



Energy Edge

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMPHIS LIGHT, GAS AND WATER DIVISION GENERAL POWER CUSTOMERS
AUGUST 2017

Officials confident that tap water source is pure, abundant—and monitored

In spite of water making the news recently, MLGW’s tap water continues to be safe, pure and abundant. Federal authorities recently found contaminants in the Memphis shallow water aquifer in two locations. The Tennessee Valley Authority found arsenic and other toxins in shallow aquifer monitoring wells at the Allen Fossil Plant. The Environmental Protection Agency also found toxins in the shallow water aquifer at the site of the old Custom Cleaners business and declared the area a Superfund site.

Fortunately, MLGW draws no water from the shallow aquifer.

The purpose of these monitoring wells is to identify any contaminants that might pose a threat to the deeper aquifer systems so that remediation can occur. MLGW pumps from the Memphis Sand and Fort Pillow aquifers, which are between 500 to 1,500 feet below ground. (See illustration of the aquifer system at <http://www.mlgw.com/images/content/files/pdf/WaterQualityReport2016.pdf>)

Independent lab tests and MLGW water tests show no traces of contaminants in MLGW’s drinking water from either TVA’s site in Southwest Memphis or from the former dry cleaner site near the University of Memphis.

MLGW President and CEO Jerry Collins Jr. said if contamination appears, the wells would be shut down. The EPA began its initial investigation at Custom Cleaners in 2013. It removed the building, the concrete slab and 18 feet of dirt that contained high levels of the toxin perchloroethylene, or PCE.

“There’s no arsenic detected in your water,” MLGW’s Vice President of Engineering and Operations Alonzo Weaver stated. “We conduct 3,000 to 4,000 water tests each month. Your water is safe, inexpensive and well regulated. We’ve got eyes on this water all the time.”

Shelby County Health Department Environmental Health Services Bureau administrator Tyler Zerwekh added that TVA will continue to test the wells and do soil borings. In addition, he said U of M and U.S. Geological Survey officials will perform computerized models to predict if the contamination plume is moving or staying still.

MLGW Rates

MLGW’s current and historic electric, natural gas and water rates are published at www.mlgw.com, along with updated Purchased Gas Adjustment and Fuel Cost Adjustment rates.

Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA)

MLGW Rate	Consumption	Demand
G-1 residential	(\$0.056)	na
G-7	(\$0.077)	na
G-8 / G-9	(\$0.138)	\$0.077
G-10 / G-12	(\$0.131)	na

Monthly adjustment in \$/Ccf to published natural gas rates for meters read on or after 8/1/2017.

Fuel Cost Adjustment (FCA)

TVA Rate Class	MLGW Rate Code	FCA Amount
GSA, Part 1	E-2	\$0.02196
GSA, Part 2	E-2	\$0.02201
GSA, Part 3	E-2	\$0.02196
Residential	E-1	\$0.02213
Outdoor Lighting	E-3	\$0.02103

Monthly adjustment in \$/kWh to all firm kWh, beginning with meters read on or after 8/1/2017.



Important Contact Information

Business Solutions Center:

Monday-Friday

8:00am-4:30pm Central

Phone: 901-528-4270

Fax: 901-528-4547

E-mail: mlgwbsc@mlgw.org

Emergency: 901-528-4465

Outage: 901-544-6500

Maintenance,
Trouble and Gas

Pilot Safety: 901-820-7878

VIEW YOUR BILL ONLINE AT www.mlgw.com

Share the Pennies program begins communications effort prior to 2018 expansion, auto enrollment

Beginning 1/1/2018, MLGW will expand its Share the Pennies utility bill round-up program to include participation from all residential, commercial and industrial customers.

Share the Pennies, sponsored by MLGW and MIFA, provides grants to low-income homeowners for home weatherization to increase energy efficiency and reduce wasted energy. The grants are funded by MLGW customers whose bills are rounded up to the next whole dollar. For example, a bill of \$974.50 would be rounded up to \$975, and 50 cents would go toward the grant program.

Customers who choose not to donate to Share the Pennies can opt out any time before or after the enrollment expansion through the following methods:

- Visit www.mlgw.com/share and submit the opt-out form.
- Call MLGW's Business Solutions Center at 901-528-4270.
- Visit an MLGW community office.

Customers will need their MLGW account number or the phone number associated with their account in order to opt out, and they must be the customer of record to make the change.

Regardless of opt-out status, no new customers will be enrolled in the round-up program until 1/1/2018, unless requesting to donate before then.

After the automatic enrollment, MLGW and MIFA expect to be able to help a greater number of customers through Share the Pennies. The program is undergoing other changes as well.

Currently, grants are limited to \$1,500 and awarded only to senior or disabled customers. In the new iteration of Share the Pennies, grants will increase up to a \$4,000 maximum and will be available to all low-income customers, subject to eligibility guidelines.

Share the Pennies is not a bill assistance program. Funds for weatherization improvements are only available for resident homeowners. Rental properties are ineligible.

