



Waste Watcher

Winter 2004

Quarterly, electronic resource conservation newsletter for state agency resource coordinators



General Updates

- Weather – NOAA is predicting slightly above normal for precipitation and temperature in the Pacific NW in Dec. <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/90day/foxus05.html>
- Rates – instead of 5+% as originally predicted, PGE increased rates around 3.5%, effective January 2005.

DAS Buildings Savings Update

The data is always two months behind due to billing cycles. All bills are compared to the calendar year 2000 as a baseline. The goal and OAR requirement is a 10% reduction in electricity and natural gas usage. The data is not adjusted for weather or any other factors. Electricity is reported in kilowatt-hours (kWh) and gas in therms; the % column is combined electric and gas savings in Btu's compared to the year 2000 usage; and the cost is combined electric and gas. This list does not include all DAS-owned or operated buildings. Detailed graphs are available upon request. *Data is now year-to-date, rather than monthly.*

January–October 2004 data are as follows:

	Billed Electricity	Billed Gas	Billed Cost	% change
• Agriculture:	874,640	14,133	\$ 76,098	-31%
• Albina:	424,697	9,206#	36,108	-23%
• Archives:	1,028,400	33,826	95,843	-19%
• Blind Comm:	257,380	4,602	24,140	-17%
• Burns:	316,360	---	21,544	-3%
• Central Pt:	473,040	14,794	38,809	+5%
• Employ:	3,923,871	---	240,258	-2%
• Executive:	742,040	7,136	61,370	-23%
• Gen Svcs:	550,800	7,102	48,293	-25%
• GS Annex:	31,108	868	3,480	-11%
• Hum Svcs:	3,115,018	30,806	235,412	-25%
• Justice:	1,137,052	12,833	355,958	-6%
• L&I:	2,386,337	26,141	182,038	-20%
• Library*:	469,225	7,501	37,964	+3%
• NMOB^:	1,245,900	15,279	100,090	N/A
• NPSOB:	386,000	10,587	34,397	-25%
• OPSOB:	220,560	1,523	15,146	-14%
• Port SOB:	2,951,200	8,880	161,507	-7%
• Port MP:	173,373	3,270	16,284	-39%
• Print Plant:	1,562,900	6,822	110,629	-6%
• Prop Dist:	256,520	12,894	26,856	-7%
• Pub Svc:	1,943,633	3,482	132,589	-18%
• Pub Utility:	1,192,400	1,499	86,652	-19%
• Real Estate:	156,660	5,770	17,192	-16%
• Revenue:	6,780,191	60,647	447,104	-9%
• Salem MP:	367,492	9,355	33,877	-18%
TOTAL DAS:	38,332,142	359,291	\$2,786,896	-15%

Note: DAS is investigating factors for buildings not meeting 10% goal.

* Baseline adjusted.

^Usage is from 9/03 when bldg opened; no baseline developed yet.

Also, usage is irregular due to building start-up.

No update to report for this account.



Energy Incentives & Rebates

The Oregon Department of Energy and the Energy Trust of Oregon have lots of rebates or tax credits to offer Oregonians for upgrading to efficient equipment in our homes and offices. If you're thinking about a new furnace or dishwasher for your home, or installing a new chiller or boiler for an office building, you should be able to get some money back or receive a tax credit. Here's how:

Energy Trust of Oregon

The ETO is a new part of the energy efficiency picture in Oregon. Every year, they receive money from public purpose charges we pay on our electric bills. They use this money to offer lots of incentives for residential and commercial buildings.

<http://www.energytrust.org/>

Oregon Dept of Energy

ODOE has several different options for residential and business tax credits and rebates. For residential, they offer tax credits for homeowners, renters, and landlords. The tax credits are for appliances, vehicles, heating and cooling, as well as installing a "green" power alternative system to your house, such as solar panels. The business tax credits are for the same kinds of things in commercial buildings. State agencies can now qualify for the "pass-through" option where you partner with a private company and assume their tax liability. All are great programs.

