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## CUB, Evanston team up to cut utility bills

(<http://www.pioneerlocal.com/evanston/news/2585936,evanston-electric-bills-081210-s1.article>)

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Evanston residents who take advantage of free online advice for slashing their household electric bills will be rewarded with more than a possible \$200 in savings.

The Citizens Utility Board and the city of Evanston have launched a campaign to encourage residents to utilize CUBEnergySaver.com, an online service that provides ComEd customers with recommendations for curbing energy consumption that are tailored to each household.

"As Evanston families try to cut costs at the height of air conditioning season, CUB Energy Saver can help reduce their energy bills in ways never before possible," said David Kolata, CUB executive director. "It's a win-win for our pocketbooks and the planet."

A pilot version of the program has resulted in average savings of about 6 percent, or roughly \$200 a year.

Users of the service earn points that are redeemable for free or discounted items from local and national businesses. Each Evanston resident who participates will receive by mail a free compact fluorescent lightbulb. CUB will provide the city of Evanston with five such bulbs for each Evanston resident who signs up for CUB Energy Saver, up to a maximum of 10,000 bulbs. Participating residents also will be entered in periodic drawings for a free month of electrical service.

The Evanston household that saves the most electricity through CUB Energy Saver by the end of 2010 will win up to 50 compact fluorescent lightbulbs plus a month of free electrical service.

As part of the campaign, CUB will conduct "utility bill check-ups" Sept. 7 at the Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave. Between 10 a.m. and noon and between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m., utility customers who bring in their electric, natural gas and phone bills will receive tips from a CUB expert.

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