



## Please Clear the Way

### Blocked or hidden meters can trigger billing troubles and service delays.

Alameda Municipal Power reads approximately 34,000 meters each month to bill customers for their electricity use. A Meter Reader reads an average of over 700 meters each day to ensure all accounts are read monthly and billed in a timely manner.

To assist us in this effort, we need your help to clear the way and allow us access to your electric meter. Garbage can block meters, as can overgrown plants and parked cars. Locked security gates and the occasional ill-tempered dog make meters inaccessible. Keeping your meter area clear of thorny foliage and dangerous obstacles, like uncoiled garden hoses, also ensures the safety and well being of our Meter Readers. We truly appreciate the effort.

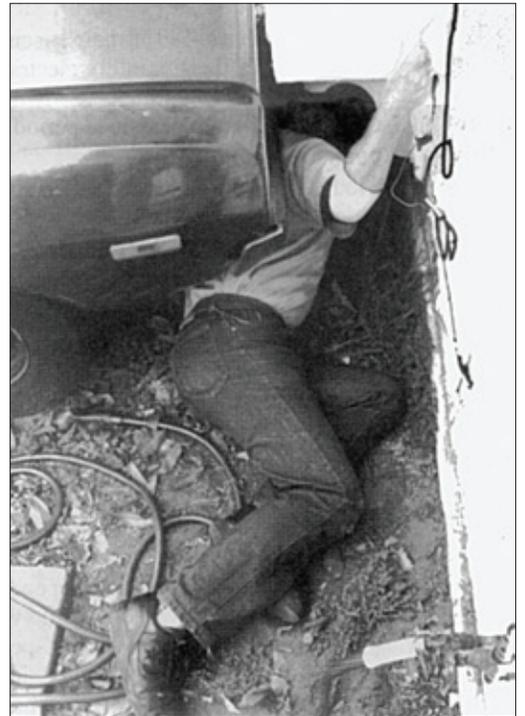
If we cannot read the dials on your electric meter for any reason, we have to skip that meter and send out another staff person to resolve the problem and obtain a read. This results in additional costs to AMP that can be controlled with your help. If a read cannot be obtained, we may estimate your electrical use and bill. An accurate accounting of electrical usage is always best. If the problem becomes chronic, AMP may discontinue service if

reasonable access to any service wires, meter, or other AMP facilities is denied.

You can help keep costs low by clearing the way for our Meter Readers. Check that foliage hasn't grown over your meter to the point that your meter is hidden from view. Remove refuse, and allow room around parked vehicles. Please make sure your pet is inside or kept restrained.

Locked security gates are great for keeping out unwanted guests, but they also keep our Meter Readers from doing their job. If you have

*See Please Clear the Way on page 2*



## We Want You to Know

Last month, we reported on the Public Utilities Board's Annual Budget Workshop, including rate adjustment proposals affecting all customers. A request to the Board for consideration of AMP's proposed Fiscal Year 2011 budget, as well as rate adjustments to support that budget, is included on the agenda for its June 28 meeting. While details have not been finalized, the proposed rate adjustment would increase the typical monthly household electric bill by approximately \$1.51. Look for a report on the Board's actions on our web site, [www.alamedamp.com](http://www.alamedamp.com), on Tuesday, June 29. Because the meeting will take place after press time for the July edition, additional discussion of the meeting's outcomes also will appear in the August edition of *The FLASH*.

## AMP Receives State Commendation

Alameda Municipal Power once again has been recognized by the State of California for its successes in greenhouse gas reductions.

At its April meeting, the City's Public Utilities Board received a joint resolution of the State Legislature recognizing our efforts on the occasion of Earth Day 2010. Ms. Carol Jones, District Director representing Assembly Member Sandré Swanson presented Members Resolution Number 738 to President Gregory Hamm on behalf of the Board.

The resolution cites AMP for its exemplary commitment to, and successful achievement of, dramatic reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. In her presentation, Ms. Jones also noted that AMP continues to lead all electricity providers in the State of California in the use of renewable energy. 





# Energy Star® Refrigerator Rebate and Recycle Program

## FREE \$100 REBATE!



Save Money, Save Energy, and Save the World!  
Purchase an Efficient, Energy Star Refrigerator and Recycle that Old One!

