



# Light reading

## Conservation News

May/June 2017

### 40 YEARS OF CONSERVATION

City Light's Kill-a-Watt campaign was introduced in 1973 as a precursor to City Light's larger conservation campaign, which started in 1977 and runs to this day.



#### Check out Kill-a-Watt

Monitoring your home energy use is as easy as checking out a book. By visiting a City of Seattle library, you can take a Kill-a-Watt energy monitor home to check the electrical usage of many common household devices. Even when items are off or not in use, they still draw power.

Here are some common items that could draw power when they are not in use, but still plugged in:

- Cable boxes
- Game consoles
- TVs
- Toaster
- Microwave
- Coffee Maker
- Desktop computers



Learn more about the Kill-a-Watt at [seattle.gov/light/save](http://seattle.gov/light/save) or you can check one out today at [SPL.org](http://SPL.org).

### GREEN UP

Green Up is an opportunity for Seattle City Light customers to participate in the renewable energy market for as little as \$3 a month. More than 13,000 Green Up participants support renewable energy development in our community and throughout the Pacific Northwest. You can make a powerful environmental impact by joining us. Sign up at [seattle.gov/green](http://seattle.gov/green) or call (206) 684-3800.

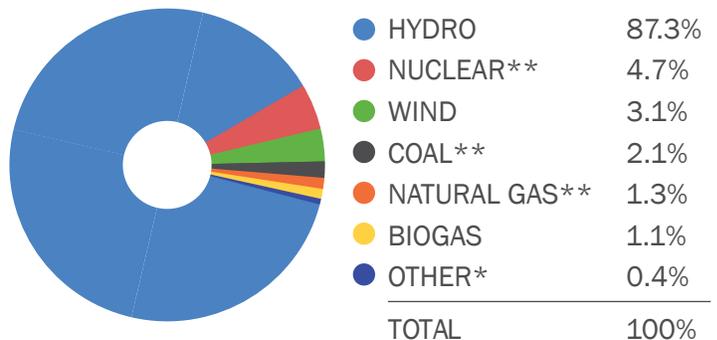
### SAVE ENERGY

One way to keep electronics plugged in without wasting energy is by plugging them into Advanced Power Strips. They operate in a similar manner to ordinary power strips, except they save energy by powering down connected items not in use. Get more info for renters at [seattle.gov/light/renterscorner](http://seattle.gov/light/renterscorner).

### RENTER'S CORNER

### FUEL MIX

In 2005, Seattle City Light became the first utility in the nation to achieve zero net carbon emissions. To this day, most City Light power is generated with our clean hydroelectric facilities, as you can see in our 2015 fuel mix below.



\*\*These fuels represent a portion of the power from Bonneville Power Administration and market purchases.

\*Others include biomass, other biogenic, other non-biogenic and petroleum.

## PROJECT SHARE

Electricity is a powerful gift. If you would like to help those in need with their power bills, consider donating to Project Share by contributing online at [seattle.gov/light/ProjectShare/shareform.asp](http://seattle.gov/light/ProjectShare/shareform.asp) or by writing a check to:

Project Share  
City of Seattle  
Treasury Services  
P.O. Box 34017  
Seattle WA 98124-1017

Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.



## ADVANCED METERING UPGRADES COMING

This summer, City Light will begin replacing its aging, existing meters with advanced meters that can wirelessly deliver energy consumption information to the utility. The

new meters will help City Light become more efficient and enable a host of service improvements once they are fully connected to the utility's computer systems. The rollout should take about 18 months to complete. For more information, visit [seattle.gov/light/ami](http://seattle.gov/light/ami).

## SPRING HAS SPRUNG & TREES ARE GROWING

After winter's long rainy days, spring is the time to have a look at your trees. Keep an eye out for broken branches and branches growing near your power service line, which is the line that goes to your home or business. Just make sure they aren't too close to the line before pruning them; if you are unsure, call or email City Light's arboriculturists at (206) 386-1733 or [SCLVegetation@seattle.gov](mailto:SCLVegetation@seattle.gov).

Seattle City Light maintains vegetation away from your service line the first 10 feet from the utility pole or from the service bridle where it originates. For safety, City Light offers a free service to shut your power off while you, or your tree care professional, are pruning trees near your power service line. To schedule this "make ready" service call (206) 386-1733 at least two weeks before you plan on doing tree work near your service line. Enjoy your trees and be safe.



Correction: The 2016 Performance Report Card in our March/April 2017 edition has had revisions to its tree trimming and electrical connection figures. You can see the revised report card here: [seattle.gov/light/LR/2016PerformanceReportCard](http://seattle.gov/light/LR/2016PerformanceReportCard)

## IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD: CITY LIGHT @ WORK



Crews are in these neighborhoods, working to provide reliable service:

- Capitol Hill (East Union St. between 10th and 11th): installing underground powerlines for greater reliability;
- Blue Ridge: installing underground conduits to improve electrical service;
- Chinatown-International District: replacing utility poles, overhead wire and infrastructure equipment;
- South Lake Union/Denny Triangle: installing underground vaults and ducts in advance of the new substation.

This is a partial list. For details go to [seattle.gov/light/atwork](http://seattle.gov/light/atwork) and click on an orange cone.



## SAFETY TIP FROM THE FIELD

*"Drones are popular toys but, just like kites, they need to be used in open areas to avoid contacting power lines."*

-Michael Gibbons,  
North Service Center Crew Chief

## TAKE A SKAGIT TOUR

City Light has offered public tours of the Skagit Hydroelectric Project since 1924. Come see what thousands discover every summer—the majesty of the North Cascades and the impressive engineering of the Skagit Hydroelectric Project. Sign up for a tour here: [seattle.gov/light/skagitTours/LR](http://seattle.gov/light/skagitTours/LR)

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