

Light reading



City Light offers some of the lowest rates in the nation and the Northwest.

May/June 2012

Your Seattle City Light From the superintendent

The economy appears to be making a slow recovery, yet there are many people in our community who still feel the pinch and could use help paying their utility bills.

The City of Seattle's Human Services Department manages a rate assistance program for the city. It provides emergency assistance with electricity, heat and water bills. The help is there but many who qualify don't take advantage of the program.

We want to spread the word: If you can use utility assistance, or know a family who can, please get information at this website, www.seattle.gov/UDP, or by calling **206.684.0268**, or by emailing UDP@seattle.gov.

Another program, City Light's Project Share, offers one-time emergency assistance with electric bills. Many of our customers generously support this fund and we thank you. Make a one-time contribution or add an amount to your regular power bill. Whether receiving or giving, get the details on Project Share at www.seattle.gov/light/help/share or by calling **206.684.3000**.

Update on our strategic plan: The mayor, City Council, City Light Review Panel and City Light continue to work on the utility's six-year strategic plan. Please follow its progress because the plan directly affects you through rates, reliability, and service improvements.



Read more here:
www.seattle.gov/light/strategic-plan.

**Superintendent
Jorge Carrasco**



Conservation news



Sunny Beacon Hill

Three new picnic shelters with solar-panel roofs are now generating power at Seattle's Jefferson Park on Beacon Hill, thanks to funding from some City Light customers and a Department of Energy grant. Customers participating in this community solar project receive annual energy credits on their power bills, plus the satisfaction of supporting Seattle's leadership in renewable energy. Learn more at www.seattle.gov/communitysolar or call **206.684.3800**.

Clothes washer rebate

Receive up to a \$100 rebate, plus maximize savings and time with a new high-efficiency clothes washer. Over its life, the washer could save you about \$770 on electricity and water costs. With our rebate, that usually covers the purchase price. High-efficiency washers use a third less detergent, have more capacity for fewer loads, and spin out most of the water, so clothes dry faster. For more, visit www.seattle.gov/appliances or call **206.684.3800**.



We're listening

City Light invites you to share your ideas about clean energy and conservation programs by becoming a member of the Community Energy Forum. This is an opportunity to tell us what you think, help shape future programs, and enter to win prizes. Details at www.seattle.gov/forum.

Energy Advisor tip

Identify power-wasting appliances in your home with a Kill A Watt® plug-in monitor that measures electricity use. Check it out just like a book at the Seattle Public Library or online: www.SPL.org. Have questions about energy efficiency? Contact our Energy Advisors at **206.684.3800** or SCLEnergyAdvisor@seattle.gov.

Zoo discount

Celebrate more than a year of solar power generated by the Woodland Park Zoo carousel, a project funded by voluntary contributions to renewable energy programs at City Light. To date, the carousel has generated enough electricity to power more than 100,000 rides. See it in action by using the coupon included in this newsletter, offering two dollars off zoo admission.



Seattle City Light invites you to celebrate more than a year of solar-powered carousel rides at the zoo!

 Your Seattle City Light
www.seattle.gov/light



In your neighborhood: City Light @ work

Crews are in these neighborhoods to deliver reliable energy to you:

- Horizon View: injecting silicone in underground cables to extend their life;
- SODO: relocating power lines to add capacity, serve tunnel boring machine;
- Harrison St./Aurora Ave. (east of Seattle Center): setting vaults to relocate lines;
- Mercer St.: moving lines underground, part of Mercer rehab;
- Laurelhurst (north of Webster Point): replacing underground cable to increase capacity;
- Occidental Ave. S.: relocating lines before viaduct replacement;
- Arboretum, West and South Seattle (south of Brandon St.): converting to LED streetlights.

Visit our Web page and click on the  construction sign for details: www.seattle.gov/light/construction.



The future of light

This spring, City Light continues to convert residential streetlights to new, energy efficient LEDs (light-emitting diodes), which offer illumination similar to a full moon. We'll start from our southern service boundary working toward South and West Seattle. In 2011, the utility installed LED lights from Ballard to our northern service boundary, and by 2014, all of our residential streetlights will be changed out. In addition, we're testing LED technology on some arterial streets. The utility estimates a savings of about \$2.4 million per year once the residential streetlight project is completed. Read more at www.seattle.gov/light/streetlight/led.

Need info?

Find handy information on City Light's website: www.seattle.gov/light. Look on the right-hand border of our home page for a link to "Tell Seattle City Light," which helps you contact a customer care rep. You'll also see a link to our latest "Fingertip Facts," a guide that offers utility contact phone numbers and more. Also on our homepage are links to our power-outage map, streetlight repair/report page, Power Lines blog, Twitter, and Facebook.

