

**SMUD**

SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

The Power To Do More.®

April 2008

[www.smud.org](http://www.smud.org)

# Connections

## Go green, with help from SMUD

Helping customers use less electricity and make choices supporting cleaner, greener power is a major part of SMUD's mission, along with providing reliable power at rates that are among the lowest in the state.

Customers can use SMUD programs to get rebates and financing for energy-efficient home improvements, to choose greener power options and even to keep Sacramento greener in a very literal way, by planting free shade trees. (More information on all these programs can be found at [www.smud.org](http://www.smud.org) or by calling **1-888-742-SMUD**.)

With climate change a growing concern, SMUD has increased efforts to help customers work toward lower carbon emissions across the region. Achieving this goal will not only help the planet but also the community, since air pollution takes a toll on the quality of life in Sacramento.

Late last year, SMUD launched a new Web site, **OurGreenCommunity.org**, to help everyone in the Sacramento region share information about environmental issues.

SMUD's outreach also includes participation in public events, such as the upcoming Sacramento Green Home Expo. SMUD is a premier sponsor of the event, which will be held from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, May 9, at the Sacramento Convention Center.

The Expo will feature today's most innovative and sustainable products and technologies, as well as three tracks of educational programs on both commercial and residential sustainable housing issues.

SMUD will showcase SolarSmart<sup>SM</sup> homes as well as provide information on a wide array of SMUD's programs.

Admission to the Green Home Expo is free, with educational seminar passes available for a nominal charge – \$20 for North State Building Industry Association members and \$30 for non-BIA Members.

For more information, visit [www.sacgreenhomeexpo.com](http://www.sacgreenhomeexpo.com) or contact the North State Building Industry Association at **916-677-5717**. ■



**Bicycling is a great way to spare the air.**

## Join the clean commuters

Team up with those who ride to work during May, which is Bike Month for the Sacramento region. Bicycling is a great way to relieve stress, save gas and spare the air.

SMUD supports this clean commuting option by providing bike lockers and shower facilities for employees who bicycle to work at least three times a week.

For more information visit at [www.mayisbikemonth.com](http://www.mayisbikemonth.com). Local organizers are preparing events and prizes to make the month even more fun, so keep checking the Web site. ■

**Contact us:**

Customer Services: 1-888-742-SMUD (7683)

Hours: Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Pay online: [www.smud.org](http://www.smud.org)

# Keep brush away from neighborhood SMUD transformers

Springtime's sunny days and warmer weather mark the beginning of yardwork season.

Customers with a neighborhood transformer in their yard can help themselves, their neighbors and SMUD work crews by maintaining clearance around the green metal boxes that house high-voltage equipment.

When planting trees and shrubs or building fences and other structures, remember to keep eight feet of space around this equipment.

Proper clearance helps SMUD crews restore power more quickly during a power outage. It also helps them perform scheduled maintenance more efficiently.



## Take some time to keep brush away from SMUD's neighborhood transformers.

The California Code of Regulations requires the eight-foot clearance. Also, for safety's sake, never plant around or climb on electrical transformers. ■

## May 1 public hearing on rate adjustment

The SMUD Board of Directors will hold a public hearing on May 1 at SMUD Headquarters, 6201 S St., Sacramento, considering the General Manager's recommendation to implement a Hydro Generation Adjustment mechanism.

This mechanism would automatically adjust electric rates up or down in accordance with annual precipitation in the watershed of SMUD's Upper American River Project.

Copies of the General Manager's Report and Recommendation may be obtained at [www.smud.org](http://www.smud.org), at all area public libraries or by calling SMUD at **916-732-6222**. ■

# Paying your SMUD bill has never been easier

Save time and reduce waste by paying your bill online at [www.smud.org](http://www.smud.org). Even better: You can quickly and easily pay online when it fits your schedule, because SMUD's online bill-pay is available 24 hours a day. You can:

- Pay online with your Visa or MasterCard or pay from your checking or savings account.
- Enroll in automatic payment so you don't have to remember to pay every month.
- View your billing and payment history and analyze your energy use.
- Go paperless, by choosing to stop getting your paper bill in the mail.

It's easy to get started: Go to [www.smud.org](http://www.smud.org) and click on "Paying Your Bill Online" for information. ■



**Pay online at your convenience. It's easy!**

## SMUD Board of Directors

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Meetings: Held on every first Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. and every third Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. in the SMUD HQ Auditorium, 6201 S St., Sacramento. NOTE: Meeting times and locations are subject to change.

For the latest information and agenda, visit [www.smud.org](http://www.smud.org), or call the Board Office at (916) 732-6155.