

## Coming soon to PPU — electronic billing and payments

Princeton Public Utilities Commission is pleased to announce a new service coming soon!!—Electronic Billing & Payments. Utility customers will be able to view their bills online and will also be able to pay from the comfort of their homes, seven days a week, 24 hours a day. More information coming soon – visit us online at [www.princetonutilities.com](http://www.princetonutilities.com)



## ENERGY STAR electronics save energy and money

Did you know that 40 percent of the electricity used to power home electronics is consumed to power features like clock displays and remote controls while the products are turned off? ENERGY STAR qualified home electronic products use up to 50 percent less energy while off than conventional products, while providing the same performance and features. Less energy means you pay less on your electric bill.



Save money and help make our community a little greener by looking for the ENERGY STAR label when buying home electronics. Which consumer electronic product categories can carry the ENERGY STAR label?

- Computers and Monitors
- TVs
- Set-top Boxes and Cable Boxes
- Blu-ray and DVD Players
- Home Audio Equipment
- Answering Machines
- Cordless Phones

Don't forget to properly recycle old items!

## Tree need trimming? Call us if electric service line nearby

For safety, Princeton Public Utilities removes trees that endanger its power lines and equipment. Princeton Public Utilities does not cut trees hanging over buildings or not endangering the power lines; however, the power lines will be dropped at no charge during normal working hours so you or your contractor can cut the tree(s). Trees that interfere with customer owned service wires (wires to customer's homes) will not normally be trimmed or removed by PPU but again arrangements can be made to have these wires dropped to permit removal of tree(s). Scheduling of tree cutting/trimming will be done as time permits. For questions or more information please call our office at 763-389-2252.

# The Connector

Princeton Public Utilities

## Properly recycle electronics

Is your old TV serving as a coffee table while your retired computer is doubling as a plant stand? And with new technology introduced every day (more powerful computers, HDTVs, and smart phones), do you wonder just how many plant stands and coffee tables you have room for?

Recycling your old electronics is smart and good for the environment, not to mention your decor. Best Buy offers convenient options for consumers to recycle their old electronics. From their Trade-In program to convenient in-store recycling programs, they're committed to ensuring that everyone has access to easy, sustainable technology choices that make a positive social and environmental impact. Best Buy has long offered the most comprehensive electronics recycling options, and continue to work only with certified recyclers. Consumers recycle more consumer electronics and appliances with Best Buy than any other retailer—an average of 387 pounds are recycled each minute at Best Buy! And recycling is generally free.

## *We offer rebates to help you cool your home efficiently*

Buying a new air conditioning system is a big investment, but consider more than the initial cost. Even though they can be more expensive to purchase, the cost difference for high-efficiency cooling equipment is paid back over time through lower energy bills. If your central air conditioning unit is more than 12 years old, replacing it with a qualifying energy-efficiency system could cut your cooling costs by 30 percent. Plus, qualifying systems are eligible for a rebate—making it even easier for you to save money on your electricity costs.

### **Princeton Public Utilities provides rebates for qualifying central air conditioners, air-source heat pumps, and ground-source heat pumps.**



#### *Central Air Conditioners*

Most homes use a central air conditioner system for cooling. When sized properly, a central air conditioner will cool and dehumidify a home to provide a comfortable environment during the summer months. Higher seasonal energy efficiency rating (SEER) models are more efficient than standard models.

#### *Air Source Heat Pumps*

An air source heat pump cools and dehumidifies a home the same as a central air conditioner. The difference is that air source heat pumps have a reversing valve to allow the unit to also heat the home.

Air source heat pumps provide heating by capturing heat from the air outside the home and transferring it inside. It is less expensive to move heat than it is to create it like a furnace does, so moving this heat results in lower cost to heat your home.

Since air source heat pumps transfer the heat from outside air, they lose efficiency as the outdoor temperature drops. At an outdoor temperature between 15-30°F, your furnace kicks in because there is not enough heat in the outside air to adequately heat your home.

Split systems and single package air source heat pumps deliver conditioned air using ductwork. Through-the-wall air source heat pumps are used when no ductwork is available.

#### *Ground Source Heat Pumps*

Ground source heat pumps are one of the most efficient ways to cool and heat a home. They do not create heat, but rather move heat from one place to another—making them much more efficient than conventional heating and cooling systems.

Also known as geothermal heat pumps or GeoExchange systems, they use a liquid

circulated through a looped pipe buried in the ground to transfer heat to the home in the winter and from the home in the summer.

## *Use our rebate for A.C. tune-up*

Be prepared for the summer heat!

Air conditioners and air source heat pumps must be maintained to perform at top efficiency. Properly maintained cooling equipment provides improved comfort, runs more efficiently, lowers your energy costs, and lasts longer.



A tune-up provides an opportunity for a licensed HVAC technician to professionally evaluate your cooling system and ensure that it operates efficiently. A professional tune-up can improve unit efficiency by about 10 percent. It includes cleaning the outdoor condenser, checking for refrigerant leaks, checking air flow, and checking refrigerant charge and pressure.

Princeton Public Utilities offers our electric customers a **\$35 rebate** for the completion of a professional inspection, cleaning, and tune-up of each air conditioner or ASHP between April 1 and September 30.

Download our rebate form from “[saveenergyinprinceton.com](http://saveenergyinprinceton.com)” or stop by our office at 907 1st Street.