



# CONNECTIONS

News and Information from OUC—The Reliable One | MARCH 2020

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*OUC employees and SALT volunteers cut the ribbon on a solar-powered shower trailer.*

OUC and SALT Outreach, Inc. recently unveiled a solar-powered trailer that will provide energy efficient showers to homeless citizens around Orlando. The trailer boasts four bathrooms – each containing a shower, toilet and sink.

OUC sponsored a solar retrofit of the trailer which, until now, required connection to a power source. Four new solar panels are able to provide approximately 60 showers during one charge.

“As the hometown utility, we’re always seeking ways to combine our commitment to renewables with our community outreach,” said **Jenise Osani**, OUC Vice President of Marketing & New Products. “This partnership with SALT allows us to spread

the message of clean energy while helping our neighbors work to end their cycle of homelessness.”

According to SALT Outreach, many of our area’s homeless citizens have to wait as long as three months between showers.

A shower, along with clean clothes, identification, haircuts, eye glasses, and more, are crucial to seek and maintain employment and eventually find permanent housing.

For more on OUC's community initiatives, visit [OUCblog.com](http://OUCblog.com).



## OUC-LED EV CONVOY STRESSES ELECTRIC TRANSPORTATION WITH LEGISLATURE

As a show of support for zero-emission transportation, OUC executives and local elected, business and community leaders traveled to Tallahassee in a convoy of electric vehicles for the opening day of the 2020 Florida Legislative Session. The convoy of eight rented black Tesla Model S 75Ds and an OUC Chevrolet Bolt made the 520-mile roundtrip. OUC’s team sought to impress on state officials and lawmakers the need for EV-friendly policies that would support construction of EV charging infrastructure throughout Florida, electrification of buses and diesel-emission reduction.

*Top photo: OUC employees with an OUC-branded Chevrolet Bolt.*

*Bottom photo: OUC is partnering with LYNX, Central Florida's mass transit provider, to operate low- or zero-emission buses in downtown Orlando.*





## REBATE PROGRAM FOR NEWLY BUILT HOMES

*Have you closed on a newly built home within the last six months? Or, is a new build in your future?*

You may qualify for a special energy-efficiency rebate program specifically for owners of newly constructed homes. We offer rebates for:

- ✓ Ceiling Insulation Upgrades
- ✓ Heat Pumps
- ✓ Solar Thermal Water Heaters
- ✓ Energy Star Heat Pump Water Heaters

Learn more or apply for OUC's New Home Rebate Program and all other residential rebates at [OUC.com/rebates](http://OUC.com/rebates).



## SPRING PLANTING TIPS FROM OUC VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

- ✓ **Call 811** before you dig. OUC will mark your underground utility lines for free.
- ✓ Visualize your planting area beforehand and allow enough space for plants to grow to full potential.
- ✓ Select the right plant by considering the amount of sunlight, soil conditions, nearest water source and location above or below utility lines.
- ✓ Trees planted within 20 feet of an overhead utility line should have a maximum height of 20 feet or less.
- ✓ Use a rain barrel to water your plants. OUC even offers a rebate for a new water cistern. Learn more at [OUC.com/rebates](http://OUC.com/rebates).



*Baby Great Horned Owl*

## SAVE THE DATE: AUDUBON BABY OWL SHOWER 2020

The Audubon Center for Birds of Prey invites you to its annual Baby Owl Shower – a fundraiser to offset increased costs incurred during baby season.

The event will be filled with activities and special visits from the Center's Ambassador Birds. Admission is **FREE** for guests who bring an item from the Center's wish list at [AudubonCenterforBirdsofPrey.org](http://AudubonCenterforBirdsofPrey.org).

**May 9, 2020 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**  
**1101 Audubon Way | Maitland, FL 32751**

Learn more about Audubon's conservation work across Florida at [FL.Audubon.org](http://FL.Audubon.org).

 Audubon | Center for Birds of Prey

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