



Building a Sustainable Community

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Town of Coupeville

February 2010

A PROGRAM TO HELP LOCAL BUSINESSES* SAVE ON ELECTRICITY AND WATER

Over the past 2 months I met with over 20 commercial customers in the Town of Coupeville to offer programs and guidance on energy and water conservation. One program in particular is PSE's commercial Compact Florescent Light (CFL) program where they offer significant point of sale rebates for high quality CFL light bulbs. I partnered with North Coast Electric to bring this program to Coupeville. In addition I offered other programs such as; free water conservation devices from the Town of Coupeville, PSE rebate programs for T12 to T8 lighting, LED Exit sign and programmable thermostats.

The energy savings achieved so far from just incandescent to CFL bulb replacement over the next year is;

23,840 Kwh/year = \$2146/year

Below are low cost energy and water saving tips for your business:

- Replace incandescent and halogen flood lights with Compact Florescent bulbs. This will reduce your electricity usage for lighting by 75%.

There are many styles of CFL bulbs available including dimmable.

- If you have old florescent tube lights (T12 bulbs with magnetic ballasts) the ballasts will be obsolete by 2010. PSE currently offers a 50% rebate to retrofit your T12 lights and ballasts to T8 lights with electronic ballasts. This rebate will phase out over the next year. T8 lights are 30% more efficient and offer a much better light overall (no visible flicker).
- In some applications where you are using halogen spot lights and your hours of operation are significant it might make sense to convert to LED lights.... The technology and quality of the LED lights are getting better and better. PSE is working towards providing a point of sale rebate on LED lights so watch for this.



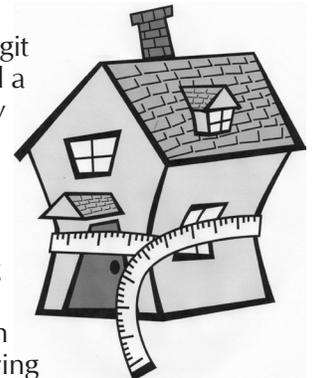
- Take advantage of PSE rebates including \$50 rebates for LED exit signs and programmable thermostats.
- Stop by Town Hall to pick up your free water conservation devices from the Town of Coupeville including; .5 gpm bathroom aerators, 1.5 gpm kitchen/utility sink aerators, toilet tab leak detectors.

If you would like to talk to me about conserving energy and water in your business please contact Cathy d'Almeida at 360-672-8473.

WANT TO LOSE 5000 POUNDS IN 30 DAYS?

5000 pounds of CO₂ emissions is what I'm talking about with the Low Carbon Diet.

Last October Skagit County launched a Cool Community Campaign. Over 100 households signed-up and have been losing thousands of pounds of carbon ever since following the Low Carbon Diet workbook.



The Town of Coupeville is hosting our own Low Carbon pilot group starting Thursday March 4th, and running through the rest of the month, from 6:30 - 8 pm at the Rec Hall.

If you want to know how to be involved and become a huge loser in 2010 please join by emailing MaryAnn Imkamp <maimkamp@gmail.com >

To learn more about the Low Carbon Diet and Skagit County Cool Community Campaign please attend the Cool Communities presentation at Sound Waters, Saturday Feb. 6.

*If you are building new or plan to do a major retrofit of your commercial building including, lighting, HVAC or building envelope, please consult with your accountant about eligibility of a Federal Tax credit. For information on this please visit: www.energystar.gov

WATER CONSERVATION DEVICES ARE A HIT!

We have had an overwhelming response to our free water conservation devices. Because of this we ordered more so please stop by Town Hall to pick up the following if you haven't already done so (available to all Coupeville water customers):

- 0.5 Gallon per minute (GPM) faucet aerators
- GMP shower flow restrictors
- 1.5 Kitchen or utility sink aerators
- Toilet Leak Detector Kits

One Town of Coupeville resident said they found a leaky toilet (one of those silent leaks that you normally can't hear). Leaking toilets can cause more water waste than any other fixture in the home. Even a silent toilet leak will waste from 30 to 500 gallons of water per day! That can cost in-town Coupeville customers over \$150 in a month. The ones you can hear will waste much, more water.

Are you Wasting Water Waiting for HOT?

Another Coupeville water customer installed all the water conservation devices but had the issue that now they wait even longer for hot water to get to the tap. In this case you might be a good candidate for a recirculation pump or a point of use small hot water heater. In any case please consult with your local plumber. In the case of the recirculation pump be sure to ask for a timer to be installed so you can program it to run only when you need hot water.

Dual Flush Toilets - Another Great Water Conservation Idea

A recent study conducted in Seattle measured water use in single-family homes before and after installation of high efficiency toilets. About half of the toilets installed were standard 1.6 gallon per flush (gpf) models. The other half were dual flush toilets that offer a 0.8 gallon flush for liquid and a 1.6 gallon flush for solids. The results are shown below.



Water use in homes with standard, 1.6 gallon, and dual flush toilets

| | Avg. Gallons per Flush | Avg. Gallons per Person per Day |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Non-conserving Home | 3.61 | 18.8 |
| Conserving home (1.6 gpf toilet) | 1.54 | 9.1 |
| Conserving home (dual flush toilet) | 1.25 | 6.9 |

And you can retrofit your existing low flow toilet relatively inexpensively! A local resident recently installed a dual flush adapter kit in his existing low flow (1.6 gpf) toilet. The dual flush device together with a new fill valve cost \$39.00 plus shipping. A great web site to read more about toilets and water conservation in the home is <http://www.h2ouse.org/tour/index.cfm>

DATES TO REMEMBER

SOUND WATERS

"one day university for all"

February 6, 2010
www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu/island/soundwaters/

This year's theme is "Puget Sound Starts Here: Why Act? What Works". Dr. Nathaniel Scholz, NOAA, will give the keynote: "Storm water, Salmon, and the Health of Puget Sound".

A SEA OF CHANGE

Comes to Coupeville!

February 6, 2010 • 7 pm
 Coupeville Methodist Church
 608 North Main Street
www.aseachange.net

Imagine a world without fish. A powerful new film on climate change and the oceans proposes just that. A Sea Change is the first documentary about ocean acidification, the underbelly of climate change, a little-known but potentially devastating threat to ocean life. A Sea Change has played to sell-out crowds at major film festivals in Washington, DC, San Francisco and Seattle in 2009.

RE-ENERGIZE YOUR OLDER HOME

Tuesday, Feb. 9
 5:30-6:30 pm
 Oak Harbor City Hall

Speaker Ted Clifton of Clifton Designs builds and remodels homes for energy efficiency that can qualify them for Federal tax credits. Come find out how to make a home built between 1950 and 1980 more energy efficient and affordable. Clifton won the Zero Energy Home of the Year award in 2009 and has been recognized by the Federal Department of Energy and NAHB Research Center for his work on Whidbey Island.

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