

Upstate New York

National Grid

March/April

ENERGY IN ACTION

for our gas and electric customers

2009

This issue

- ▶ Go with the floe
- ▶ Combat tree-killing insects
- ▶ Energy theft

Go with the floe and take action to combat climate change.

At National Grid, we created a website, www.nationalgrid.com/floe, to help people understand how their energy choices and other daily routine activities affect their energy use and impact the environment. To date, a community of thousands of individuals have joined together to make a huge difference for the environment through their small actions. The Floe community has pledged to save more than 40 million pounds of carbon, and that number continues to grow daily. We recently added functionality that allows any group of people to log onto our website as single units to make a collective pledge.

This new tool could prove very useful to teachers, environmental clubs, scout troops and other groups who want to work together to help reduce their carbon footprint. Whether you are an individual or part of a group, why not log on today and make your own pledge to reduce your energy use and help the environment—go to www.nationalgrid.com/floe.



Planting trees? Plan ahead and choose plantings wisely.

Spring is on its way and now is the time to be thinking about working outside. Plant a tree. By planting a tree, you'll be helping to keep the environment clean. Trees convert carbon dioxide to oxygen. Here are a few tips to prevent any newly planted trees from interfering with electric service in your home and neighborhood:

- ▶ Ask your nursery or landscape professional to recommend a species that will safely suit its location once it has matured.
- ▶ Be sure to that if you are planting a tree within 25 feet of overhead utility lines, it is a species that matures to a height of no more than 30 feet.
- ▶ Before starting any outdoor project, call Dig Safely New York at **1-800-962-7962** to prevent personal injury, property damage and service interruptions caused by accidentally digging into electric, gas, telephone, water, sewer or cable facilities. Please call at least two full working days, and no more than 10 working days, before digging.

For additional information regarding avoiding tree and utility lines, please visit www.nationalgridus.com/trees.



Important Information: Before planting, make sure to consider a tree's full growth potential to see how the location of the tree will affect any overhead or underground utility lines and rights-of-way.

Save time. Save trees. Get and pay bills online
@www.nationalgridus.com/gopaperless

Gas or electric emergency — **1-800-892-2345**

nationalgrid

The power of action.

Combat invasive tree-killing insects and help save the environment.

Did you know that for the past 15 years invasive insects have wreaked havoc in the United States by destroying thousands of trees, costing taxpayers millions of dollars to combat them and endangering our environment? These insects can also weaken and/or disease trees that contribute to power outages.

Two of these non-native insects, the Emerald Ash Borer and the Asian Long-horned Beetle, which were accidentally transported to the United States, have spread because of human transportation of infested firewood. These insects continue to spread throughout our service territory.

New York State has implemented emergency regulations to restrict the transportation of firewood:

- ▶ Only firewood that has been heat treated to eliminate pests can be imported and moved throughout the state.
- ▶ Untreated firewood can only be moved 50 miles from its source and must be accompanied with proof of source—such as, a receipt, label or self-issued certificate.

It is anticipated that these emergency regulations will be made permanent later this year.

Important notice – Customers are urged to watch and report symptoms or infestation in trees.

Look for and report these symptoms:

Emerald Ash Borer - small half-moon shaped exit holes on ash trees, tree death from the top down and “s”-shaped larval galleries under the bark.

Asian Long-horned Beetle - 3/8 inch round exit holes on the trunk and branches, sawdust and sap on and around trees, round pits in the bark (egg niches), often on maple, horsechestnut, birch and willow trees.

To protect your property, only purchase firewood that has been harvested locally or heat treated for pests.

For more information and to report infestations: Visit www.dec.ny.gov or call **1-866-640-0652** (email: firewood@gw.dec.state.ny.us).

Energy theft affects everyone.

Energy theft is everyone’s problem—costing utility companies billions of dollars annually. How is it your problem? These losses are factored into rates for all customers—and can endanger lives and property, as well as threaten public safety.

People who bypass, divert and tamper with meters are often unaware of the risks involved.

National Grid is seriously committed to the protection of our customers, eliminating theft and reducing related costs.

If you have information related to energy theft, please contact us at www.nationalgridus.com/energytheft or call our toll-free TIP line

at **1-800-322-2234**. All information will be kept confidential.



Choose our GreenUp program for renewable energy.

Looking to go green? Enroll in National Grid’s renewable energy program, GreenUp—you’ll be helping to offset the environmental impact of producing electricity from coal, gas and nuclear energy. GreenUp lets you choose

to support the production of renewable energy, such as solar, wind, biomass and hydro resources (water).

For more information see, www.nationalgridus.com/greenup.

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Si prega di tradurla.

Это очень важное сообщение.
Пожалуйста, попросите чтобы
вам его перевели.