

Call Before You Dig

Planning a home improvement job? Planting a tree? Installing a fence or deck? Wait. Here’s what you need to know first:

Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart digging means calling 811 before each job. Homeowners often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked, but every digging job requires a call – even small projects like planting trees and shrubs.

The depth of utility lines varies and there may be multiple utility lines in a common area. Digging without calling can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm you and those around you and potentially result in fines and repair costs. Calling 811 before every digging job gets a professional locating crew to come and mark the underground utility lines for free and prevent undesired consequences.

811 is a federally mandated national “Call Before You Dig” number.



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Community Calendar

May 1: Annual Candlelight Vigil. Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center, 6 p.m., 2675 Union Extended. For more information, contact Harry Cash III at 327-0223.

May1-3: Beale Street Music Festival. Tom Lee Park. Friday, May 1, 5 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.; Saturday, May 2, 1 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.; Sunday, May 3, 1 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.memphisinmay.org/music.

May 14-16: World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest. Tom Lee Park. Thursday, May 14, 11 a.m. - midnight.; Friday, May 15, 11 a.m. - midnight.; Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.memphisinmay.org/bbq.

May 23: Sunset Symphony, presented by AutoZone. Tom Lee Park. 2 p.m. - 9 p.m. For more information, visit www.memphisinmay.org/sunsetsymphony.



Customer Reference Number: 4/09



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Customer CONNECTION



PRODUCED MONTHLY BY MEMPHIS LIGHT, GAS AND WATER DIVISION

Memphis Gets EnergySmart!

Memphis has the highest per-capita electricity usage of any city in America, which perhaps explains why more than 1,200 people attended the EnergySmart Memphis event at the Orpheum Theatre on March 11.

EnergySmart is an ongoing MLGW initiative to help consumers conserve energy and save money. The March program was hosted by Fox13 news anchor Mearl Purvis and included video messages from Memphis Mayor Willie W. Heren-



(continued inside)

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“I just appreciate it and I’m glad to get the help,” said Lula Echols, who also won \$1,000 in utility assistance. (She’s not related to the energy doctor.) “Thank God. It couldn’t have happened at a better time.”

Lillian Brown said “I’m blessed” when she received \$100 in utility help.

Sandra Lynn won \$500 in energy-saving upgrades to her home. “I’m just so grateful,” she said. “Thanks to MLGW for the \$500 – it’s truly a blessing.”

Marie Lamon was another \$1,000 winner. “I’m just elated and thankful to God,” she said. “He opened MLGW’s and TVA’s hearts, and I’m just grateful.”

As the crowd left, attendees were each given a box lunch and an EnergySmart bag containing a \$50 energy-saving kit that included CFLs, weatherstripping, a caulking gun and tubes of caulk, outlet cover gaskets, a low-flow faucet attachment, and window-film kits.

ton, Shelby County Mayor AC Wharton and others.

The centerpiece of the event was the EnergySmart workshop, led by Charles Echols, an MLGW Energy Doctor. Using a mix of visual presentations and actual demonstrations, Echols explained how everything can have a measurable impact on energy usage: door sweeps; attic, wall and under-floor insulation of various ratings; central-air filters; ceiling fans;

MLGW Employees Raise \$781,808.33 For United Way

MLGW employees presented a check for \$781,808.33 to the United Way of the Mid-South during the MLGW Board of Commissioners meeting in February. The check presentation culminated MLGW’s 2008-2009 United Way campaign by exceeding the original objective of \$775,000. MLGW employees pledged more than \$770,000

in 2008. “It’s just something about blessing other people that makes people reach into their pockets and give,” said Tjuanina Redmond, who co-chaired MLGW’s United Way Campaign with Bart Stoebner. Both are employees.

The United Way of the Mid-South supports 115 agencies. Donations fund more than 200 programs in the community throughout the year. The level of employee participation—management and union—routinely ranks MLGW among United Way’s largest corporate contributors. “This is a great example of IBEW Local 1288 and management working together on a campaign,” said MLGW President and CEO Jerry Collins Jr. Bill Hawkins, IBEW Local 1288 Assistant Business Manager, added: “We see where the needs are because we are out there in the community every day.”

According to organizers, there were 513 leadership givers, or employees who pledged \$500 or more, up from 479 employees who gave that much or more in 2008. Harry Shaw, president of the United Way of the Mid South, thanked MLGW employees, the MLGW Board, the steering committee and President Collins, who will lead United Way’s overall city-wide 2009-2010 campaign.



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