

## Mow Down Smog Rebates Available Through Aug. 31

There's still time to take advantage of valuable rebates on environmentally friendly electric lawn mowers as well as electric edgers, blowers and hedge trimmers. Purchase a new, qualified electric-powered lawn mower or other lawn products and receive a rebate of up to \$60 on your utility bill.

You can even save more by getting a Neuton battery-powered lawn mower. If you live in Bexar County and are a CPS Energy customer, you can get an instant CPS Energy rebate of \$60 on a new Neuton mower. Combined with special discount pricing from Neuton Mower, you'll save up to \$200 off the MSRP!

Mow Down Smog rebate applications must be postmarked by Aug. 31, 2011.

For more information on the Mow Down Smog rebate program, go to [cpsenergy.com](http://cpsenergy.com) or call (210) 353-2551.



## CPS Energy to Distribute National Night Out Kits

CPS Energy is helping neighborhoods get ready for National Night Out (NNO) by providing free NNO kits for City of San Antonio-registered NNO events. The kits include information about energy conservation and energy safety that you can pass out at your event.

CPS Energy will be distributing the kits in conjunction with the San Antonio Police Department on a first-come, first-served basis on Saturday, Sept. 24, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at

the Target store near Crossroads Mall, 4522 Fredericksburg.

CPS Energy will supply kits only to those who have registered their event with the City. To register, visit [sanantonio.gov/sapd/NNOsign\\_up.asp](http://sanantonio.gov/sapd/NNOsign_up.asp) and click on the "NNO Registration Online Form." The 2011 NNO will take place Tuesday, Oct. 4. NNO is a drug- and crime-prevention event held in communities across the United States each year.





## Don't Let Appliances Work Overtime While You're on Vacation

Are you planning a vacation before the kids go back to school or you just want to get away from it all for a little while? Before heading out on your next vacation, take a few minutes and follow these simple steps to minimize energy consumption in your home while you're away.

**Air Conditioner** – There is no need to keep your house cool while you're sitting on the beach hundreds of miles away. Set the thermostat to 85 degrees or higher. To avoid coming home to an overheated house, use a programmable thermostat and set it on vacation mode to re-cool your house shortly before your expected return.

**Peak Saver Thermostat** – Sign up for the Peak Saver Program and get a FREE Honeywell programmable thermostat that will help you save up to 10 percent or more on cooling cost. You'll be able to change the temperature at your convenience from just about anywhere with Internet access. An online program allows customers to log in and easily change settings from a computer or laptop. To sign up, you can apply online at [cpsenergy.com](http://cpsenergy.com), print an application or call customer service at (210) 353-2222.

**Water Heater** – Unless you have a tankless unit, your water heater will keep on running (and costing you

money) to keep the water warm until you get back. Turn down the temperature setting to as low as possible to reduce this "standby" heat loss while you're away. (Newer units can be adjusted to a vacation setting.) If you have a gas water heater, lower the temperature 90 – 100 degrees. When you return from your trip, be sure to move the temperature back up to the recommended setting of 120 – 140 degrees.

**Lights** – Turn off all lights in your home before you leave. You may wish to use an outdoor or indoor light for nighttime security. Consider installing a timer or motion detector lights.

This will limit the illumination to only a few hours a day and help make it appear as if someone is home.

**Refrigerator** – Refrigerators are one of the biggest energy users in a home. If you're leaving for a short period of time, change the refrigerator thermostat to a higher setting – 38 degrees

for the refrigerator. For longer trips (such as four weeks or more), consider emptying and unplugging your refrigerator. Remember to clean out your fridge before you leave to avoid spoiled food smells.

**Electronics** – There may be a "phantom load" haunting your empty home (and costing you money) while you're away. Turning off electronic devices is a good energy savings strategy, but remember, digital displays, instant-on features, and remote controls consume energy while not in use. Unplug all electronic devices while you're away.

### Take Advantage of CPS Energy's Central AC Rebate

If you're planning to replace your central air conditioning unit, don't forget to take advantage of CPS Energy's rebate program. Consider getting a central unit with a SEER rating of 15.0 or greater and an EER of 12.0 or greater. Choosing one of these more efficient units will help you qualify for a CPS Energy rebate worth hundreds of dollars. Be sure to check with your licensed air conditioning contractor or service technician to provide you with more information. Also, visit [cpsenergysavers.com](http://cpsenergysavers.com) to get more details about rebates and to do a quick and easy home energy audit that will help get you started on choosing the right unit for your home.

