TESTING HYDROGEN STORAGE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY FUTURE

As OUC works to move closer to its renewable energy goals with solar at the forefront, energy storage is essential to maintaining the reliability our customers have come to expect.

That’s why our Emerging Technologies team was recently awarded a $9 million grant – partially funded by the U.S. Department of Energy – to study hydrogen as a means of storing electricity.

The technology holds the potential to revolutionize solar storage, in comparison to the industry standard lithium-ion batteries.

“A hydrogen battery system could be the key to unlocking reliable and long-lasting solar generation during cloudy days and at night,” said Justin Kramer, OUC’s Supervisor of Emerging Technologies & Renewables.

“We see this pilot project as just the first step toward building an integrated system of sustainable energy resources.”

With four new solar farms slated for construction by the end of 2023, projects like this are crucial to ensuring a smooth transition into a clean energy future. Learn more about OUC’s innovative research at OUCblog.com.

The annual OUC Charity Golf Tournament drew more than 130 players for an 18-hole scramble in November, raising $30,000 for adult and child literacy advocacy organizations in Central Florida. Checks of $10,000 were presented to the Adult Literacy League of Central Florida (ALLCF), Need to Read, Inc., and the Early Learning Coalition of Orange County.

ALLCF estimates that one in five adults in Central Florida reads at or below a fifth grade level, and OUC is proud to partner with these organizations to tee up literacy solutions.
5 ENERGY-SAVING HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

1. CORDLESS POWER TOOLS — Cordless screwdrivers, drills and saws, as well as yard tools like lawn mowers and leaf blowers equipped with ENERGY STAR battery chargers, use about 30 percent less energy than their corded counterparts.

2. PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT — A programmable thermostat can provide nearly $200 per year in energy savings. Some can even “learn” your family’s schedule to provide more personalization. Perhaps best of all, many smart thermostats now allow you to adjust your climate controls remotely from a smart phone.

3. MOTION-SENSOR POWER STRIPS — A power strip may seem like a boring gift, but you can purchase models that switch on and off as you enter or leave a room. This keeps electronics from wasting energy when not in use and eliminates the need to hit the red power button all the time.

4. PRESSURE COOKERS — Pressure cookers provide, by far, the most energy-efficient way to cook. Not only do they heat up faster, but they can cut energy usage by as much as 70 percent.

5. SOLAR-POWERED GADGETS — Going solar isn’t just for the rooftop. You can purchase solar-powered lights, smartphone chargers, backpacks and more. These can be a great lesson on energy conservation for kids, too!

SAVE WATER AND CASH WITH OUC’S ULTRA LOW-FLOW TOILET REBATE

Did you know toilets are the main source of indoor water use in a home, accounting for nearly 30% of your monthly consumption? Installing an ultra low-flow toilet can save thousands of gallons of water per year and money at the same time. And, OUC offers a $75 rebate to help! Visit OUC.com/rebates for more on this rebate and additional offers.

2018 WATER QUALITY REPORT

Learn more about H2OUC via the 2018 OUC Water Quality Report at OUC.com/WQR. It contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

To receive a printed copy, complete a request form at OUC.com/docs/2018wqr.

THE Arts NEED YOU:

When you support arts and culture, you contribute to Orlando’s incredible quality of life.

The arts unify our community, improve academic performance, and soothe and lift the soul. The arts are for everyone!

Help make our community an Arts for ALL community with a gift through the 2020 Collaborative Campaign for the Arts, now through April 30, 2020.

Your gift to United Arts of Central Florida’s Arts for ALL Fund supports over 60 arts, science and history organizations throughout Central Florida! Gifts also may be designated to your favorite local arts organization, and a 15% match will be added to gifts to one or more of our Campaign Partners, making your gift go even further. Your support makes a difference. When you invest in the arts, you are investing in your community.

Visit UnitedArts.cc for more information or to make a gift today.