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WATT'S UP?



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Participants Offer Tips for Managing Electricity Usage & Costs

We recently hosted a series of Summer Readiness Workshops for Residential Real-Time Pricing Program (RTPP) Participants. Workshop Participants shared some of their personal strategies for managing their electricity usage and costs with the RRTP Program. Here are a few of their good ideas:

- One Participant has made a habit of turning off his air conditioning between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Several Participants use ceiling fans along with air conditioning. This allows them to stay comfortable while turning up the temperature on the thermostat a few degrees.
- RTPP Participants who have also signed up for Load Guard recommend it to others, confirming that they rarely noticed a difference in temperature when their central air conditioners were cycling off and on during high-priced hours.
- Other Participants were heartened by the savings evident on their electricity bills since switching to compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs). When asked about options for recycling CFLs, they suggested locations in the community where the bulbs could be dropped off for proper recycling.

The Great Prius Giveaway!

Take the ComEd Residential Real-Time Pricing online survey and be entered to win a 2009 Toyota Prius!



Take the Survey

Participants also had a chance to ask questions about the RRTP program. Here is the answer to one of the most frequently asked questions.

Q: Many participants asked about the difference between ComEd's Central AC Cycling program (Nature First) and Load Guard.

A: Load Guard and ComEd's Central AC Cycling (Nature First) both cycle your central air conditioner to help lower your summer cooling costs. The main difference between Load Guard and AC Cycling is that AC Cycling is offered as an option to all ComEd residential customers that have central air conditioning and who own their own home, and is activated based on high system demand. It is typically activated two or three times during the summer.

Load Guard is specifically for RRTP Participants, and is activated based on the real-time price of electricity. It is activated any time the price of electricity is high (participants can select a threshold of either 10 cents or 14 cents per kWh).

In order to participate in Load Guard, you must first be enrolled in ComEd's Central AC Cycling program (Nature First). If you are enrolled in both, you will still receive the \$5 or \$10 credit on your June through September electricity bills for AC Cycling (depending upon whether you select 50 percent or 100 percent cycling). There's still time to enroll so please consider both programs.

Many who have enrolled in both programs related that they do not even notice when these programs are activated. For more information on Nature First and Load Guard, or to enroll, go to www.theWattSpot.com or call 1-866-WATTSPOT.

For additional tips and highlights from the Summer Readiness Workshops for Residential Real-Time Pricing Program Participants, [just click here.](#)

We hope you find these user tips useful and thank you for your continued participation in the ComEd RRTP Program.

Sincerely,

Katie Papadimitriou
ComEd RRTP Program Manager
theWattSpot.com

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