



# CONNECTIONS

News and Information from OUC—The *Reliable One* | MARCH 2023

Join our Instagram community for energy-saving tips and more  
@oucreliableone

## OUC EXPLORING LONG-DURATION ENERGY STORAGE

OUC is considering deploying a long-duration energy storage (LDES) power plant to help ensure grid reliability and meet our net-zero carbon emissions goal. According to an agreement with Malta Inc., OUC will “explore” the use of the Massachusetts-based company’s utility-scale 100+ megawatt LDES system.

The system converts electricity to thermal energy that’s stored in molten salt. A utility-scale heat engine then regenerates gigawatt hours of electricity for use on the grid when needed. Malta’s plant provides more hours of energy storage than lithium ion battery storage and

would diversify OUC’s energy storage options. The increased duration power plant – which would be situated at OUC’s Indian River Plant in Titusville – would support OUC’s transition from fossil fuel energy generation to less reliable clean and renewable energy resources like solar.

OUC’s Electric Integrated Resource Plan calls for ending the use of coal no later than 2027 and sets the utility on a course to reach net zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2050, with interim carbon reductions of 50% by 2030 and 75% by 2040.

Read more at [OUCblog.com](https://www.ouc.com/blog).



## 5 TIPS TO GO GREEN FOR ST. PATRICK’S DAY AND ALL YEAR ROUND

- 1 **SWITCH TO LEDS** – LEDs use less energy and have a longer life span than incandescent bulbs, giving you more bang for your buck.
- 2 **SET A/C TO 78 DEGREES** — An A/C set to 78 degrees uses up to 15% less energy than it would if set to 76 degrees.
- 3 **USE A PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT** — It automatically adjusts your home’s temperature during the day and can save 10% on heating/cooling bills.
- 4 **TURN OFF LIGHTS, APPLIANCES AND ELECTRONICS** — Reduce phantom or “vampire” energy use by turning off lights and unplugging appliances or electronics not in use.
- 5 **INVEST IN ROUTINE MAINTENANCE** — Keep your HVAC system and water heater in top condition with regularly scheduled maintenance.

For more tips, visit [OUC.com/conservation](https://www.ouc.com/conservation).

# EFFICIENCY DELIVERED HELPS YOU SAVE!

OUC's Efficiency Delivered® program provides up to \$2,500 in home efficiency upgrades along with qualifying rebates! Customers only pay for their share of the cost of the selected upgrades based on household income.

Discover the savings at [OUC.com/EfficiencyDelivered](http://OUC.com/EfficiencyDelivered).



## CUT YOUR WATER HEATING COSTS BY MORE THAN HALF!

*Did you know water heaters can account for as much as 17% of your monthly energy bill?*

ENERGY STAR® Heat Pump Water Heaters use super-efficient technology to cut water heating costs by more than half. If you need a new water heater, you can claim an OUC rebate up to \$500.

For more information, visit [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 capture water for your plants.



Para ver esta edición de **OUConexión**, por favor vaya en línea a [espanol.ouc.com](http://espanol.ouc.com).



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