

e+ Wise Solutions to Help You Save Money this Winter

You may have already had a free home energy audit or taken advantage of other Energy Smart Plus (e+) programs and services offered by the City. But there's always more to learn about lowering your energy costs this winter.

Here are the answers to some commonly asked questions:

- 1. Does it save money to turn the heat down at night?** Yes. If you have a central electric heat pump, you can lower a standard thermostat 2-3 degrees overnight; with a programmable thermostat (which limits the heat pump's more costly backup strip activation), you could go even lower overnight. If you have a gas furnace, try 55 to 60 degrees at night. The furnace reheats the house quickly in the morning.
- 2. Can I save money by using a 1500-watt portable electric space heater instead of my central heating system?** Maybe, if you're heating just one room with your space heater and not heating the rest of the house. If you want to heat the entire home, your central system is likely much more economical than using multiple space heaters.
- 3. How much does it cost to use an electric space heater or an electric blanket?**
 - 💡 Double-size electric blanket (100 watts): about a penny per hour
 - 💡 Plug-in electric space heater (1500 watts): about 18 cents per hour
 - 💡 Central electric strip heating (15,000 watts): about \$1.80 per hour*(estimates based on the following formula: Wattage x \$0.12 per kwh = hourly nonstop cost, including tax)*
- 4. If I keep a constant temperature selection at my central heating thermostat, will my heating cost be the same every month?** No, probably not. As the weather gets colder, your home loses heat faster, and your heating equipment runs longer to maintain the indoor temperature selected. The longer the system runs, the higher the cost.

For more Energy Smart Plus (e+) tips and information, visit Talgov.com/YOU or call 891-4YOU (4968).

E-Waste – A Growing Problem

Electronic waste, or e-waste, continues to grow rapidly as our electronic equipment wears out or is replaced for newer equipment and technology. Unfortunately, electronics contain hazardous materials such as lead, mercury, arsenic and cadmium, among others.

Because of these hazardous materials, electronics **cannot** be left for pickup by the City's Solid Waste Services at the curb as bulky items or placed in the garbage to go to the landfill. E-waste includes items such as computers, monitors, printers, TVs, DVD players, cellular phones and hand held devices. E-waste does not include traditional "white goods" such as refrigerators, stoves, washers, dryers and microwaves, which can be left out at the curb for bulky item pickup.

Electronics do contain recyclable materials, and there are resources for reuse and recycling of them.

- 🗑️ If your electronic equipment is still in working order or repairable, consider taking it to a Goodwill store or some other charitable organization.
- 🗑️ E-waste can be taken to Leon County's Electronics Recycling Center located at the Solid Waste Management Facility at 7550 Apalachee Parkway. Call 606-1803 for more information and hours, or visit their website at www.LeonCountyFL.gov.
- 🗑️ Bring your e-waste to one of our semi-annual Cash for Trash events. The next Cash for Trash will be Saturday, April 21, from 8 am to 2 pm at the City's Solid Waste facility located at 2727 Municipal Way.

For more information, please visit Talgov.com/YOU and remember to RECYCLE!



about City services and related items of interest. For more information, call 891-8533 or visit the City's website at Talgov.com. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the appropriate City department. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Requests should be made at least 72 hours in advance. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance request.



*Focusing on New Flights
and Exceptional Service*

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City Lowers Electric Rates - Again! Rates reduced 27 percent since 2008

As of February 1, City residential electric rates decreased 3.5 percent. This marks the third rate reduction in the past 12 months.



City Commissioners voted to decrease the rates two months earlier than originally planned in an effort to help more residents save on energy costs during the cold weather months. Rates are typically adjusted twice annually in April and October, based on the cost of fuel to run the power plants

The City's rates remain below the state average. Since October 2008, City electric rates have decreased by 27 percent, which equates to a \$110 million annual reduction in electric costs for Tallahassee.

To lower your utility bills even more, be sure to take advantage of the many Energy Smart Plus (e+) programs that the City offers. The many e+ wise solutions include:

- free energy audits
- rebates for new natural gas appliances, solar hot water heaters and Energy Star electric appliances
- ceiling insulation grants
- e+ Online interactive account management tool (with free bill payment option)

For more information, visit Talgov.com/YOU.



