

Another way to save on your energy bill!

NPU reduced its peak demand by enough energy to more than power the City of Norwich for an entire day!

We've offered quite a few energy efficiency tips over the years—use energy efficient appliances; replace incandescent light bulbs with energy-saving compact fluorescent lights (CFLs); seal drafty doors and windows, etc. These improvements help by reducing your energy use and therefore your energy bill. But there's a big-picture approach to energy efficiency and savings, too. It's called Demand Side Management.

What is Demand Side Management?

The purpose of Demand Side Management (DSM) is to encourage consumers to voluntarily limit their electricity use during "peak" times. Reducing the demand for energy consumed at peak times can save money in two ways.

First, it allows Norwich Public Utilities to construct, operate and maintain an electric distribution system, which consists of electric generation and the transmission and distribution systems, which include power lines, substations and transformers. The peak usage of electricity determines the size of the distribution system's electrical infrastructure that must be in place all year even though its maximum capacity is only used at those peak times. The bigger the system infrastructure, the more it costs to develop, maintain and operate.

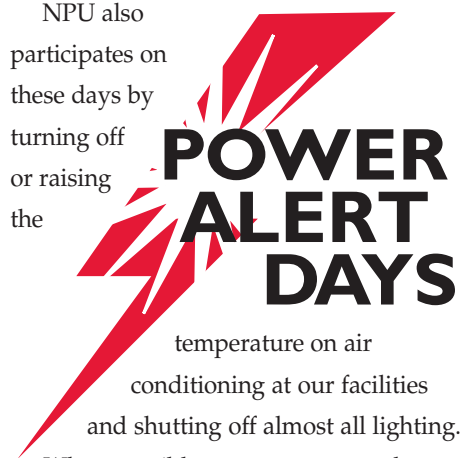
Second, NPU can avoid having to purchase more expensive energy. The wholesale price that NPU pays for energy is not fixed but varies depending on the type and quantity of generation needed to meet demand. The lower-cost sources of energy generation are used first and, as the demand increases, more expensive sources called "peakers" must be brought on line to make up the difference. The price of power, market wide, is based on the cost to operate the most expensive generating plant that is running on line at that time. Since the electric rate remains constant, the premium paid for this peak power is spread over the entire year. Fluctuations due to the rise and fall of the energy market are captured through the purchased power adjustment (PPA).

Historically, electricity usage hits its peak between 1:00 and 6:00 p.m. on a summer day when people are using their air conditioners on top of normal electric demand.

Demand Side Management is also important for improving the electric grid reliability and reducing, or eliminating, "brown outs" or "black outs." These are periods when so much electricity is being used that the system simply cannot keep up and shortages occur. With proper management, they can be avoided. Through careful planning and maintenance, NPU has been able to ensure reliability. With your help, we can continue to maintain a reliable system that meets the needs of a growing community.

Last summer we instituted "Power Alert Days" to notify customers when peak days were expected and asked that customers limit the amount of electricity used during that time. Just wait until after the peak period to turn on appliances like dishwashers and clothes washers, raise the temperature on air conditioners, or run pool filters at night.

NPU also participates on these days by turning off or raising the



When possible, we run water and sewer pumping stations, as well as process equipment, during off-peak times to help reduce Norwich's peak load.

Communication and customer cooperation paid off!

NPU, along with the other Connecticut municipal utilities were so successful, that we reduced our peak demand by enough energy to more than power the City of Norwich for an entire day!

The basic idea behind Demand Side Management is that energy efficiency measures can be a win/win situation — customers use less energy so their bill is less; and by lowering the demand, the energy customers do use is less expensive.

Another Year of Superior Water Quality

Norwich Public Utilities has published its Water Quality Report for 2006. The report details the testing your municipal water supply undergoes throughout the year and lists the results, which were superior to government standards across the board. We're proud of our record of above average water quality and we'd like to share it with you. A copy of our 2006 Water Quality Report has been sent to all water customers and is available on our website at www.norwichpublicutilities.com. If you need an extra copy, or are not a water customer but would like a copy, please contact communitymatters@npumail.com



Did you know?

- Community water supplies are tested every day. Tap water undergoes far more frequent testing than bottled water (source American Water Works Association www.awwa.org).
- NPU treats about 1.9 billion gallons of water a year, or an average of 5.1 million gallons a day!
- Compare the cost of municipal tap water to bottled water—tap water costs \$2.00

per hundred cubic feet or approximately 750 gallons. That works out to \$.0026 per gallon. Contrast that with the \$1.50 you might be paying at the store for just one gallon of bottled water!

