



**ALAMEDA  
MUNICIPAL POWER**

*A Department of the City of Alameda*

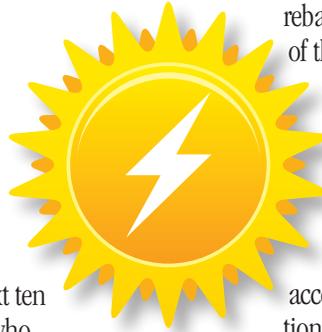
# The Flash

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

## Success Shines on AMP's Solar Rebate Program

In 2008, the State of California mandated that all electric utilities offer rebates over the next ten years to residential and commercial customers who install an approved solar system. Last year, Alameda Municipal Power (AMP) became one of the first publicly owned utilities in the state to reserve all of its commercial solar rebate funding. This month, AMP reached another pinnacle: all of its residential solar



rebates were reserved. The success of this solar rebate program shows how committed you, Alameda's residents and businesses, are to clean, sustainable and renewable power.

Although AMP is no longer accepting solar rebate applications, other options are available on AMP's website if you are interested in investing in renewable power. For more information, visit [www.alamedamp.com](http://www.alamedamp.com). And a special thanks to all of AMP's customers for making Alameda one of the greenest places to work and live in the Bay Area! ☺

### AMP Wants to "Award" You for Going Green



Have you taken steps to make your home or business more energy efficient? Have you found a way to make your school greener? If so, you're eligible for AMP's Green Powerstar Award!

All Alameda-based businesses, homes, young adults and children are invited to apply in one of four award categories: Small Business, Large Business, Home, or Student. Awards will be given for all-around efforts to support energy efficiency and green power use. Efforts

**If you're starting an energy efficiency project in 2013, you can apply for a Green Powerstar Award in 2014. Check out the website to learn more so you can be ready to apply for an award in 2014.**

should have been accomplished in 2012.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. on March 4, 2013. An awards ceremony will be held in conjunction with the City's Earth Day festivities. Applications and more details on award criteria are available on AMP's website. A video of last year's winners is also featured online. ☺

### Easy Pay is the Easy Way to Pay Your Bill

AMP has a secure, free and convenient way for you to pay your electricity bill each month: Easy Pay. Using Easy Pay, your payment will be automatically deducted from your bank or financial institution on the bill due



date. By taking advantage of Easy Pay, you won't have to worry about missing payments if you are away on a trip. What's more, it's the "green" way to pay your bill—saving paper, postage and mail delivery.

Once you've signed up, your bill will show that you are enrolled in the program and the date that your bill amount will be debited from your chosen account. If you would like to stop receiving a paper bill, you can sign up for eBill and receive your statement notification electronically while Easy Pay handles paying it each month. For more information, visit AMP's website or call a Customer Service Representative at 748-3900. ☺

## AMP and CASA Offer Free Workshop: Lighting Options for Your Home



Join AMP and Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda (CASA) for a free workshop on the latest effective and energy efficient lighting options for your home and how these options can lower your electricity bill.

The workshop will be on Wednesday, Feb. 27 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in Community Room A/B of the

Alameda Main Library, located at 1550 Oak Street. For more information, please call 814-6415 or visit AMP's website. [📍](#)

## Did You Miss AMP's Annual Planning Workshop?

Last month, AMP met with the Public Utilities Board for its Annual Planning Workshop. Discussion focused on the utility's plans for technology, rates, change management, and workforce in 2013 and beyond. To view the meeting materials, visit AMP's website. [📍](#)

## Smart Ways to Use Your Kitchen Appliances



Did you know your kitchen is one of the biggest energy hogs in your home? According to the Department of Energy, major appliances can account for up to 20 percent of your electricity bill. You can save energy in your kitchen through more efficient use of your refrigerator and dishwasher, which is good for the planet and your wallet!

### To make your refrigerator more efficient, follow these tips:

- Check temperature settings. Refrigerator temperature should be between 36-38 degrees and freezer temperature should be between 0-5 degrees.
- If your refrigerator is right up against the wall, pull it away from the wall a couple inches, allowing air to flow underneath the unit.
- Keep your refrigerator well stocked to reduce the loss of energy and maintain the temperature.
- Make sure seals are airtight. Test seals by closing half of a piece of paper in the refrigerator. If it pulls out easily, the seal may need replaced or the latch may need adjusted.
- Use the hose attachments from your vacuum to clean the coils and bottom front grill of your refrigerator.

- Close the refrigerator door every time you're not directly taking something out of it.
- If your refrigerator is over 10 years old, consider getting a new one with an Energy Star label. AMP offers refrigerator rebate and recycling programs to help you. Visit AMP's website to learn more.

### Maximize your dishwasher:



When it comes to cleaning the dishes, dishwashers are more water efficient than hand washing. In fact, hand washing uses 37 percent more water than a dishwasher. But dishwashers do use a lot of energy to heat the water.

Here are ways to save:

- Although dishwashers consume electricity as well as water, lowering the temperature of your hot water tank reduces the electricity usage. The US Department of Energy recommends a hot water tank setting of 120 degrees.
- Save 20 gallons of water by scraping dishes free of food instead of rinsing.
- Wash a full load and skip the heat dry cycle and air dry instead. [📍](#)

*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 [irwin@alamedamp.com](mailto:irwin@alamedamp.com)

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Important AMP contact numbers:

Customer Service ..... 748-3900  
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