



PO Box 700  
Jamestown, NY 14702-0700  
Phone (716) 661-1666  
Fax (716) 661-1617

**ELECTRIC  
DISTRICT HEAT  
WATER  
WASTEWATER  
SOLID WASTE**

For immediate release

September 14, 2010

### **Jamestown BPU Launches Program to Save Energy in Residential Rental Units**

After focusing on energy efficiency for homeowners and businesses during the last two years, the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) now launches a "Rental Property Program" to save energy in residential rental units. The homeowner and business programs will continue.

Individuals who own rental properties in the BPU's electric service territory are eligible to participate in the program, receiving rebates for the purchase of certain new ENERGY STAR and National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) products for their rental units, between October 1, 2010, and December 31, 2011.

The NFRC is a non-profit organization which provides accurate information to measure and compare energy performance of windows, doors and skylights. NFRC rates these products, much in the same way that ENERGY STAR, a federal government program, approves products that meet certain energy efficiency standards.

Products and rebates included in the program are: clothes washers, \$100; residential windows, \$25 each; residential entry doors, \$50; central air conditioning units, \$50 per ton; hard wired compact florescent fixtures, \$25 per fixture; and four foot linear T8 florescent fixtures, \$40 per fixture. The rebates are limited to the cost of material and do not cover the cost of labor.

For product improvements totaling less than \$1,000, a landlord simply needs to complete a rebate form, and submit the original purchase receipt/invoice showing the model number of the equipment installed and the ENERGY GUIDE label or NFRC label. If the total rebate for a project exceeds \$1,000, the landlord must contact Dan Reynolds, BPU Energy Efficiency Coordinator, at (716) 661-1646 in advance to receive pre-approval for the project rebate.

Rebates are limited to \$500 per rental unit and to \$5,000 per landlord per year. Rebates will be sent in the form of a check and will take up to eight weeks to process. Washing machine rebates are limited to those placed in communal facilities.

To dispose of replacement products, customers are reminded that many retailers offer removal of old products when a new unit is purchased. Disposal services at the Chautauqua County Landfill are also available; landfill information may be obtained by calling (716) 958-4685. The Jamestown BPU offers a third option of curbside pickup of old items that have been validated for rebate, excluding central air conditioning units, doors and windows. An appointment to have an old appliance removed at the curb may be made by calling the BPU Garbage Hotline at (716) 661-1651.

Rental Property Program rebate forms are located on the BPU web site at [www.jamestownbpu.com](http://www.jamestownbpu.com) and in the Customer Service lobby at 92 Steele Street, open 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. weekdays. Information is also available by contacting Reynolds at (716) 661-1646, BPU Customer Service at (716) 661-1660 or BPU Communications Coordinator Becky Robbins at (716) 661-1666.

In discussing the BPU Rental Property Program with Board members, BPU General Manager David Leathers noted that the BPU energy efficiency programs are designed to reduce energy use by all of the utility's electric customers.

“In the last two years, the BPU energy efficiency team has designed programs to serve various segments of our customer base. These programs will continue or will change slightly each year depending on our energy efficiency plan and budget,” said Leathers. “This newest program allows landlords who rent to customers in our electric territory to participate. Renters comprise more than 50 percent of our electric customers. We need to do what we can to promote the efficient use of electricity in this segment of our community as well.”

Reynolds explained that the ENERGY STAR program for residential customers also will continue with some modifications that will be announced at the next BPU board meeting.

“Rebates for doors and windows still will be available to our customers through our home energy audit program,” said Reynolds. “Door and window rebates under our ENERGY STAR residential program remain available for four months, through December 31, this year.”

Any questions about any of the BPU's energy efficiency programs may be directed to Reynolds at (716) 661-1646.