- The original purpose for building community water supplies was to fight fires!
- The average U.S. household uses 350 gallons of water a day.
- Watering the average quarter-acre lawn can use more than 3,000 gallons of water a week.
- We only drink about 1% of treated water—the rest we use to water the lawn, do the laundry or flush the toilet.
- Dripping faucets may not seem like much, but over the course of a year if your faucet drips once every two seconds you'll waste over 1,000 gallons of water!

For water-saving tips, you can visit www.norwichpublicutilities.com/water-conservation.html.

Mercury in CFLs

There have been a lot of stories lately about the mercury content in a compact fluorescent light bulb, and the expensive clean up costs associated with these bulbs.

The facts: CFLs contain about 4 mg of mercury. Compare that to a mercury thermometer which contains 500 mg.

Even though CFLs only contain a small amount, it is important that they be handled with care and disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner. **Never toss CFLs into garbage cans!** Instead, place the CFL in a sealed plastic bag and dispose of it the same way you would dispose of batteries, oil-based paint, or motor oil. **The Norwich Transfer Station accepts these bulbs at no charge during normal business hours.** For more details, call the transfer station at 823-3796.



If a CFL breaks in your home, open a nearby window, carefully sweep up the fragments with a broom and wipe the area with a wet paper towel to remove all particles. Place the fragments and towel in a sealed plastic bag and dispose of properly. **Never use a vacuum!**

In spite of their mercury content, **CFLs are still better for the environment than standard bulbs** because CFLs use much less energy and last a lot longer. To produce enough energy to light an incandescent bulb, a power plant will emit 10 mg of mercury. To produce the energy to light a CFL, a power plant only emits 2.4 mg of mercury! This means less mercury is released into the environment.

For more information, visit NPU's website at www.norwichpublicutilities.com and click on the Energy Star link.

Summer Safety Tips

Summertime and the livin' is easy... let's make sure it's safe, too. Norwich Safe Communities Coalition and Safe Kids New London County remind you to follow the safety tips below:

At the water

- Always supervise young children near water, including pools, spas, toilets, bathtubs and buckets. Children should never swim alone.
- Empty and turn over wading pools immediately after use.
- Teach children never to go near a pool drain. Children who get hair or body parts caught in the drain can drown. Pin up long hair when in pools, hot tubs, and spas.

In the car

- Secure children in a child safety seat appropriate for their age and size, or with a safety belt, and always in the back seat.

- Study your vehicle owner's manual and child safety seat instructions carefully.
- Children should ride in a booster seat until at least age 8 or until 4'9" tall.

On a bike

- Make sure children wear properly fitting helmets and other protective gear every time they ride their bikes, scooters, inline skates or skateboards.
- Teach your children the rules of the road and practice obeying traffic laws with them.
- Cycling should be restricted to sidewalks and paths until a child is age 10 and is able to show how well she or he rides and observes the basic rules of the road.

Taking a walk

- Never let your child under age 10 cross the street alone—teach children to obey traffic rules.
- Teach your children never to enter the street

from between parked cars or behind bushes.

- Make sure your children wear retro-reflective materials, and don't let them walk alone at night. If they must walk at dawn or at dusk, make sure they carry a flashlight.

At the playground

- Always supervise your children at playgrounds or in the backyard. Make sure they play on a safe surface, such as mulch, rubber or sand.
- Parents should check for hot surfaces on playground equipment before allowing children to play on it.
- Make sure children drink enough water when playing outdoors.
- Remove hood and neck drawstrings from all children's outerwear. Never allow children to wear helmets, necklaces, purses, scarves or clothing with drawstrings while on playgrounds.

School's Out! What're We Gonna Do?

The school year is ending and parents are pondering that age old question – “what can we do this summer?”

Well, you don't have to travel far (which is good news with the current gas prices!) to have fun. There are countless activities to enjoy right here in our community, at little or no cost.

Sports—watch 'em or play 'em

The Connecticut Defenders, our local AA baseball team, have exciting home games scheduled throughout the summer. At Friday night home games, there are fireworks afterward. For ticket information and a game schedule, visit www.connecticutdefenders.com.

