



# CONNECTIONS

News and Information from OUC—The Reliable One | OCTOBER 2012

## INSIDE

OUC Orlando Half Marathon  
 OUC Electric Rates Going Down  
 Kids Korner  
 Rely-A-Pay  
 Report Utility Theft  
 We're Public Power



## Register Now for the OUC Orlando Half Marathon

More than 4,500 runners and walkers of all ages are expected to hit the streets in downtown Orlando on Saturday, **December 1, 2012** for the 36th running of the OUC Orlando Half Marathon and 5k. Orlando's only half marathon, OUC has been supplying runners with race day water from hydrants along the 13.1 mile route since 1999.

The beloved 13.1 and 5k (3.1 miles) courses are walker friendly, mostly flat and shaded by century-old oaks with just enough brick to make it charming. The races

are well-supported with more than 200 enthusiastic volunteers and entertainment. All runners and walkers receive a souvenir T-shirt! Half marathoners receive a beautiful finishers' medal. We're blowing up the after party with beer tents, live music from Derek and the Slammers and more. So plan to run, walk, cheer or volunteer! For more information, run to [www.ouc.com](http://www.ouc.com).



## OUC Electric Rates Are Going Down

Beginning **October 1**, OUC is lowering electric rates for all customers for the second time this year. The average OUC residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) a month will see the bill drop to \$113.81 a month, a savings of nearly 5 percent or \$6 a month. Commercial customers will see an average 2.8 percent reduction. The decrease, which is OUC's second since January, was made possible due to internal cost-cutting initiatives and budget reductions.



## Kids Korner

School's back in session, and OUC's online Kids Korner provides a fun way to learn about where energy comes from, how it is made, how it is used and how it can be saved. It's a great resource for students working on school reports and science projects. Kids will enjoy the animated diagrams that bring basic science concepts to life, the interactive games, experiments and coloring sheets. There's also a section for teachers that offers a variety of downloadable curriculum plans and student activity sheets that can be used in the classrooms. Go to [www.ouc.com/kids](http://www.ouc.com/kids) to learn more.



## The Easy Way to Pay

Take the worry and hassle out of paying your bill with OUC's automatic bill payment service, Rely-A-Pay. Sign up to allow OUC to automatically deduct your monthly utilities statement amount from your checking or savings account. It's a worry-free, cost-free way to pay your OUC statement.

All you need is an active checking or savings account drawn on a U.S. financial institution. There is no charge for this service from OUC; however, some financial institutions may charge a small fee. We recommend contacting your financial institution before signing up. To register or to learn more, visit [www.ouc.com](http://www.ouc.com) or call **407.957.7373**.



## Report Utility Theft

Utility theft costs more than just the price of the stolen electricity. When thieves attempt to steal utilities, it can result in fire, property damage, hazardous conditions, injuries and even death.



Illegally obtained utilities increase rates for everyone, and unauthorized use of utilities or tampering with utility equipment is a crime and punishable by fines and/or prison time.

Help prevent injuries and increased rates due to utility theft by reporting suspicious behavior to **407.384.4019**. For more information on utility theft, visit [www.ouc.com](http://www.ouc.com).

## We're Public Power

Since 1923, the Orlando Utilities Commission, now OUC—The *Reliable One*, has been providing high quality, reliable electric and water service to the citizens of Orlando. Established by a special act of the Florida Legislature, OUC has grown to the second largest municipal utility in Florida, providing electric and water services to nearly 225,000 customers in Orlando, St. Cloud and parts of unincorporated Orange and Osceola counties.

This October 7-13, OUC will join the more than 2,000 communities in the U.S. served by public power in celebrating Public Power Week. Each year during this special week, utilities that provide electricity on a not-for-profit basis reach out to citizens in their



# PUBLIC POWER

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communities to celebrate the benefits and unique value of their hometown utility. Public power utilities have a common purpose: providing safe, reliable electricity at a reasonable price. Follow OUC on Twitter and Facebook to learn more about public power in your community.

## Take A Free Online Audit & Start Saving Today

At OUC, we want to help you reduce your energy consumption and ultimately your utility bills. If you want to save but are not sure where to start, check out our online Home Energy Audit to find out how efficient your home's energy use is and where you can make improvements to lower your utility bills.

This comprehensive online audit takes just 10 minutes to complete, and best of all, it's free! You'll see useful details about your estimated usage, seasonal factors and cost-saving recommendations. Even better, many of the suggestions also have corresponding rebates from OUC to save you even more. Go to [www.ouc.com](http://www.ouc.com) to start saving today!

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