



Connections

Strengthening our Community...

one customer at a time!

July 2014

RE•fest

a celebration of green living and renewable energy will be held at the Mower County Fairgrounds on Sept. 20, 2014.

Visit www.refest.org for more information.

Office Hours

Monday

8:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday-Friday

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday

Closed

24 hr. telephone no.

433-8886

Austin Utilities
Board of
Commissioners

Geoff Baker
434-9474

Thomas C. Baudler
437-7744

Jim Schroeder
433-4249

Jeanne Sheehan
433-1269

Tom Sherman
433-4424



Energy Park Well House and Reservoir Open House

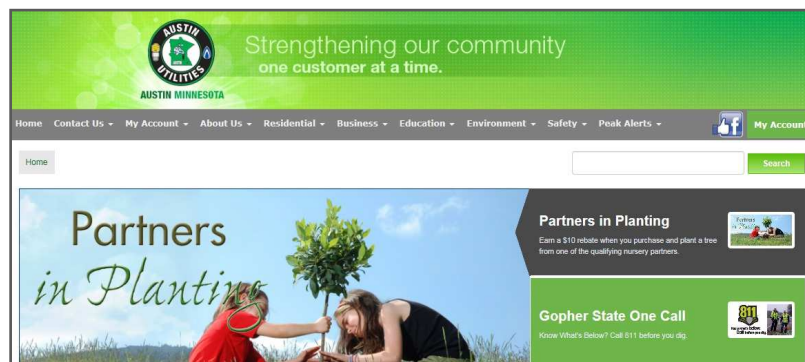
You are Invited!
Tuesday, August 26th, 2014
3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

- Tours of the new facility
- Ribbon cutting ceremony (at 3:30 p.m.)
- Ceremonial start of the well pump
- Water samples from the tap
- Free ice cream bars

Free Water
Bottle to the
first 100
visitors

The Energy Park Well House and Reservoir is the newest addition to Austin's water supply. With the ability to pump 1,500 gallons per minute to fill the two million gallon reservoir, it is ready to serve the community of Austin into the future.

Stop by and visit us at 1908 14th St NE



Austin Utilities new website. Same old address — Great new look!
Check us out at www.austinutilities.com



WE'D LIKE TO THANK LARRY FOR USING WILLPOWER, NOT ELECTRICITY DURING A PEAK ALERT.

We don't often call Peak Alerts, but when we do, we (and the environment) appreciate any steps you take to reduce your electricity use **until 8 p.m. No action is too small, whether it's reducing A/C use, shutting off lights, or running the dishwasher early in the morning or later in the evening.**

Peak Alerts are announced in the mornings on local radio and television stations. Or, you can sign up for an email announcement by sending an email with "sign me up" in the subject line to peakalert@austinutilities.com

IT'S GREAT AFTER EIGHT.

Fast and Free

The average home spends hundreds of dollars a year on energy costs. But you can lower your energy bills and help save the environment at the same time!

Be a speedy chef

Nothing is more energy efficient for cooking than your microwave. It uses two-thirds less energy than your stove.

Push a button to wash your dishes

Surprise! Your dishwasher uses less water than washing dishes by hand. Then let dishes air-dry to save even more!

Fill up the fridge

Having lots of food in your fridge keeps it from warming up too fast when the door is open. So your fridge doesn't have to work as hard to stay cool.

Cutting back unnecessary energy use is an easy way to reduce energy consumption while saving money. Here are some additional suggestions you can do at home, at absolutely no cost to you.

Turn up your thermostat

Set your thermostat to 78 degrees when you are home and 85 degrees or off when you are away. Using ceiling or room fans allows you to set the thermostat higher because the air movement will cool the room. Always take into account health

considerations and be sure to drink plenty of fluids in warm weather. (Save: 1 - 3% per degree, for each degree the thermostat is set above 72 degrees)

Use your appliances wisely

- To help during peak alerts avoid running your appliances during peak hours—it's great after 8:00 pm.
- Do your laundry efficiently by using the warm or cold water setting for washing your clothes. Always use cold water to rinse clothes. (Save: 4%)
- Line dry clothes whenever you can.
- When you need to use the dryer, run full loads, use the moisture-sensing setting, and clean the clothes dryer lint trap after each use.
- Conserve energy by running your dishwasher only when it is fully loaded, and turn off the dry cycle and air dry dishes instead.

Eliminate wasted energy

- Turn off appliances, lights and equipment when not in use. (Save: 2%)
- Unplug electronic devices and chargers when they aren't in use—most new electronics use electricity even when switched "off." Turn computers and printers off at the power strip.
- Unplug and recycle that spare refrigerator in the garage if you don't really need it.

In compliance with the Code of Federal regulation #49, Part 192.16, Austin Utilities must notify each customer who owns buried natural gas piping after the meter.

1. Austin Utilities does not maintain the customer's buried piping.
2. If the customer's buried piping is not maintained, it may be subject to the potential hazards of corrosion and leakage.
3. Buried gas piping should be:
 - (a) periodically inspected for leaks.
 - (b) periodically inspected for corrosion if the piping is metallic.
 - (c) repaired if any unsafe condition is discovered.
4. When excavating near buried gas piping, the piping should be located in advance, and the excavation done by hand.
5. Austin Utilities, plumbing and heating contractors, can assist in locating, inspecting, and repairing the customer's buried piping.

Customers with buried natural gas piping should feel free to contact Austin Utilities at 433-8886 or at our website www.austinutilities.com for further assistance.

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