If you'd rather take part in a sport, Norwich has an abundance of fields for every kind of game. Many neighborhoods have public fields large enough for an impromptu game of baseball, soccer or dodge ball.

Tennis, anyone? The clay courts on Mohegan Road are ready to use. Nearby on Mahan Drive is the Norwich Skateboard Park, as well as a track and soccer field. Call the Norwich Recreation Department at 823-3791 for a current list of summer recreation programs.

Norwich has many great fishing spots, too. Whether you're a passive fisherman, content to whittle away the hours on the shore of Spaulding Pond in Mohegan Park, a competitive sport fisherman going after the stripers in the harbor, or a fly fisherman on the Shetucket River, grab your pole and head to where the fish are

jumping. And speaking of the river, the addition of the Greeneville fish lift and Occum fish ladder, which allow the fish to return to their natural habitat, are helping to ensure a healthy river.

Looking for a challenging golf game? Norwich's 18-hole golf course is open to the public seven days a week. It's a great course to work on that handicap.

The Heritage Walkway, which runs from Sherman Street to Howard Brown Park at the harbor, is also a great place to take a walk. Marvel at the natural beauty of the historic Yantic Falls and appreciate the architecture and craftsmanship of the Victorian homes that line the streets. At the end of the Walkway, challenge your companions to a game of mini golf.

Free Fridays—Norwich Summer Concerts 2007

Date	Group	Location
June 29	Fat Cats – Classic Rock	Norwichtown Green
July 6	Amy Gallatin & Stillwaters – Blue Grass	Brown Park Gazebo
July 13	Norwich Concert Band	Norwichtown Green
July 20	The Little Big Band – Swing	Norwichtown Green
July 27	Mass-Conn Fusion – Motown	Brown Park Gazebo
August 3	Silver Comet-Salute to America	Norwichtown Green 6:30 PM
August 10	River City Slim & the Zydeco Hogs	Brown Park Gazebo
August 17	The Dramatix Showband – Pop Classics	Norwichtown Green
August 24	Silver Comet Band – Children's Concert	Norwichtown Green 6:30 PM
August 31	Norberto Tavares – Cape Verdean Salsa	Brown Park Gazebo

All concerts start at 7:00 pm unless noted—Rain dates to be announced—Listen to WICH-1310 AM Please call 886-4683 or 887-2789 for more information. *Slate of performers subject to change.

Concerts are sponsored by The City of Norwich, The Music Performance Fund (MPF) and The Norwich Arts Council.

Ideas for a Rainy Day

There's plenty to do on rainy days, too. How about ice skating? The Norwich Ice Rink is a great place to beat the heat and humidity—and have fun in the process! The newly renovated Otis Library offers many summer programs to keep little one's minds active and engaged. While at Otis, borrow a book or two. When the weather clears, it's always nice to relax under a shade tree with a good book.

Family Outings

Mohegan Park is a great family outing spot. Take a relaxing stroll along the trails that wind through the woods or enjoy an afternoon barbecue at the picnic areas throughout the park. The kids will enjoy the park's playgrounds or going for a swim in Spaulding Pool on those warm summer days.

Museums, Art Galleries & Free Concerts

Explore Norwich's history at the Leffingwell Museum or Slater Museum and Converse Art Gallery. Take a walk through the Norwichtown historic burial grounds see where our founding fathers are laid to rest.

The fun doesn't end when the sun goes down. Enjoy warm summer evenings at the free concerts that take place on Friday nights throughout the summer. Or take in a show at one of the local theaters or art galleries. Visit Norwich's website at www.norwichnow.com for a list of events scheduled throughout the summertime.

With so much to see and do right here in Norwich, summer is going to fly by! Just be sure to take time out of your busy schedule to stop and smell the roses (at Norwich's Rose Garden, of course!)



Communitycalendar

NORWICH PUBLIC UTILITIES

JULY/AUGUST 2007

Ongoing—1st Friday of each month

First Fridays

Downtown Norwich comes alive with arts and entertainment every first Friday of the month! View original art at several galleries or enjoy a musical or theater production in our theaters. Call 886-4683 for more information.

Ongoing—1st and 3rd Friday of each month

Open Mic Night

City Perk, located at 154 Main Street (across from the Court house), every 1st and 3rd Friday each month from 5:30 pm-10:00 pm. For more information, contact Shawn at 204-8443.

