



City Lights

From Marietta Power and Water

Winter 2008

Marietta Water Needs Your Help to Conserve Water During the Current Drought

The drought here in North Georgia has made it critical for all of us to conserve water, and Marietta Water needs your help to meet state-mandated conservation requirements.

The State of Georgia has required utilities to reduce monthly water consumption by 10 percent. Beginning April 1, each customer's water savings will be calculated using average monthly water use from April through September 2007.

Our rates increased as of January 1, 2008 to cover the increases in our wholesale costs, our operating expenses and our capital improvement needs. In addition, the Cobb County Water System increased the amount we pay for wastewater treatment by 4 percent on the same date. The average water and wastewater combined bills will increase by 10-15 percent.

As a result, Marietta Water had to raise

our water and sewer rates accordingly. We know rate changes affect our customers' budgets, and we will continue working to keep the impact to a minimum.

Marietta Water also remains very aware of our obligation to provide you with safe and clean water on a reliable basis. For that reason, we continually plan ahead to ensure that we maintain our systems well in order to provide reliable and high-quality service to our customers. This requires substantial capital investments in our infrastructure and upgrades to existing service lines. The rate increase that took effect in January is also necessary in order to fulfill that mission.

If you have any questions, please contact Pete Jonsson at (770) 794-5183. For additional information on how you can help us conserve water, please visit mariettawater.com. ✎

We maintain our systems well in order to provide reliable and high-quality service to our customers.

Companies Cut Energy Costs and Enjoy Positive Publicity by Earning the ENERGY STAR®

Cobb County businesses can save a great deal of money on energy and earn positive public recognition by joining the more than 3,200 U.S. facilities that have earned the ENERGY STAR® designation.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy created the ENERGY STAR® program to promote energy efficient products



and practices. The ENERGY STAR® for Buildings Program provides energy-efficiency guidelines for buildings. The program also allows building owners to demonstrate their commitment to energy conservation. Buildings with the ENERGY STAR® designation use about 35 percent less energy than average buildings, and some even use 50 percent less energy.

For example, Colorado Springs School

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Three-Step Water-Saving Process Also Helps Companies Cut Energy Expenditures

Georgia's water shortage has focused the attention of companies on their use of this precious resource like never before.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency publication "Using Water Efficiently: Ideas for Commercial Businesses," companies can reduce water in a variety of ways. Again, the savings quickly compound because saving water also reduces costs for electric power, natural gas, chemicals, and wastewater disposal.

Companies can go a long way toward achieving these savings by implementing a simple three-step process:

First Step

Make a Corporate Commitment to Water Efficiency – The activities involved in completing this step include designating a water efficiency coordinator, developing a mission statement and a plan, educating and involving employees in becoming water efficiency experts, and informing your chemical suppliers and service contractors (cooling tower, laundry, dishwasher, landscaping, etc.) that the company considers water efficiency a priority.

To request a free water audit form, e-mail the Pollution Prevention Assistance Division at info@p2ad.org.

Saving water also reduces costs for electric power, natural gas, chemicals, and wastewater disposal

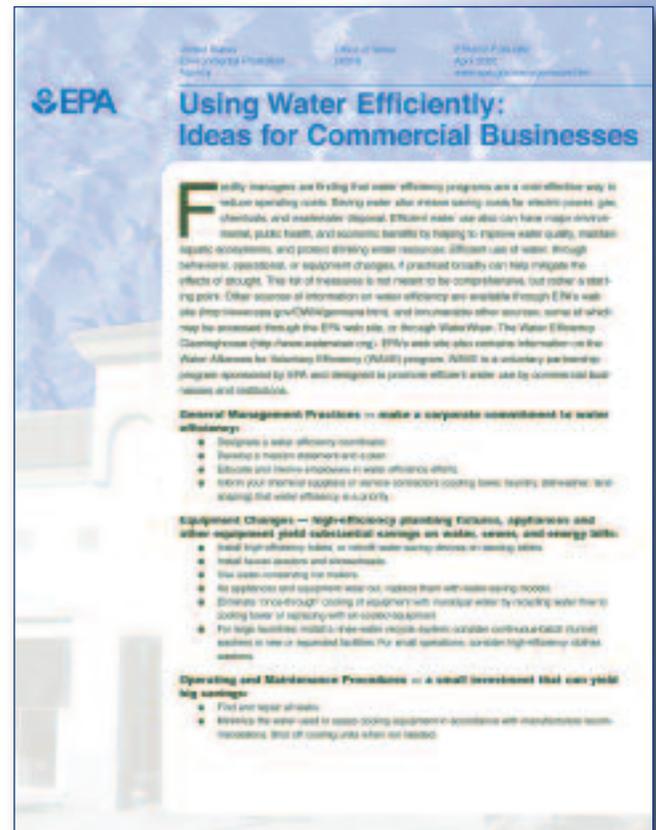
Second Step

Consider Equipment Changes to reduce Water, Sewer, and Energy Bills – Opportunities include installing high-efficiency toilets, retrofitting water-saving devices on existing toilets, installing faucet aerators and showerheads, using water-conserving ice makers, and replacing appliances and equipment that wear out with water-saving models. For example, high-efficiency clothes washers use significantly less water than older models.