From the field

"If you think there's a malfunctioning streetlight in your neighborhood, or you have a pet that avoids a streetlight, please report it immediately to our streetlight service reps at 206.684.7056."



- Paje Chase, City Light cable splicer

Your Seattle City Light

The first carbon-neutral utility in the nation.

700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3200
PO Box 34023
Seattle, WA 98124-4023

www.seattle.gov/light  
www.twitter.com/SeaCityLight

Questions, comments or suggestions?
Call **206.684.3000** or contact *Tell Seattle City Light* at www.seattle.gov/light.

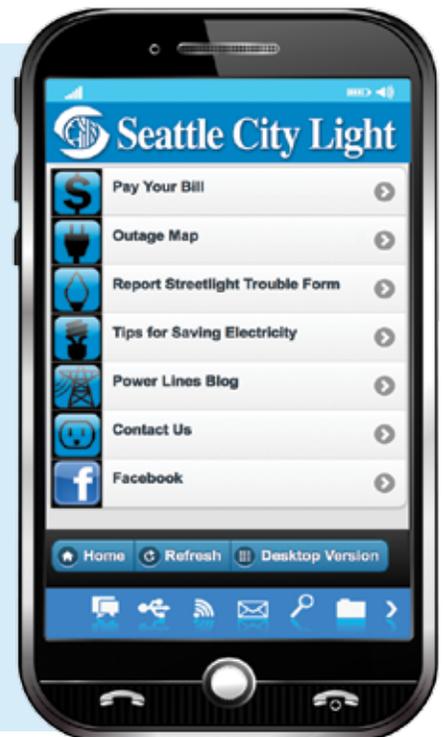
Editor: Connie McDougall
connie.mcdougall@seattle.gov

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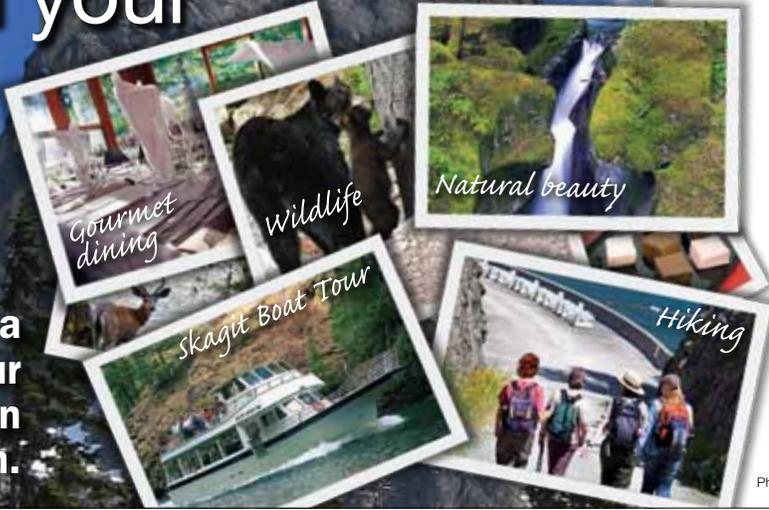
Phone apps & more

Have you tried City Light's new mobile phone apps? They let you pay bills, check outages, report a streetlight that's out, or contact us. They're available now in the Droid Marketplace and coming soon to the iPhone App store. Recently, we added our Facebook connection to the mobile site. All mobile phone users with internet capability can use this feature by typing <http://m.seattle.gov/light> in your mobile browser.



The American Alps within your reach

Take a
Skagit Tour
or explore on
your own.



Just 90 miles northeast of Seattle, come visit your Seattle City Light Skagit Hydroelectric Project. The three dams on the Skagit River, owned by the City of Seattle, provide you with reliable, clean, renewable energy. It's also the setting for natural beauty, adventure, learning opportunities, and fun in the North Cascades.

 **Your Seattle City Light**

Wildlife • Skagit boat tours • Hiking • Alpine learning

Learn more at
www.skagittours.com
or call **360-854-2589**.



Photo credits: Rick Allen, John Harter, Benj Drummond, Elizabeth Penhollow & NEllen Regier



\$2 OFF
ZOO ADMISSION



Bring this coupon to the zoo to receive \$2 off admission for up to four people.

Offer is not valid on zoo special event dates. No cash value. Expires 7/31/12. Coupon code: 0641

Seattle City Light
invites you to celebrate
more than a year of
solar-powered
carousel rides 
at the zoo!

 **Your Seattle City Light**

www.seattle.gov/light