July - October

Farmers Market

Purchase fresh fruit and vegetables grown by local farmers. Markets are held at Brown Park, Chelsea Harbor Dr. on Wednesdays from 11am-2pm and at Uncas on the Thames-Campbell Building, 401 West Thames St., Mondays & Fridays from 10am-1pm. Call 886-4683 for more information.

July 15, 2007

Samuel Huntington's Birthday

Join the Norwich Historical Society in acknowledging the 276th birthday of the first president of the Congress Assembled of the United States. A symbolic presidential wreath will be placed at the tomb at the historic Norwichtown Cemetery. The ceremony starts at 2:00pm. Call Maria at 887-6882 for more information.

August 7th

National Night Out

Sponsored by the Norwich Police Department. 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. at Shop Rite plaza, West Main Street. For more information, please contact Norwich Police Department at 886-5561.

August 18th

Day of Peace

Hosted by the Norwich Anti-Bullying Coalition and YMCA of Southeastern CT at Camp Anderson, the YMCA Day Camp, 88 Button Road, Preston, CT. from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm.

All camp facilities available: swimming, basketball and

volleyball. Arts and crafts. Families are invited to bring their own meals. The event is free and open to the public. Bus transportation is available.

For information and to register contact Debbie Kievits at (860) 823-3782 Ext. 26 or dasunflower61@yahoo.com Rain date is August 19th.

Sept 6-9

Grecian Festival

Enjoy the foods and music of the Greek-American Community in Norwich at their 32nd annual festival featuring fresh baked goods, gyro booth and traditional meals. Contact Father Paul at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church at 887-1458.

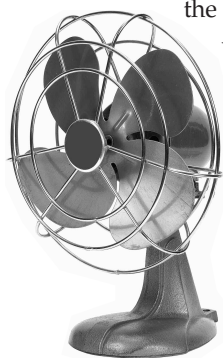
Sept 8th

Taste of Italy

The Italian community in Norwich shares their tasty culinary heritage with the world at this annual event, which also includes bocce games, art exhibit and fireworks. Held at Brown Park. Contact Frank Demicco at 889-1369 or Frank Jacaruso Jr. at 889-0864 for details.

Be Energy Efficient this Summer!

- Aerate your lawn. Punch holes in your lawn about six inches apart so water will reach the roots rather than run off the surface.
- Wash your car on the grass. This will water your lawn at the same time.
- When the kids want to cool off, use the sprinkler in an area where your lawn needs it the most.
- Next time you add or replace a flower or shrub, choose a low water use plant for year-round landscape color and save up to 550 gallons each year.
- Running pool filters, air conditioners and other appliances after 8 p.m. helps lessen the demand on the energy grid.
- Air-dry dishes and laundry.
- Wash only full loads of dishes or clothes.
- Keep windows closed during the heat of the day.
- Draw blinds and draperies during the day to keep the heat out.
- Use small fans, box fans or ceiling fans instead of the central air conditioning unit when you plan to stay in one room for an extended period of time. Individual fans cost about 90 percent less to operate than central cooling systems.
- Turn up the temperature of the air conditioner and use fans to help circulate the air—you'll get the same effect as a colder temperature, but will save energy.
- Change your air filter regularly. An air conditioning unit with dirty filters can use 5 to 10 percent more energy than necessary.



Friends of Otis Library

The Friends of Otis Library, a non-profit group, who believe that libraries as a valuable part of society.

Volunteers are needed to help with publicity, book sales, and numerous other projects. Networking and fun abound.

Some people simply pay dues to show their support, and that's just great. A high membership shows we are growing.

In whatever way an individual participates, it is an outward and visible sign of appreciation for a place where the avenues to learning are unlimited. Show your support. Sign up today to become a Friend of Otis Library. Visit our website at www.otislibrarynorwich.org and click on the Friends of Otis Library link.



The Board of Public Utilities Commissioners & Sewer Authority recently approved new water and sewer rates. These rates take effect July 1, 2007. For a copy of the new rates, visit NPU's website at www.norwichpublicutilities.com or contact us at 860-887-2555.



Here to Serve You

Visit a special link on our web site for more information:
www.norwichpublicutilities.com/communitymatters

Please call, fax or email us your questions, comments and suggestions.

Norwich Public Utilities, 173 North Main Street Norwich CT 06360

Tel: 860-887-2555 | Fax: 860-823-4172 | Email: communitymatters@npumail.com