

Coastlines

News and Information for Customers of the Central Lincoln People's Utility District

Credit for Clunkers: CENTRAL LINCOLN Launches Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling Program

If you have a really old refrigerator or freezer at home that still works, it may be using nearly two and a half times as much electricity as one made in 1992- or more recently!

Newer technologies and better insulation are key reasons the freezer or refrigerator you buy today can help save you money on your electricity bill. As an example, **refrigerators and freezers made before 1978 cost at least \$105.84 a year** to operate. Those made since 1992 or newer cost an estimated **\$43.08 annually** to run in Central Lincoln's service area.

As power rates are expected to increase in coming years, we at Central Lincoln want to help you use less electricity and save money. Our new "**Credit for Clunkers**" program aims to do exactly that.

Here's how it works:

- If you have a working refrigerator or freezer in your home that is not an "Energy Star" rated appliance, and you want to get rid of it, this program is for you. (See www.energystar.gov for Energy Star details.) The "energy hog" you want taken away must be 10 cubic feet or larger, which generally means appliances larger than "dorm" fridges.



Duck fans will be pleased to know this Beaver Believer's 20+ year old refrigerator is eligible for our recycling program because it does not have an Energy Star rating.

- Call our friendly authorized dispatchers at **1-866-265-7231**. The waste haulers in your area will pick it up from you at no charge to you within two weeks, and recycle materials from the old appliance.

THEN...

You get a credit of \$30 on your Central Lincoln bill for the qualifying freezer or refrigerator that you have taken away! A credit for your clunker.

AND...

If you choose to buy a new "Energy Star" refrigerator, or freezer or dishwasher, or clothes washer to replace any "energy hogs" left in your home, **you may qualify for more credits on your electricity bill**. See our website at www.clpud.org and click on "Rebate Information" under "Energy Efficiency" for more details.

ALSO...

If you buy a new Energy Star appliance such as a refrigerator, clothes washer or dishwasher, you may qualify for **State of Oregon tax credits**. See: www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/CONS/RES/tax/appliances.shtml#App for more information. Saving electricity is good for your finances and good for the environment.

If you think we're getting more lightning strikes, you may be right



Photo courtesy NOAA

It seems like we are having more lightning activity here on the Oregon Coast, and Central Lincoln's engineers are looking at the data. As one example, we reviewed this past January 17 from 7 p.m. to midnight. According to a service offered by the U.S. Precision Lightning Network, during that time, 17 cloud-to-ground lightning "events" were detected within ten miles of Newport. Many lightning events were just offshore, but several were on land.

Central Lincoln's Chief Engineer and Manager of Systems Engineering Bruce Lovelin is leading the team examining extreme weather. "Lightning strikes on electrical equipment can damage both Central Lincoln's equipment and travel down our equipment causing damage to our customers' electronics too," Lovelin says. "We have not experienced this level of lightning activity in the past. However, now we will be tracking it. This may result in an expanded installation of lightning arresters on transmission and distribution lines."

We'll keep you posted on what Lovelin's team learns, and what the members conclude will need to be done.

If your power goes out please call:

1-866-484-3783



CENTRAL LINCOLN BY THE NUMBERS

- We are Oregon's **4th** largest electric utility
- **1.3 billion** kilowatt hours provided to customers per year
- We serve more than **80,000** people, and our service territory is approximately **700** square miles
- We serve portions of **4** counties: Coos, Douglas, Lane, and Lincoln
- We have a **5**-member board of directors, elected by geographic area