<http://www.energy.state.or.us/res/tax/taxcdt.htm>



Holiday Lights

Holiday lights are permitted in DAS buildings this year, with the following conditions:

- ★ Lights will only be used in common areas, such as reception areas or break rooms.
- ★ They may be operated from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ★ Lights may be installed after Dec. 1, but should be down by Dec. 24. This also applies to holiday trees, but please remember to water them and keep them fresh.
- ★ Only mini or LED lights should be used.

As always, these and all electrical consuming devices should be turned off and/or unplugged when staff are not in the office, which includes evenings, weekends, and holidays.

ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE HOLIDAYS REMINDER

Did you know that between Thanksgiving and New Year's Americans throw away 25% more trash nationwide? That amounts to about an extra one million tons of waste each week. Here are a few ideas to reducing waste during the holidays:

- ★ **Think reuse.** Need a fancy holiday outfit or new stuff for the house, think antique or consignment stores.
- ★ **Make your own gift wrap and ribbons.** Use stamps, stencils, comics, pictures from magazines, napkins, towels, or tablecloths.
- ★ **Recycle wrapping paper** curbside.
- ★ When buying electronic toys and other portable items, remember to **buy rechargeable batteries** to go with them.
- ★ **Consolidate last minute shopping trips.**
- ★ Don't forget your trusty **reusable shopping bag.**



State Agency Paper Recycling

The DAS Resource Conservation Program hasn't focused much on recycling lately. We still track the tonnage for most of the major Salem and Portland state buildings, as well as some smaller ones for comparison. Over all, state agencies are still recycling paper as they always have, but they're recycling less paper. We think this is due to more efficient paper ordering, using less in the first place, using email more, reusing paper rather than automatically recycling and double-siding at the copier. So, even though the totals are down, we're being more sustainable with our paper use. Nice job!



Tip of the Month

Cover liquids and wrap foods stored in the refrigerator. Uncovered foods release moisture and make the compressor work harder.



State Agency Update

Here's an update of great projects in resource conservation and sustainability that state agencies are working on around Oregon.

The Sustainable Oregon website continues to be a wonderful resource. The Oregon Economic and Community Development Department contracts with a local company to keep it maintained and useful. It has articles on Governor's sustainability initiatives, sustainable companies around Oregon, state agency programs and progress towards sustainability, and press releases on important developments from around Oregon. It also has updated meeting notices, agendas and past meeting minutes of the Sustainability Board, as well as bios on the members, who were appointed by the Governor. There's a calendar of events, which is updated regularly, and includes fun and educational activities around Oregon. There's a background on the movement in general, for folks that are new to the concepts or those who might need a refresher. In addition, there's information on counties and cities around Oregon who are embracing sustainability. <http://www.sustainableoregon.net/>

Program Update

DAS Resource Conservation Program – over the next few months, the DAS program will be getting a face lift. Elin

Shepard, who has been managing the program for the last 5 years, has moved into a new position. DAS hired Suelynne Hill from PERS to take the helm on Dec 14. More to come...

New Policies Coming Soon – DAS has recently updated two statewide policies and should have them both posted to their website soon. The first is the Sustainable Facility Standards and Guidelines (policy #125-6-010). This policy has changed considerably and now includes a self-assessment for agencies to follow when constructing or renovating buildings. The changes took effect on November 1, 2004.

<http://www.das.state.or.us/DAS/FAC/docs/1256010.pdf>
In addition, DAS is putting the final touches on a major update to the State Energy and Water Conservation (policy #125-6-378). The policy was originally drafted in 2001 during the energy crisis where state agencies had to immediately save 10% on energy to keep the area from having blackouts. Since then, DAS has seen some areas of the policy that needed more flexibility and/or interpretation for individual building situations. DAS hopes to have the policy finalized and effective by January 1, 2005. It will be posted to the Facilities Division website as soon after.



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