

## BE AN E-SMART KID

Kids looking for some summer fun can visit our website at [concordma.gov/cmlp](http://concordma.gov/cmlp) and click the e-Smart Kids Games & Activities link.

There are two interactive sites—Energy Efficiency World and Electrical Safety World – where kids can learn to use energy responsibly and safely. Kids can watch five different videos, play a Find the Hidden Dangers game, and use an Energy Calculator that shows how much money you can save with energy efficiency. They can even ask an expert an energy question, and download kid-friendly home inspection checklists.

There are also resources for parents and teachers to reinforce the lessons.



## TELL US WHAT YOU DID!

### Kids can have fun and save energy

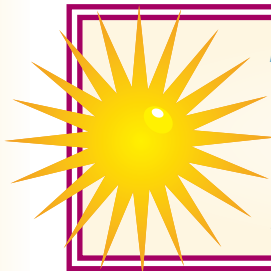
Kids can chase boredom away with fun summer games that save energy. Get started with these ideas:

- **Join Team Energy Star**, a new initiative by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Visit [energystar.gov/team](http://energystar.gov/team) to find easy-to-download educational and interactive materials, such as a comprehensive Action Kit, the Energy Star Home Check-Up, a Lorax activity booklet and a Lorax mustache-making kit.

- **Play The Jar Game.** Every time someone in the family forgets to turn a light or

other electrical device off when finished with it, he or she must put a certain amount of money into the jar. Kids of all ages will love catching their parents making a mistake!

- **Write it down.** Put a big piece of poster paper in the middle of the table and get your kids to write down their energy-saving ideas in magic marker. Afterwards put the poster on the kitchen wall so everyone can see it. Remember that this includes adults too! Set a realistic goal, then celebrate with a family treat.



Did your family have fun saving energy this summer? Let us know how you did it. Send us an e-mail, including a photo if you like, to Carole Hilton at [chilton@concordma.gov](mailto:chilton@concordma.gov). Hope to hear from you!



### You can help cut Concord's power costs

Some 415 Concord Light customers are now helping to lower local power costs by cutting our summer peak demand for electricity. Their actions also benefit the environment by reducing the need to run the region's least efficient power plants.

You can help, too, by joining Concord Light's Concordians Addressing the Peak (CMLP-CAP) Google Group. Join the group to get an e-mail when peak electric demand is predicted so you can voluntarily reduce your electric use for a few hours.

Last summer, CAP Google Group members saved Concord more than \$80,000, reducing the 2011 peak by some 2,286 kilowatts—equal to about 4,115 small room air conditioners.

Existing group members are still on the list and need not rejoin this year. New members can join by sending an e-mail with the subject and body blank to:

[Cmlp-cap+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:Cmlp-cap+subscribe@googlegroups.com). Please pass this information along to others who may want to help as well. Thank you!



## Thank you, Minute Man Arc!

### Community Service

✓ Concord Light and Minute Man Arc have partnered successfully for 22 years. Minute Man Arc is a human services

agency offering programs and job coaching for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. The agency also works with businesses in the community to create jobs.

Concord Light employs a team of eight to nine Minute Man workers, led by job coach Faith Ings, to stuff and mail utility bills and newsletters. Faith and her team are an integral part of our daily operations, and the team always brightens our day.

Thank you, Minute Man Arc!



Jeannie Fitzgerald processes envelopes at Concord Light for stuffing and mailing, as part of her job with Minute Man Arc.

**CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG**

*If you're planning an outside project that includes digging a hole—no matter how shallow or deep—call Dig Safe at 811 before you start.*

*Dig Safe will notify participating utilities to mark the locations of underground lines. There may be buried lines for services such as gas, water, electricity, telephone, and cable—often where you least expect them.*

*Don't think a small project won't matter. Buried lines can be located just a few inches below ground, and damaging one could be very costly. Even worse, someone could be seriously hurt. Call Dig Safe at 811 first. It's smart, it's FREE, and it's the law.*



## Two new projects now underway

As you may be aware, Town Meeting voters recently authorized bonding for two Concord Light projects, both aimed at keeping our utility reliable and efficient.

The first project will increase the capacity of our Forest Ridge substation by 40% by replacing the substation's two transformers with higher capacity units. An engineering study concluded that replacing the transformers is the most feasible and cost effective way to meet Concord's growing demand for electricity.

The Forest Ridge substation is particularly important because it is the point at which all electricity enters Concord from the regional power grid.

A separate project will add 7,500 sq. feet of secure storage space to the existing warehouse at our 1175 Elm St. Operations Center. The warehouse is now over capacity, and more secure space is also needed to protect against cable theft, an increasing problem in recent years.

Planning for both projects is now underway.

## Save money on air conditioning

Are you in the market for a new central air conditioner? **Concord Light offers rebates for certain energy-efficient heat pumps or central air conditioning units.** Rebates range from \$100 to \$175 per ton of cooling capacity, depending on the unit's energy efficiency rating.

Rebate application forms with complete program details are available at our office and at [concordma.gov/cmlp](http://concordma.gov/cmlp) through the Rebates/Renewable Energy/Conservation link.

Once installed, your cooling system will run most efficiently if you regularly replace or clean your air conditioner filters. Keeping the filter clean can lower an air conditioner's energy consumption by up to 15%, according to the U.S. Department of Energy at [energysavers.gov](http://energysavers.gov).

During the cooling season, you should clean

or replace your air conditioning system's filter or filters every month or two. Filters may need more frequent attention if the air conditioner is in constant use, or is subjected to dirty or dusty conditions.



For central air conditioners, filters are generally located somewhere along the return duct's length. Room air conditioners typically have a filter mounted in the grill that faces into the room. See your equipment manufacturer's guidelines for specific instructions.

For more details on ways to maintain your air conditioning system, as well as other energy-saving information, visit [energysavers.gov](http://energysavers.gov). For questions about any of Concord Light's energy-saving programs, call us at 978-318-3101.



**Concord Municipal Light Plant**

Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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