

## Energy saving devices - Buyer Beware

The old adage, “If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is,” may be applicable to the marketing of devices that claim to cut your power costs by improving the flow of the current coming into your home. If the device’s “energy saving” claims sound too good to be true, buyer beware.

Energy-saving devices are not new to the marketplace, and customers are encouraged to thoroughly investigate claims in their marketing materials. Common claims are:

- Kilowatt-hour and kilowatt energy savings from 5 to 30 percent “guaranteed”
- Improved Power Factor, by reducing “non-productive” current in your system, thus reducing lost and wasted power flowing into your home
- Money-back guarantee if not fully satisfied

Here are two important facts: Santee Cooper residential customers are not charged for poor Power Factor in Santee Cooper’s current rate schedules; and money-back guarantees typically include a clause requiring customers to prove the device failed to save money on your power bill.

Contact a Santee Cooper energy advisor if you have questions about a device you may be considering purchasing. Visit [www.ReduceTheUse.com](http://www.ReduceTheUse.com) for tips that will save you energy.

## There’s no reasoning with hurricane season: preparation is key

Longtime South Carolinians know that June 1 means more than the start of a new month. That’s the date that officially launches hurricane season, which runs annually through Nov. 30.

Santee Cooper uses the months leading up to June to make sure we are prepared for hurricanes. We want you to be ready too.

To report a power outage at any time, including the aftermath of a hurricane, call 888-769-7688 and enter your phone number or Santee Cooper account number when prompted. Rest assured, we will work as quickly as possible to restore your electricity.



### *Hurricane season continued*

Additional tips to help you weather a power outage include:

- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed. Food usually stays frozen about 48 hours. A refrigerator can keep food cold for about four hours. Remember, when in doubt, throw it out.
- Do not connect a generator directly to your home's electrical system. It is dangerous to you, your neighbors and utility workers. Follow manufacturer's directions regarding connecting appliances directly to your generator.
- In any power outage, utility crews restore service as quickly as possible, starting with the largest lines and facilities serving the most people.

Santee Cooper cares about your safety. Please visit [www.santeecooper.com](http://www.santeecooper.com) and click on the Power Outages/Storms Quicklink for much more information about hurricane readiness.

You can also follow Santee Cooper on Twitter and stay informed throughout storms and power outages. Twitter is a free online communication service. Visit <http://twitter.com/santeecooper>.

**Power Outage?  
Call  
1-888-769-7688**

## Green-Powered tribute to veterans

Santee Cooper Green Power will be powering a 173d Airborne Brigade Association tribute for all veterans on June 3 in North Myrtle Beach.

At 5 p.m., come to the Horseshoe at Avista Resort, 300 North Ocean Boulevard, and watch as the U.S. Army Golden Knights parachute onto the beach, followed by a performance on the main stage at 7 p.m. by the 82nd Airborne Division Chorus. National recording stars Cimmaron perform to wrap up the evening, which is free and sponsored by Waterdog Promotions and the City of North Myrtle Beach.

Santee Cooper generates 22 megawatts of renewable Green Power from clean, renewable energy sources including landfill biogas and solar power. In fact, Santee Cooper is the first utility generating Green Power in South Carolina, which it began in 2001 by opening the Horry County Landfill Generating Station.



## Summer's best energy-saving tips

As the summer sun heats up, follow these tips to help your air conditioning units run more efficiently:

- Set your thermostat on the highest comfortable setting; we suggest 78°F or higher. If you're leaving for the day, turn it up a couple of degrees.
- Clean or change your HVAC filters monthly. Dirty filters increase operating costs.
- Use a ceiling fan or portable fan to supplement your air conditioning. A fan can make you feel three to four degrees cooler. Fans cool people, not rooms, and so only use a fan while you're in the room.
- Close shades, blinds and drapes during the hottest part of the day to minimize the heating effect of the sun.
- If you suspect your air conditioning system is not cooling properly, have it checked promptly. A unit with operational problems can cause high bills.