### MAKE THE GREEN CHOICE – REPLACE YOUR OLD REFRIGERATOR WITH A NEW MORE EFFICIENT ONE

Your family's refrigerator may be the biggest hog in your household's energy use. If it's one of the older, less efficient models, it may cost you up to \$480 a year for electricity to keep this appliance humming. Purchase an Energy Star® labeled refrigerator (at least 14 cubic feet capacity) and recycle your old refrigerator to get a \$100 rebate.

Energy Star® refrigerators use at least 20% less energy than required by the federal standards and 40% less energy than earlier conventional models. The more energy-efficient your refrigerator, the less it will contribute to greenhouse gas emissions and global warming.

AMP is committed to both the efficient use of energy and assuring that Alameda stays The Greenest Little Utility in America. That's why we have energy efficiency programs to help you make choices that help the planet and save money on your electric bill.

For more information, program rules, and an application, please log on to [www.alamedamp.com](http://www.alamedamp.com) or call toll free (866) 964-7346. *Residential customers only, please.*

**Alameda Municipal Power. The Greenest Little Utility in America.**

### Here are some quick tips for helping your refrigerator (old or new) use energy more efficiently:

- Clean the refrigerator coils on a regular basis.
- Keep the refrigerator at a temperature that isn't too cold. Your refrigerator should be kept from 36 to 38 degrees Fahrenheit, and the freezer section should be kept between 0 and 5 degrees. Putting the settings lower can increase energy usage as much as 25%.
- Cover everything before it goes into the refrigerator, particularly any liquids, so the refrigerator doesn't have to work harder to eliminate the excess moisture.

*Please Clear the Way from page 1*

a security gate around your property, please make a key available to us. We never give security gate and fence keys to anyone but the Meter Reader for your route. Emergencies are another good reason to have a spare security gate key on hand at AMP. If there is a fire on your property, the Fire Department will call us to have the electric meter disconnected before they investigate. If the customer is out of town, that makes our job and the Fire Department's that much more difficult.

If you have questions regarding meter access issues, please call us at 748-3900. Thank you for making our job easier! 💡

## Mark Your Calendars



### And look for us at two events taking place next month.

The first Sunday is Independence Day, and of course, you won't want to miss Alameda's signature annual Mayor's Fourth of July Parade. Again this year, the Public Utilities Board and Alameda Municipal Power will be a major part of the festivities.

The theme of this year's Parade is "Partners in Community Service." Alameda can boast that it has the longest parade route in the United States covered by an average of 170 entries to entertain over 20,000 spectators. The Parade kicks off at 10:00 a.m. and

winds through the City, starting on Park Street at Lincoln Avenue, continuing south on Park Street, then west on Otis Drive, north on Grand Street, west on Encinal Avenue, west on Central Avenue, north on Webster Street, and ends on Webster Street at Lincoln Avenue. For more information on the Parade, please contact the Parade Committee at 633-9550 or log on to [www.myalamedaparade.com](http://www.myalamedaparade.com).

Later in the month, AMP and the City of Alameda will join other sponsors in producing the Green Home Expo. The fun and educational event is being hosted by Alameda Association of REALTORS® and is intended to promote growing interest in green building, awareness, and lifestyle. A number of exhibitors will be available to discuss home cleaning, painting, fittings, solar installations, gardening, and sustainable living. The fair will be held on Saturday, July 17, at Alameda Towne Center between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

For more information, please log on to [www.thegreenhomeexpo.com](http://www.thegreenhomeexpo.com). 💡

### CLIP and KEEP!

Important AMP contact numbers:

Customer Service..... 748-3900

After Hours/Emergency ..... 748-3902

TDD (hearing impaired)..... 522-7538

E-mail..... [info@alamedamp.com](mailto:info@alamedamp.com)

Internet ..... [www.alamedamp.com](http://www.alamedamp.com)

The FLASH is published as a service to the customer-owners of Alameda Municipal Power. Readers are invited to submit ideas, suggestions, comments, or questions by writing to the editor at Alameda Municipal Power, P.O. Box H Alameda, CA, 94501-0263 or by email to

[mccabe@alamedamp.com](mailto:mccabe@alamedamp.com).

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