Third Step

Review Operating and Maintenance Procedures – A company should start by finding and repairing all leaks. Businesses should also look for opportunities to recycle cooling tower water and minimizing the water used in space cooling, in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations. Shutting off cooling units when they aren't needed will help as well.

For additional information about saving water, please visit mariettawater.com. ✎



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Looking for Energy Savings in all the Wrong Places?

Business owners and managers invented “multi-tasking.” They oversee or do everything from daily business operations to human resources – and even energy management within their facilities.

R-values, kWh, therms, heat rates and air infiltration can boggle even the most “techie” of business types.

But it pays to take a closer look at your facility’s energy use. Power consumption can easily account for 20% or more of a commercial business’s operating expenses.

Online Tools Remove Guesswork

Zero in on your energy savings opportunities and boost your bottom line with Marietta Power’s CommercialEnergySuite™. This powerful set of online tools can take the guesswork out of your business’s energy consumption and show you ways to save:

- **CommercialEnergyCalculator™:** Get an analysis of your energy use with this simple online calculator. Change the settings on the calculator and try various scenarios to see what will save you the most.
- **CommercialEnergySystems™:** Dig deeper into the technical areas of energy use by Business Type, Technology and Building Design.
- **Understanding Demand:** This section is for larger businesses that have high momentary demand for energy and are billed for both energy consumption and energy demand. Understanding demand is essential to keeping total energy costs down.

Go To Our Web Site

You can access these tools anytime from our main Web site (www.marietta.ga.gov): select “Departments”, select “Utilities”, select “Power”, select “Commercial Customers” and select “Energy Calculator” from the drop-down menus.

Or, you can go directly to the CommercialEnergySuite page at <http://mp.apogee.net/comsuite/> (Please note there is no “www” in this direct page Web address. If you add a “www” to the URL address, it won’t be able to locate the page).

Need a Hand?

If you’d like help with using the CommercialEnergySuite tools online, or if you’d like us to perform a free walk-through energy audit



<http://mp.apogee.net/comsuite/>

of your facility, call Rusty Smith at (770) 794-7094 or e-mail rsmith@marietta.ga.gov. We’re here to help support your business! ✨



Visit <http://mp.apogee.net/comsuite/> and remove the guesswork from energy saving ideas.

Companies Cut Energy Costs and Enjoy Positive Publicity by Earning the ENERGY STAR® continued from page 1

District #11 became ENERGY STAR® certified in 2003. The district's energy projects have included a focus on preventive maintenance, holiday shutdowns, and retro-commissioning. In all, these projects have saved the district approximately \$4 million per year.

Many types of commercial and industrial companies can earn the ENERGY STAR®, based on a comparison of energy use with other, similar types of buildings. Commercial buildings that can currently earn the ENERGY STAR® include offices, bank branches, financial centers, courthouses, hospitals, hotels and motels, K-12 schools, medical offices, supermarkets, dormitories, and warehouses. Industrial buildings that can earn the ENERGY STAR® include some manufacturing facilities and plants. Architecture firms can also display the Designed to Earn the ENERGY STAR® graphic to distinguish their projects as among the nation's best in energy performance.

To obtain the ENERGY STAR®, a company must first measure, track, and benchmark energy performance. Businesses will find free web-based tools, calculators, resources, and training to assist them in this endeavor at energystar.gov. These assessment and guidance tools will also help organizations identify technological improvements that

can dramatically reduce both energy consumption and business expenditures.

In addition to reducing energy costs, earning the ENERGY STAR® helps businesses earn positive public recognition. Each year in January or early February, EPA releases information about buildings that have earned the prestigious ENERGY STAR® to the press. It also involves the organizations that own ENERGY STAR® buildings in the agency's media activities. Businesses can also earn recognition within the ENERGY STAR® buildings program as an ENERGY STAR® Partner or Leader, or by capturing a nationally recognized Partner of the Year Award.

For more information about earning the ENERGY STAR®, please visit energystar.gov. ✎



www.energystar.gov

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