

# CONNECTED



December 2011

*Wishing you peace and joy  
during the holiday season  
and all year long.*

*Your friends at Marietta Power and Water*

## **What's Up with the Rising Cost of Electricity?**

While price increases are an undesirable reality, as a Marietta Power and Water customer, you can feel confident that you're paying the best rates around.

Marietta Power and Water receives its wholesale electric power supply from Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG Power). A nonprofit organization, MEAG's wholesale electric costs to Marietta Power and Water have remained well below national and regional averages, despite multiple industry cost pressures. Unfortunately, these pressures are rising and are causing wholesale rates to also rise across the entire industry.

### **Environmental Regulation Forces New Spending**

The most significant pressure resulting in price increases is environmental regulation on fossil-fueled, electric generating facilities such

as coal plants. MEAG Power reports that by 2015 it will have invested over \$500 million to meet state and U.S. EPA regulations.

While environmental regulations have had positive benefits, as administrator of the Clean Air Act, the EPA is proposing even more stringent regulations. These regulations include Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) and the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) that aggressively target additional emissions reduction at fossil-fueled facilities.

As currently proposed, these regulations not only have the potential to reduce output, they will also cost ratepayers millions of dollars with no additional significant benefits.

These new regulations are being challenged, but if a delay is not implemented, they will likely impact MEAG Power generation plants almost immediately.

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## Rising Fuel Costs

The majority of electric generation in our region is derived from coal-fired and nuclear plants. While these plants are generally more reliable and efficient, and historically have had stable fuel costs, coal costs have been increasing recently. As an example, Appalachian coal is a primary fuel source at one of the generating plants owned by MEAG Power. Over the past 10 years, its price has nearly doubled and has already had a major impact on wholesale electricity costs.

Although wholesale costs are trending upward, Marietta Power and Water's strong partnership with MEAG ensures that you will always receive a highly competitive rate in comparison to other power suppliers.

To take advantage of all of the benefits available to Marietta Power and Water customers, visit [www.mariettopowerandwater.com](http://www.mariettopowerandwater.com). ⚡

## Let's Save Money Together

For a limited time, Marietta Power and Water is offering rebates for ENERGY STAR® certified central heating and air-conditioning equipment and ENERGY STAR® certified appliances. Rebates will be paid by a one-time credit on your Marietta Power and Water

bill. The program ends December 31, 2011 or when grant funds are depleted. So visit [www.mariettopowerandwater.com](http://www.mariettopowerandwater.com) and click on the GreenStreet logo to save. ⚡



## Calendar of Events

### January 14, 2012

#### Tree Planting at Laurel Park

Starting at 8:30 a.m. For more information, please call (770) 424-4664 or e-mail [mariettatreekeepers@comcast.net](mailto:mariettatreekeepers@comcast.net).

### Starting January 21, 2012

#### "Green Thumb Gardening Series"

presented by Marietta Council of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Marietta Educational Gardening Center  
505 Kennesaw Avenue  
8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.

#### Workshops

- Jan. 21, 2012: Trees and Shrubs
- Feb. 18, 2012: Floral and Culinary Herbs
- Mar. 24, 2012: Native Plants
- Apr. 28, 2012: Annuals and Container Gardening
- May 19, 2012: Shade and Sun Perennials

#### Schedule

Registration: 8:30 a.m.  
Presentations: 9-11 a.m.  
Lunch (included)  
Private tour of local garden or nursery, some will have plants for sale

All workshops are open to the public, pre-registration is required, \$30 per workshop, space is limited to 30 participants. No test, volunteer hours or overnight stays required. No commitment to extended sessions. For more information call (770) 426-0538 or e-mail [newtonms1968@gmail.com](mailto:newtonms1968@gmail.com).

### Friday January 13, 15, 20, 21 and 22, 2012

#### "The Odd Couple"

Earl Smith Strand Theatre  
8 p.m.

This comedy pits the uptight neat-freak Felix against the broody laze of Oscar in a dangerous arena: living together as newly-single roommates. For more information visit [www.earlsmithstrand.org](http://www.earlsmithstrand.org) or call (770) 293-0080.

**Marietta Power and Water  
will be closed January 2  
the New Year's Day holiday.**

For a complete list of City of Marietta events, please visit [www.marietta.gov](http://www.marietta.gov) and click on Calendar of Events.

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