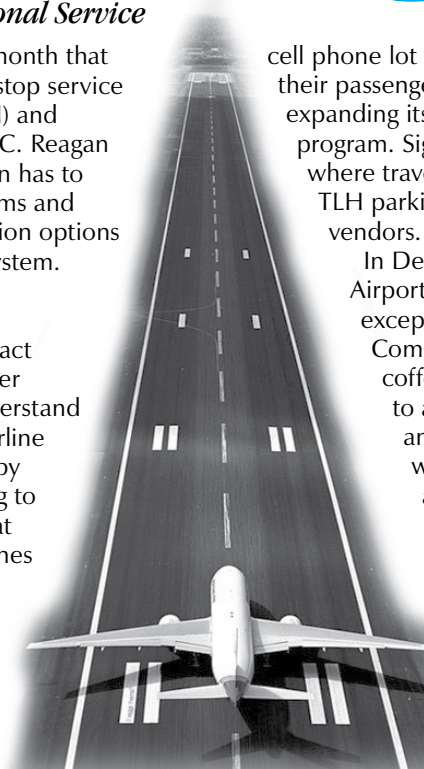
TLH Taking Off!

Focusing on New Flights and Exceptional Service

The City of Tallahassee announced last month that US Airways will begin providing daily non-stop service between Tallahassee Regional Airport (TLH) and Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C. Reagan National is very close to all that Washington has to offer, including government offices, museums and hotels, with convenient ground transportation options including the Washington Metro subway system.

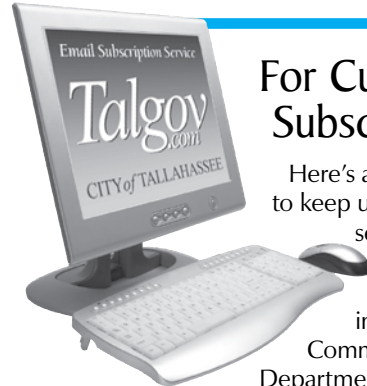
The new service is part of the ongoing commitment by the City Commission, City leadership and Airport management to attract more convenient direct air service and lower airline fares. While travelers know and understand that airports have very little control over airline ticket prices, which are set independently by the airlines, Airport management is working to reduce the cost for airlines to do business at TLH, which in turn helps convince the airlines to add more flights and lower fares.

Another priority is making the travel experience at TLH the best possible for passengers. That includes facility improvements and customer amenities like valet parking and the upcoming



cell phone lot where drivers can wait to pick up their passengers at no cost. The Airport is also expanding its "Thanks Again" customer loyalty program. Sign up at www.thanksagain.com/TLH, where travelers can earn incentives for using TLH parking and making purchases at TLH vendors.

In December, right before the holidays, Airport travelers were treated to some exceptional customer service from City Commissioners carrying baggage and free coffee from Airport vendor Tuscan Sun, to a flash mob dance at baggage claim and just good southern hospitality, which Tallahassee does better than anywhere else! Check out the videos of the event at www.YouTube.com/WCOT, www.flyTallahassee.com or like the Airport on www.facebook.com/flytallahassee. Be on the lookout for more exceptional customer experiences in 2012 ... and fly Tallahassee!



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MARCH CALENDAR

- 14 City Commission regular meeting at 4 pm
- 26 Community Redevelopment Agency Board meeting at 11 am
- 26 Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency meeting at 1 pm
- 28 City Commission regular meeting at 4 pm

All meetings are held in the City Commission Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall (300 S. Adams St.), unless noted otherwise. Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. City Commission meetings are shown live on WCOT, the City's government access channel, Comcast Cable channel 13. The meetings are rebroadcast the following Thursday at 12:30 pm and 7:30 pm and the following Saturday and Sunday at 12:30 pm. City Commission meetings are also streamed live online and are indexed and posted for viewing on Talgov.com. Call the Department of Communications at 891-8533 for more information or view the current City Commission agenda online at Talgov.com. Follow City news on Twitter @COTNews.