



CONNECTIONS

News and Information from OUC—The *Reliable* One | MARCH 2026

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NOW IS THE TIME TO GET AHEAD OF SUMMER HEAT



REFRESH YOUR HOME FOR INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND SAVINGS

By taking on a few easy maintenance tasks and adopting new habits, you can improve your home's efficiency and help lower your electric bill before temperatures rise.

- **Check windows, doors and attic access points** for gaps or worn out weatherstripping. Sealing air leaks keeps cool air inside, and reduces the strain on your A/C.
- **Dust light fixtures, refrigerator coils, dryer vents and electronics** so they run more efficiently.
- **Switch to LED bulbs**, which use about 75% less energy and last much longer than incandescent bulbs.
- **Unplug unused electronics** and devices you're not using. Many still draw power even when turned off or in standby mode.
- **Run only full loads in the washer and dishwasher** — and keep the habit going year-round.



Small changes like these can add up to meaningful savings while keeping your home comfortable during upcoming hot summer days. Carry these habits throughout the year for even more efficiency gains. Discover more at [OUCblog.com/refresh](https://www.oucblog.com/refresh).

Lessen Your Demand Tip *Ensure Your A/C is Running at Peak Efficiency*

With summer's high energy bills just around the corner, take this opportunity to make sure your system is performing at its best.

- Clean dust and dirt from blower fans, evaporator coils, ductwork and vents.
- Look for leaky ductwork, especially around vents and air-handler connections.
- Keep indoor vents free from furniture or other blockages.
- Check that your attic has adequate insulation — generally about 12 to 14 inches.
- Trim bushes and remove debris around your outdoor condenser unit.



Taking these steps goes a long way toward helping your A/C run more efficiently, saving you money while keeping you cool. For more tips, go to [OUCblog.com/ac](https://www.oucblog.com/ac).

Spot and Fix Water Leaks Silently Draining Your Wallet

10% of Homes Have Leaks — *Is Yours One Of Them?* 

The EPA's Fix-a-Leak Week, March 17 – 23, is a great reminder to check your home for leaks in pipes, toilets, faucets, pools and irrigation systems. Even small drips can waste thousands of gallons and drive up your water bill. While some leaks are easy to spot, others hide out of sight. For tips on finding and fixing those harder-to-detect leaks, visit [OUCblog.com/fixaleak](https://oucblog.com/fixaleak).

Is Your Air Conditioner Ready for Summer Heat?

*Replace It with
an OUC Rebate*



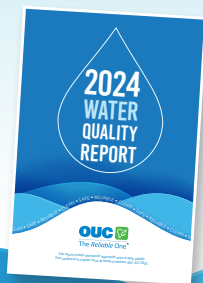
If your A/C is 12 to 15 years old, breaks down often or just isn't keeping up, it may be time for an upgrade. Installing an energy-efficient heat pump unit can help lower your monthly bill — and eligible models qualify for an OUC rebate up to \$1,150.

Learn how to qualify at [OUC.com/acrebate](https://ouc.com/acrebate).

2024 Water Quality Report

Learn more about H₂OUC via the 2024 OUC Water Quality Report at [OUC.com/wqr2024](https://ouc.com/wqr2024).

En español
espanol.ouc.com/wqr2024.



Installing a Pool or Planting a Tree?



Call 811 Before You Dig! It's the Law

There are miles of electric, water and other utility lines running under our feet. Before starting any project that involves digging, you're legally required to call 811 to avoid accidentally striking one of these lines — something that can cause outages, property damage, and serious safety risks. OUC will visit your property to mark underground lines, so you can move forward with confidence.

For more information, visit [OUCblog.com/811](https://oucblog.com/811).

OUC Donates Concrete Poles for New Artificial Reef

500 Tons of Material Kept Out of Landfill

As part of our ongoing commitment to sustainability, OUC has given 160 retired concrete poles — nearly 500 tons of material — a second life as an artificial reef about 15 nautical miles east of Port Canaveral.



Instead of ending up in a landfill, the poles are now helping build a thriving underwater habitat, supporting local fishing, diving and coastal businesses by providing new shelter, feeding and spawning areas for marine life.

OUC previously upcycled concrete material in 2022, when 400 tons was donated for a reef project offshore from Ponce Inlet, and another 40 tons were given to St. Cloud Fire Rescue for confined-spaces training.

For more details, go to [OUCblog.com/reef](https://oucblog.com/reef).

Para ver toda nuestra información en español, por favor visite espanol.ouc.com.



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