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# RG&E AND consumer news

## Effect of Voltage Reduction on Appliances



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The hot weather this time of year means the possibility of voltage reductions to customers for short periods of time. These voltage reductions may be necessary in order that all utilities in the New York State Power Pool meet the peak demands of their customers.

You may be wondering how a voltage reduction affects your appliances. I would like to quote some information from the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) which may answer your questions.

As voltage is reduced: Incandescent and fluorescent lamps consume less electricity.

Resistance-type appliances such as toasters, coffee makers and ranges use less electricity in a fixed period of time, but do heat up more slowly and take longer to do their job.

Motor-operated appliances such as washing machines, freezers and room air conditioners operate differently, however. They continue to consume the same amount of electricity but must draw more current (amperes) to do so. The extra current can cause the motor to operate at a temperature slightly higher than usual. Motors are designed to operate over a range of voltages and generally will tolerate as much as a 10% decrease or increase in voltage from

their nameplate rating without adverse effects.

In addition to reliance on this design tolerance factor in motor-operated appliances, there are steps you can take to guard against potential damage:

1. Be sure your house wiring is adequately sized so the voltage is not reduced further by undersized wires.

2. It is a good practice to keep appliances clean and free of dust and dirt so that ventilation is not obstructed.

3. Most motor-operated appliances are equipped with an automatic device that shuts them off if the current draw is too high. If this happens you should follow the manufacturer's directions for resetting the device. If this fails to restore the appliance to operation it should be your signal to make an investigation of internal conditions causing the shutdown. You may need the help of a qualified electrician.

Call RG&E's Residential Department at 546-2700, Extension 2751 if you would like further explanation.

## Variety of Booklets Available

During the long hot summer days, you may be wondering how to make your home more comfortable. RG&E is offering two booklets which give helpful hints and facts about air conditioning. These are "11 Ways to Reduce Energy Consumption and Increase Comfort in Household Cooling," and "Cool It Wisely."

Insulation can be a great help in keeping your home cool. The booklet "If You're Under-insulated, You're Overspending and Fuel" explains how to insulate your home yourself, besides giving safety tips and facts about different kinds of insulation.

Maybe you want to get away from it all, but are afraid of traveling too far from home because of the gasoline supply situation. The booklet, "Camping in RG&E Country" describes camping sites that are both lovely and close to your home.

Two other helpful booklets are also available. "Watt-Watchers Handbook" explains how to determine how much electricity and gas your appliances use each month. Another useful booklet is "53 Ways to Save Money on Your Gas and Electric Bills." This offers suggestions on how to save energy and ease the burden on your budget.

Mail the coupon from this page with your selections indicated today — we'll gladly mail them to you.

## Learn How to Insulate Your Home at Consumer Center

Do you know how much insulation you have in your house? If it was built before 1940, it may not be insulated at all, and if it was built after 1940, it may not have today's required insulation. The old Federal Housing Administration rules required only 1 1/2" of ceiling insulation — today they require there be at least 6" of insulation in the ceiling.

The best way to save heating and cooling energy is insulation. A good way to save this energy and money is to insulate your home yourself.

From July 15 to July 31, RG&E's Consumer Information Center, on the Main Floor at 89 East Avenue, will have displays of various insulation materials. An expert on home insulation will be at the Center Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. He will actually show you how to install insulation using a band wall model — this is where the first floor ceiling meets the second floor.

If you stop in at the display when it is unstaffed and you would like to ask questions about insulation, feel free to use the

telephone available at the Center to call our Residential Department. Someone will be more than happy to come to the Center to answer your questions and show you how to install insulation.

While you're there, pick up our do-it-yourself insulation book, or fill out the coupon on this page & mail to us for your free copy.

Here's a list of stores which carry insulation for do-it-yourselfers.

### Northeast Area

Giordano Lumber  
Ridge Lumber  
Grossman's Atlantic  
Large — Kildea Lumber Co.

### Northwest Area

Otis Lumber Company  
Flower City Builders Supply  
Harding Supply Co. Inc.  
Grossman's Atlantic  
I&E Builder Supply, Inc.  
Greece Lumber & Building Supply  
Mathew's & Fields Lumber Co., Inc.  
Nichols-Wyman Lumber Inc.  
Bilt-Rite, Chase Pitkin Home Center  
William B. Morse Lumber Co.  
New Exchange Lumber Co.  
Ridge Lumber

### Southeast Area

Schram Building Supplies Inc.  
Bilt-rite, Chase Pitkin Home Center  
Pittsford Lumber Company

### Southwest Area

Standard Building Supply  
Ridge Lumber  
Grossman's Atlantic  
84 Lumber Company  
Chili Lumber Inc.  
Coldwater Lumber Company

### East Rochester

Della Pietra & Company  
East Rochester Lumber Inc.

### Spencerport

Spencerport Building Materials

### Fairport

Dudley Lumber Co. Inc.  
H. L. Steffen & Sons Inc.

### Macedon

Bilt Rite-Chase Pitkin  
Grossman's Atlantic

### Hilton

Hilton Milling Home Center

### Morton

Morton Lumber Company

### Brockport

Brockport Lumber Company  
Stull Lumber Co. Inc.

### Union Hill

Union Hill "Cash & Carry" Lumber Co.

### Ontario

Yaeger Electric Co.



Before you buy insulation check the container for the "R" rating.

## From the Home Service Dept.

### Cookware Pointers

A. Before using teflon pans for the first time spread a light covering of vegetable oil over the non-stick surface.

B. To remove stains from non-stick surfaces, boil this solution in the utensil for 10 minutes:

- 1 cup water
- 2 tablespoons baking soda
- 1/2 cup liquid chlorine bleach

After boiling, wash utensil in hot, sudsy water, rinse, dry and wipe interior lightly with salad oil.

C. Remove lime deposits from aluminum teakettles by boiling a solution of equal parts of water and vinegar in the kettle.

D. Darkened aluminum may be brightened by boiling water and cream of tartar. Use 2 teaspoons cream of tartar to each quart of water and boil in darkened pan.

E. To "season" new cast iron cookware first scour thoroughly, wash in hot soapy water, rinse and wipe dry. Next coat the inside surface of pan and lid with unsalted fat or shortening and place in a 300°F oven for two hours. Remove from oven and wipe excess grease off with paper towels.

F. To clean a coffee oil build-up from the inside of a non-aluminum coffeemaker, use automatic dishwasher detergent and the following instructions:

1. Dissolve 2 teaspoons of the detergent in 1 cup of hot water. Put into the bowl of your coffeemaker and fill to top cup level with hot water. Let the coffeemaker perk the full time. Empty this out.

2. Repeat using a full water level and 1 tablespoon baking soda.

3. Wash and rinse.

This procedure should be done periodically to avoid a bitter taste to coffee.

FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS COUPON TO: **CJ-22**  
Dept. 34 Rochester Gas and Electric  
89 East Avenue, Rochester, N.Y. 14649

I would like more information on the following items:

Name .....

Address .....

Town ..... Zip Code .....