The decision to switch to an opt-out model came after the MLGW Neighborhood Advisory Council—led by MLGW customers—and Just Energy Memphis (a collaboration of the NAACP, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy and the Sierra Club) wanted to explore ways of further assisting members of our community who are most in need. They partnered with Memphis City Councilwoman Patrice Robinson, who proposed a resolution to the Memphis City Council. The MLGW Board approved the Council's resolution to make Share the Pennies an opt-out program for all customers. The council passed the resolution with a 10-0 vote. The MLGW Board of Commissioners voted to approve proposed changes on 2/22/2017.

For more information about Share the Pennies, visit <http://mlgw.com/sharethepennies>. Eligibility requirements and more information about grants can be found at MIFA's website, <http://mifa.org/sharethepennies>.

MLGW President and CEO to retire at the end of the year

Effective 12/19/2017, MLGW President and Chief Executive Officer Jerry Collins Jr. will retire as head of the utility. Collins has served as President and CEO of MLGW since 2007. He is the 10th person to lead the utility, a position that is appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Memphis City Council.

“Working for MLGW and the City of Memphis has been a great experience; however, after 30 years of public service it is now time for me to spend time with my family.” Collins said. “I’d like to thank the 2,500-plus employees who I have enjoyed serving with to improve the quality of life for residents through the efficient and safe delivery of electricity, natural gas and water the last 10 years,” he added.

"I appreciate the excellent leadership and service that Jerry has provided over the years across several divisions of city government," said Mayor Jim Strickland. "Because of his skill, the largest three-service publicly owned utility in the country gives customers the best service at the lowest cost, and continues to protect our most valuable resource—our drinking water. I wish Jerry well in his retirement."

A native Memphian, Collins previously served as Director of Public Works for the City of Memphis.

Memphis earns Top-10 spot among mid-sized cities in latest rankings for ENERGY STAR Certified Buildings

Memphis was ranked 10th in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) 2017 list of mid-sized U.S. metropolitan areas with the most ENERGY STAR certified buildings.

"Memphis is honored to be ranked in EPA’s 2017 Top Mid-Sized Cities list,” says City of Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland. "Improving energy efficiency not only directly benefits the building owner in terms of energy and cost savings, but also benefits the entire city by reducing our community’s carbon footprint. It is exciting to see the commercial and institutional sector leading the way on these efforts.”

Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell noted, “This is a great honor for Shelby County and the Memphis area. Guided by the Sustainable Shelby Implementation Plan, county government has worked to improve stewardship of our facilities, as well as increase awareness and connect businesses, institutions, and residents to resources that support energy efficiency. It is vital to have private partners prioritizing energy efficiency to ensure a sustainable future for our entire community.”

Cities are ranked on the list according to how many buildings in their area achieved ENERGY STAR certification in 2016. To qualify for the ENERGY STAR, a building must earn a 1-to-100 ENERGY STAR score of 75 or higher, indicating that it outperforms 75% of similar buildings nationwide.

Thirty-eight Memphis-area buildings earned the ENERGY STAR in 2016, including offices, schools, retail stores, distribution centers, and one hospital. These buildings collectively recorded energy savings of 187 million kBtu, cost savings of \$4.1 million, and prevented emissions equaling 27,000 metric tons of CO₂e. These savings represent the equivalent amount of electricity needed to power 4,000 homes for one year. FedEx, the largest employer in Memphis, had nine buildings in its World Headquarters campus earn the ENERGY STAR. Fourteen Shelby County Schools – ranging from elementary to high schools – also demonstrated their commitment to energy efficiency and stewardship by earning the ENERGY STAR last year.

By the end of 2016, nearly 30,000 buildings across America had earned EPA’s ENERGY STAR certification. Together, these buildings have saved more than \$4 billion on utility bills and prevented greenhouse gas emissions equal to the annual electricity use of nearly 3 million homes.

Top 10 Mid-Size Cities by 2016 ENERGY STAR Building Certification

1. San Jose, CA
2. Virginia Beach, VA
3. Indianapolis, IN
4. Des Moines, IA
5. Fort Collins, CO
6. Palm Bay, FL
7. Louisville, KY
8. Jacksonville, FL
9. Raleigh, NC
10. **Memphis**
and Lexington, KY

Memphis' ranking shows how America's leading cities are prioritizing energy efficiency among their commercial building stock. By partnering with its business leaders, cities like Memphis continue to demonstrate the economic and environmental benefits of reducing energy use among buildings.

Commercial buildings that apply for EPA's ENERGY STAR must have their performance verified by a professional engineer or a registered architect. ENERGY STAR certified buildings use an average of 35% less energy and are responsible for 35% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than typical buildings. Many types of commercial facilities can earn the ENERGY STAR, including office buildings, schools, hospitals, and retail stores.

For more information about the 2017 ENERGY STAR Top Cities list, visit www.energystar.gov/TopCities.

MLGW IN THE COMMUNITY



EnergySmart Memphis workshop gathers largest crowd of the year

Hundreds of residential customers joined MLGW, TVA staff, community leaders and others on 7/14/2017 at The Orpheum for the year's largest EnergySmart Memphis class. Attendees learned practical advice on energy efficiency and home maintenance, received an update on the Share the Pennies initiative and received tote bags full of home improvement items to start saving energy right away.



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