

connected.....to saving energy

Take a fresh look at trimming costs this spring

Sow seeds of energy efficiency this spring and watch your savings grow. Look for quick tips on trimming costs in a new series of one-minute videos at sdge.com/energydiet.

Did you know...?

You'll find information about home cooling, weatherization, indoor and outdoor lighting, popular electronics, second refrigerators and pools. For example:

- Simple steps such as an annual checkup and clean filters for your

central air conditioner can help you control cooling costs, typically \$120 per month during the hottest summer months.

- Weatherstripping and caulking around drafty doors and windows can help save up to 5% on cooling and heating costs.
- In a typical home with 45 standard lights, you could save up to \$500 per year by switching to energy-efficient lights.
- One 150-watt floodlight can cost you nearly \$125 a year, while

▶ Even out monthly energy bills

Knowing what to expect is a plus when planning your budget. To make your future energy bills more consistent, sign up for our Level Pay Plan. It's an easy way to predict your monthly energy bill. This service is free. Call **1-800-411-7343** or visit sdge.com/lpp.

low-voltage replacements can produce the same amount of light and save you up to \$90 per year.

- Smart strips can help you save on costs such as the \$80-plus per year you may be spending to use your DVR to record and watch your favorite TV shows.
- A refrigerator that's more than 10 years old may be adding \$20 per month to your energy bill.
- An energy-efficient, variable-speed pool pump can save you more than \$300 per year in filtering costs.

For more ideas on ways to save around your home, visit sdge.com/energydiet. ■

NOTE: Calculations for savings are based on average use of 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per month. Actual savings may vary.

▶▶▶ For more info, visit us anytime at sdge.com.



Spring-cleaning uncovers savings

Safety reminder: For service calls, please confine your dog



National Dog Bite Prevention Week (May 19-25) is a reminder that even the friendliest pup can bite. Nearly 5 million Americans are bitten by dogs each year, with 800,000 of them injured so badly that they need medical attention, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association, co-sponsor of the public service campaign.

As a dog owner, you can help prevent bite injuries by securely confining your pet behind a locked fence or door when we come to your house on service calls, such as appliance safety checkups. Please also be sure to notify us at **1-800-411-7343** if you add a dog to your household so we can update our records. ■

The time-honored tradition of spring-cleaning can be a great way to freshen up your home and dust off some opportunities for saving energy and money. Here are a few tips to get you started.

- Clean door seals on your refrigerator, freezer and oven to prevent leaks. Replace damaged seals.
- Vacuum or dust the condenser coils of your refrigerator or freezer to prevent overheating.
- Adjust your smart thermostat program setting to reflect the time change.
- Replace disposable filters on your air conditioner or heat pump, or hose down permanent filters every month or two, as the manufacturer advises.
- Remove built-up lint and dust from the clothes dryer exhaust duct, the outside dryer exhaust terminal, the back of the dryer itself and *behind* the lint screen. This is in addition to cleaning the lint screen every time you use the dryer.
- Spray a detergent-and-water solution on the outside condenser coils of your air conditioner or heat pump and rinse to clean.

- Remove barriers such as furniture, weeds and debris that block air-conditioning vents and equipment.
- Flush out built-up sediment from inside the tank of your water heater.

For more tips, visit sdge.com/save-money. ■

The way it was: Flashback Fridays

Current events aren't the only thing you'll find on our Facebook page at facebook.com/SanDiegoGasandElectric. We travel back in time every week for Flashback Friday. Enjoy highlights from the history of SDG&E, founded on April 18, 1881, such as this photo from the early 1900s, when electric crews used horse-drawn vehicles to work on power lines.



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