

# POWER Source

January 2008

**Customers first.  
Energy that lasts.**

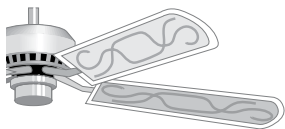
## Let the sun shine in!

*On sunny winter days, open the curtains or blinds and take advantage of the warmth. Letting in the sun's rays can help lower energy costs by 15 to 30 percent. Don't forget to pull the shades closed when the sun goes down. ■*



## Revolutionary resolutions

### 5 minute task



*Your ceiling fan shouldn't stay idle all winter. Check your fan for a small switch that allows you to reverse the fan's spin. Running the fan clockwise on the slowest speed produces a small updraft that forces warm air down from the ceiling. You'll be able to set your thermostat lower and stay comfortable for less. ■*

**Is that shiny new gym membership card still in your wallet unused? While you contemplate hitting the treadmill, consider making a resolution that will literally change the world. Conserving energy can help cut harmful emissions, reduce the need for building future power plants, protect natural resources and save you money.**

#### **Here are a few small resolutions you can make with your family:**

- Start with the simple things: draft stoppers for your doors, extra blankets for your bed and socks and slippers for your whole family can help everyone feel more comfortable without turning up the thermostat. Every degree you turn up the heat adds to your heating bill.
- If you're going on vacation, turn the water heater down. Otherwise, you'll be paying to reheat the same water over and over when you're not using it.
- Run the dishwasher only when it's fully loaded to avoid wasting hot water. Also, check your dishwasher's owner's manual for any special energy-saving features.



- Clean your refrigerator's coils this month – slide it away from the wall and use a vacuum cleaner or soft brush.
- Turn off your computer when you aren't using it. Left running day after day, the typical PC could cost \$75 per year in energy.
- Your laundry system can help you save energy if you avoid overloading. Too many clothes in the washer means they don't get fully clean, while too many clothes in the dryer require an extended drying time. Also, cleaning the lint from the dryer filter after every load helps protect the machine's efficiency.

You'll find many more tips for saving energy and helping protect the environment on our website at [eon-us.com](http://eon-us.com). ■

# Smart use of gift cards



If you're planning to take advantage of post-holiday sales, purchasing ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances can help dramatically reduce your utility bills. Look for the blue, rectangular ENERGY STAR sticker to help you choose products that exceed U.S. Department of Energy guidelines. Get help choosing energy-efficient appliances at [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov) or by calling the ENERGY STAR Hotline at 888.STAR.YES.

Wondering why you can't find an ENERGY STAR qualified dryer? Because most clothes dryers use similar amounts of energy, ENERGY STAR does not label dryers. Yet you can reduce the amount of energy you use drying clothes. Air-dry clothes whenever possible, select a high-spin option on your washer to extract more water before clothes go in the dryer, and if your dryer has a moisture sensor, use it to automatically shut off the machine when clothes are dry. ■

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Old Dominion Power**

**ODP Customer Service**  
Monday – Friday  
7 a.m. – 7 p.m. (EST)  
(800) 981-0600

**24-hour Power Outages**  
(800) 981-0600

**Business Service Center**

Monday – Friday  
7 a.m. – 6 p.m. (EST)  
(859) 367-1200  
(800) 383-5582

**Editor**

Cheryl.Williams  
@eon-us.com

Visit our website at  
[www.eon-us.com](http://www.eon-us.com)

## Safely cleaning up CFLs

Replacing your home's incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) helps save energy and reduces emissions. You may have heard, though, that CFLs contain small amounts of toxic mercury (about five milligrams in each), which is released if you break a bulb. (Five milligrams is about 100 times less than the amount of mercury in one old mercury thermometer.)

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, this amount is not enough to pose a health risk. **However, there are some precautions to take if a CFL breaks:**

- Open a window and leave the room for 15 minutes to let vapors escape.

- Wear disposable rubber gloves. Use stiff paper to scoop up broken glass.
- Use sticky tape or a wet paper towel to pick up small pieces and powder.
- Avoid using a vacuum (which disperses mercury vapor and traps particles in the bag).
- Dispose of the bulb in doubled plastic bags placed in an outside receptacle.

If you're concerned about mercury in the environment, remember that by using less electricity, CFLs help reduce mercury emissions in the environment. Learn how to safely dispose of burned-out CFLs at [earth911.org](http://earth911.org) or [lamprecycle.org](http://lamprecycle.org). ■

## Take five

Replacing the standard bulbs in your five most often used light fixtures with compact fluorescent light bulbs will help you save energy and money, as CFLs produce the same amount of light for less than 1/4 the energy and they last eight to 10 times as long.

According to the ENERGY STAR website, in most homes the highest-use fixtures are:

- kitchen ceiling lights
- living room or family room table and floor lamps
- outdoor porch or post lamps

If you'd like more information about using CFLs, visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov). ■

## Don't pay more this month than next

Month	Amount
January	\$100 <sup>00</sup>
February	\$100 <sup>00</sup>
March	\$100 <sup>00</sup>
April	\$100 <sup>00</sup>
May	\$100 <sup>00</sup>
June	\$100 <sup>00</sup>
July	\$100 <sup>00</sup>

Rising energy costs and frigid temperatures can result in unexpectedly high heating bills.

If you'd like to know in advance the amount of your ODP bill each month, sign up for our Budget Payment Plan. This popular program spreads your winter heating costs over a 12-month period, so your monthly bills won't reflect dramatic seasonal ups and downs.

Sign up online for the program at [www.eon-us.com](http://www.eon-us.com), or call our customer service center to sign up or find out how much your Budget Payment amount would be. ■



POWER**CREATIVE**

File Name: 51588\_odp\_jan\_news.indd

Date: 11/19/07

Desc./Specs: 2pgs\_2color

PowerSource/lge\_creative/51588

Operator: cag, cag

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