currently being sourced.

The time frame for the installation of these meters is scheduled during August to November of 2009.



This new meter will continue to be read the same as

your current meter.

Orillia Power will notify you well in advance of when you can start to take advantage of time-of-use-prices.

Annual Tree Trimming Program

Once again, Orillia Power is working on its annual tree trimming program in order to maintain a safe clearance between the overhead electrical power lines and tree branches.

We perform this maintenance not just to maintain a reliable distribution system for our customers, but for the safety of the general public and all power line workers.

When planting trees or shrubs, keep in mind both overhead and underground power lines.

Call our office or go to our website at www.orilliapower.ca for a list of compatible trees.

Important Message About Energy Retailers!

Electricity retailers are using fleets of door-to-door sales people, some of them quite aggressive to sell long-term electricity contracts at a fixed rate. Some retailers may be giving the false impression that they are representatives of Orillia Power.

Orillia Power provides electricity distribution services to homes and businesses within the City of Orillia. We do **not** sell electricity contracts door-to-door and are **not** associated

with any retailer and urge customers to know all the facts before signing any contract.

All electricity retailers are bound by rules set by the Ontario Energy Board and must abide by those rules.

The OEB recently levied fines against two local retailers

For more information on retailers, check out

"The Energy Choice is Yours" website at:

www.energychoiceontario.ca for:

- Consumer tip sheets
- List of retailers & marketers
- Contact information
- Helpful links



Energy Saving Tips

Cutting energy consumption is the easiest way to reduce your reliance on the electricity grid. In addition to switching to CFL light bulbs and Energy-Star rated appliances, there are many other low cost ways to save on electricity.

- Proper maintenance of your air conditioner can increase its efficiency about 5%.
- Reduce the time your air conditioner runs—try using ceiling fans as alternatives.
- Wash laundry in cold water, hang outside to dry when the weather permits.
- Set your hot water heater to 49°C
- Check your furnace filter

every month and clean or replace regularly.

- Turn off lights, TV's, computers and other appliances when not in use.
- Keep blinds closed in the day during the summer. Reverse the procedure in the winter.

Source: Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)



Count me in! is the rallying cry for Ontario's 2009 Energy Conservation Week celebration being held from May 17 to 23, 2009

The Pledge: individuals, groups and organizations are encouraged to "pledge" their commitment to become energy conservers.
www.energyconservationweek.ca

Our safety message.....

With the promise of spring just around the corner, many activities will be shifted outdoors. Lakes and rivers will be high and fast flowing. Keep your children away from open water, especially around fast flowing rivers.

Children will be anxious to get outdoors and play in the warm spring sunshine. Remind them to stay away from power lines and the green transformer boxes on your lawn. Power lines can be well hidden in tree branches, limbs and leaves, so never climb trees or fly kites around overhead power lines.

Never trim trees around power

lines—only trained and experienced workers should do any trimming of trees.

When using ladders, always look up and be aware of power lines, especially those coming into your home. Aluminum ladders or ladders with aluminum parts will act as conductors of electricity if they come in contact with power lines.

Remember, electricity always takes the easiest path to the ground and we don't want that path to be you!

Safety—don't leave home without it!

Community comes together in time of need

The citizens of Orillia have come to the aid of others once again. On November 8, 2008, an employee of Orillia Power and his wife became the proud parents of a beautiful little boy. Just 16 days later, the mother of the new baby died suddenly.

Every year Orillia Power sponsors two Christmas trees for the Rotary Festival of Trees. This year, in an effort to help our employee, the trees were auctioned off to the public. Every cent raised from the ticket sales went to help out this little family who so tragically lost their wife and mother. Through the efforts of many, a grand total of \$4,305 was raised.

The lucky winners of the trees were Wendy Savage and Mike Heavener.

Thanks again, Orillia for your support during this very difficult time. It was greatly appreciated!



Energizing Our Community

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