

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ComEd Has *Smart Ideas* for Customers to Manage Fall Weather Energy Bills

National Energy Awareness Month is a great time for customers to take advantage of money-savings energy solutions

CHICAGO (Oct. 15, 2015) – The fall season has arrived and soon the cooler weather will have customers in Illinois increasing the temperatures on their thermostats to maintain the comfort level in their homes. October is National Energy Efficiency Month and serves as a good reminder to encourage customers to take actions that can help them cut energy usage, costs and help the environment. ComEd customers are eligible to participate in one of the largest energy efficiency programs in the nation -- [the ComEd Smart Ideas Energy Efficiency Program](#) -- offering customers an array of options that can even help convert the biggest energy hogs into super energy savers.

Since the launch of Smart Ideas in 2008 the program has helped ComEd customers save more than \$1.5 billion on their electric bills and eliminate 21.6 billion pounds of CO2 emissions from the atmosphere. This is the equivalent to removing two million cars from the road.

“There are a number of ways ComEd customers can benefit from the ComEd Smart Ideas Program. This summer our customers saved an estimated \$36 million by taking advantage of money-saving program initiatives,” said Val Jensen, senior vice president of ComEd customer operations. Most recently ComEd partnered with advocacy groups, government agencies and other Illinois utilities to launch the smart thermostat initiative, which offers customer rebates that cut the cost of the technology by nearly 50 percent and can save about \$100 off of annual utility bills. “This tangible piece of technology is the next thing to come along in energy efficiency after the compact fluorescent lightbulb and we believe it is going to offer customers substantial savings,” said Jensen.

According to [Energy Star](#), a typical single-family home spends nearly \$2,200 a year on their energy bills. Heating accounts for 29 percent of these costs, appliances 13 percent and lighting 12 percent. ComEd’s program can help customers reduce the amount of energy they use and keep more money in their pocketbooks.

“There are plenty of simple and low-costs ways customers can save energy in their homes - from changing a few incandescent light bulbs for CFLs, to investing in a new energy-efficient technology like smart thermostats or updated heating and cooling systems,” said George Malek, ComEd Energy Doctor. “ComEd’s energy experts are available to help customers make energy changes to their homes and businesses that can make a positive difference.”

- [Assessments](#) – Customers not sure where to start looking for energy savings can schedule a *FREE* energy assessment of their home or apartment. During the assessment, homeowners

will receive free installation of energy-saving products, including ENERGY STAR® certified CFLs, programmable thermostats, showerheads, and more as well as personalized savings recommendations. Smart thermostats and ENERGY STAR® certified LEDs are also available for purchase at a discount and include FREE installation.

- **Recycling** – Customers can retire their old fridge or freezer by [scheduling](#) a free pickup from ComEd. Old refrigerators and freezers can cost up to \$150 a year in electricity. ComEd will pick up the customer’s old, working fridge or freezer for *FREE*, recycle it in an environmentally responsible way, and send the customer \$50.
- **Rebates** – ComEd and the Illinois gas utilities are offering rebates of up to \$120 on qualifying [smart thermostats](#). These rebates can cut the cost of the devices nearly in half, making the convenience and increased control of energy use more affordable. ComEd also offers a variety of rebates up to \$500 on select ENERGY STAR® certified appliances, including refrigerators, freezers, clothes washers, electric clothes dryers and more.
- **Discounts** – Customers can take advantage of instant in-store discounts on select ENERGY STAR® certified CFLs and LEDs at over 1,100 local retailers. Simply look for the “Lower Price” sticker to save. CFLs and LEDs use about 75 percent less energy and last longer than traditional incandescent light bulbs.

For more information on the ComEd Smart Ideas Energy Efficiency Program, visit ComEd.com/HomeSavings for residential customers and ComEd.com/BizSavings for business customers.

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Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd) is a unit of Chicago-based Exelon Corporation (NYSE: EXC), the nation’s leading competitive energy provider, with approximately 7.8 million customers. ComEd provides service to approximately 3.8 million customers across northern Illinois, or 70 percent of the state’s population. For more information visit ComEd.com, and connect with the company on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).