



CONNECTIONS

News and Information from OUC—The *Reliable One* | JULY 2023

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OUC100

A Century of Reliability

1923

OUC COMMEMORATES 100 YEARS OF RELIABILITY

2023

In June 1923, OUC set out on a mission to grow with the City of Orlando, embracing innovation, transformation and community involvement as the keys to ensuring a promising future. Over the ensuing decades, we shed our humble beginnings as an electric and water utility with only 5,085 customers to become the 14th largest municipal utility in the United States, serving more than a quarter of a million customers across Central Florida today.

With growth came greater investment in OUC's services and employees as well as the community we serve. As a community partner, OUC supports educational and cultural programs, employee volunteerism, and conservation and neighborhood revitalization initiatives.

Throughout our rich history, OUC has remained committed to being a leader in the safe and reliable delivery of electricity and water, while always striving to do so responsibly and sustainably. This ambition led to several milestones, such as generating power from landfill gas and solar farms, to designing Reliable Plaza to meet LEED Gold Certification, to vehicle electrification, to using ozone treatment to improve water quality and many more.



Utilities workers place Orlando's first electric pole that would serve as the foundation for the birth of OUC.

Looking toward the next 100 years, OUC will continue to harness innovation to support our transformation from fossil fuel generation to clean energy technologies to reach net zero CO₂ emissions by 2050. In 2024, we will reach 272 megawatts of solar energy capacity, enough to power 50,000 homes. Additionally, OUC is exploring the Lower, Lower Floridan aquifer as a new source for meeting the growing demand for water.

Inspired by a century of reliability, OUC is poised to lead the way to a cleaner, greener – and more sustainable – future.

To learn more visit **OUC100.com**.

7 SMART TIPS TO STAY COOL AND KEEP YOUR BILL LOW THIS SUMMER



As temperatures soar, simple habits can help keep your utility bill from doing the same. Check out these tips:

1. Set your thermostat to 78 degrees.
2. Get smart about your A/C and install a smart thermostat. It can help you save 10% on cooling costs when you're away.
3. Replace your A/C filter regularly.
4. Keep shades, blinds and curtains closed during the day, especially on windows that face east or west.
5. Keep hot air outside and cool air inside by caulking, adding weather stripping and sealing windows and doors.
6. Use ceiling fans only when rooms are occupied and have the blades turn counterclockwise to move air downward.
7. Wash clothes in cold water – not hot.

The best way to save energy is to know what's using the most around your home. Small changes can make a big difference on your utility bill. Discover more at [OUC.com/hotweather](https://www.ouc.com/hotweather).

2022 WATER QUALITY REPORT

To request a printed copy of the 2022 Water Quality Report, call **407-423-9018** or visit [OUC.com/wqr2022](https://www.ouc.com/wqr2022).

Para obtener información sobre el Reporte de Calidad del Agua 2022 en español, llámanos al **407-423-9018** o [espanol.OUC.com/wqr2022](https://www.ouc.com/wqr2022).



HOW MUCH WATER IS YOUR YARD GETTING?

A Florida lawn only needs 1 to 1.5 inches of water a week during summer, but homeowners often don't know how much water their grass received after an afternoon shower or timed irrigation cycle. That's why a rain gauge is a good low-tech tool to put in the yard to measure the amount of water it has received. Or, you could let an **EPA WaterSense®-labeled controller** take all the guess work out of lawn watering and get a rebate of up to **\$200** from OUC. Go to [OUC.com/rebates](https://www.ouc.com/rebates) for more information.

Remember to water only when necessary for no more than one hour per zone and never between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.



DO YOU HAVE AN OLD A/C? WE HAVE A REBATE FOR THAT

If you have an old central air-conditioning unit, chances are it's costing you money to maintain while running up your energy bills due to inefficient cooling and heating.

With a new **16 SEER/15.2 SEER2** or greater heat pump A/C you'll save money and energy, plus get an OUC rebate from **\$45-\$1,150**.

Go to [OUC.com/rebates](https://www.ouc.com/rebates) and click on Residential Rebates Information for details.

STAY PREPARED WITH OUC'S STORM CENTER



OUC's online Storm Center is your one-stop resource that will help you and your family before, during and after a major storm impacts Central Florida. Find preparation videos, a live outage map, safety tips, hurricane tracking maps and important phone numbers. You can even register for Outage Alerts, which allow you to receive outage and restoration notifications via your choice of voice, text or email. Visit [OUC.com/StormCenter](https://www.ouc.com/StormCenter) for more information.



Para ver toda nuestra información en español, por favor visite [espanol.ouc.com](https://www.espanol.ouc.com).



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