



## Introducing **FlexPay** Pay as you go metering

***Technology that gives you the option to pay when you want,  
in the amounts you want.***

Would it be easier for you to make daily, weekly, or biweekly payments rather than one large payment each month? Do you want to take control of your utility account by monitoring your consumption on a regular basis? If yes, then FlexPay may be the right choice for you!

What is FlexPay? FlexPay is “**pay as you go**” electricity. Imagine the tank of gas in your car. You pay for it before you use it. You can purchase small amounts every few days or “fill up the tank”, depending on your situation. When your supply is low, you simply purchase more. FlexPay operates under that same concept.

To get started, you will purchase credit on your account for future usage. We will customize account ALERTS that will send you emails and/or text messages concerning your low balance. In the event your FlexPay account falls below zero, you will receive an ALERT before your account is disconnected. After your payment, the electric meter is generally armed within 15 minutes for quick power restoration and no reconnection fees.

Purchasing electricity before you use it allows you to control your budget and pay how much you want, when you want. Your usage and balance are calculated daily, eliminating the need for a monthly bill. You will also gain an awareness of your day-to-day consumption patterns. Monitoring and controlling daily usage can help keep utility costs lower. Statistics indicate FlexPay programs help lower consumption due to customer's awareness of usage patterns.

FlexPay is an optional program for residential customers only. Call (865)453-2887 for more information.



### **Pay as you go metering offers:**

- No deposits
- No monthly bills
- No late fees
- No trip fees
- No reconnect fees
- Convenient payment options
- Customized alerts
- Quick power restoration if disconnected
- Increased awareness of usage patterns

Call (865)453-2887 for more information on FlexPay  
\*Residential customers only



## **SCAM ALERT**

**Sevier County Electric System** wants to remind our customers to be aware of fraudulent phone scams. There have been reports of impersonators contacting utility customers by phone demanding immediate payment by card to a live person. Please remember that while SCES does give courtesy calls for past due accounts, we will never demand credit card information be given to a live person. All credit card transactions are directed to our automated phone payment service for your safety. If you have questions or concerns about the status of your account, call SCES at (865)453-2887 or log in online at [www.sces.net](http://www.sces.net).

## Levelized Billing

### *Predictable Electric Bills*

Guard against large fluctuations in your monthly electric bill with *Levelized Billing*. SCES recommends *Levelized Billing* as the preferred strategy for making your electric bill predictable even in unpredictable times.

Your Levelized monthly electric bill is a rolling average of your electric usage for the past 12 months, plus 1/12 of any difference between leveled bills and actual bills.

Since *Levelized Billing* uses a rolling average, your monthly bill will vary only slightly each month. And since changes in usage are averaged in over a 12-month period, you never have that shocking summer or winter billing swing.

The only time you have to reconcile is when you decide to leave SCES or no longer want to participate.

Requirements:

- 12 month service history
- Acceptable pay history
- Automatic Bank Draft
- Residential services only

Call (865) 453-2887 to enroll

## Project Round Up

### *A little change makes a lot of difference*

Project Round Up is a convenient way to help your neighbors with electric bills during times of hardship. SCES customers can participate by voluntarily choosing to round each month's electric bill up to the next whole dollar. The donated funds are dedicated to help customers needing emergency energy assistance.

Individual contributions never amount to more than 99¢ each month, so the total never exceeds \$12 per year. By combining our small change, we can make a huge difference in our community. It also makes balancing your checkbook a breeze!

Call (865) 453-2887 to enroll



## Energy-Saving Tips

### No Cost Tips

- Turn off lights, electronics, appliances when not in use
- Take shorter, cooler showers
- Use kitchen/bath fans sparingly
- Use cold water for laundry; wash only full loads
- Run dishwasher only when it's full
- Air-dry dishes
- Set water heater temp to 120°F
- Drain a gallon from water heater each year to remove sediment
- Keep all vents and returns open
- Keep outside unit clean and free of debris

### Low Cost Tips

- Switch to CFL or LED lighting
- Schedule annual maintenance of HVAC unit
- Change air filters monthly
- Insulate heating and cooling ducts and repair air leaks
- Caulk and weather-strip around windows and doors
- Insulate outlets
- Install low-flow faucets and showerheads

### Additional Summer Tips

- Keep curtains on the south, west, and east sides of the house closed to block sunlight
- Change ceiling fan direction to counter clockwise to push cool air down to the floor
- Set thermostat to 78°F
- Use microwave instead of stovetop
- Plant trees for shade on the south or southwest side of your home

## Comfort, Quality, & Energy Efficiency

Whether it's snowing outside or a hundred degrees in the shade, enjoying the benefits of an electric heat pump is now easier than ever thanks to the **Quality Contractor Network (QCN)**, established by Sevier County Electric System and TVA. Heat pumps are an economical way of heating or cooling your home, but to maximize their benefit, they need to be installed properly. The QCN ensures just that.

Sevier County Electric System will provide you a list of the contractors who will give you a **free estimate**. SCES also offers **low-rate financing for up to 10 years** and the payments are included on your monthly electric bill. You will now cool for *less*. Heat for *less*. And now, take a deep breath, pay *less*.

*For more information contact Lucas Harkleroad*

*lharkleroad@sces.net or (865)774-6264*



### REQUIREMENTS

- QCN contractor only
- Customer must own the property
- Customer must be approved with credit check.



Keep your family  
comfortable.

Whatever the weather brings, you'll be ready. Make your home the best it can be. Visit 2eScore.com to find out how energy efficient your home is and what you can do to improve it. With a high eScore you can afford to live comfortably.

energyright solutions TVA

## eScore

SCES and TVA are pleased to announce eScore, an exciting new energy savings program.

eScore is a residential energy efficiency program that provides homeowners with a clear path to make their home a 10—its highest level of efficiency. The program also increases home comfort and saves you money.

eScore allows homeowners to work toward a score of 10 for their home at their own pace, earning **rebates** on qualified energy efficiency upgrades and re-engaging with the program as many times as needed to achieve their home's best possible energy performance.

Visit [www.2escore.com](http://www.2escore.com) or  
call 1-855-2eScore  
(1-855-237-2673) to get started.

# Marathon®



**\$120 Credit!**

**Lifetime Warranty:** It's the *last* water heater you will have to purchase for your home.

**High Efficiency:** Lower energy bills. Envirofoam® Insulation allows only 5°F heat loss in 24 hours!

**No Smelly Water:** Doesn't use an anode rod. Eliminates that rotten-egg smell which can result from the interaction of an anode rod with many types of hard water.

**High-Tech Construction:** Strong, seamless, stainless alloy bottom element, fused upper element

**World Class Customer Support:** Backed by service professionals at the Eagan, Minnesota Marathon plant.

**Last but not least: \$120 credit on your next electric bill.**  
Financing available. (residential only)

For more information visit [www.sces.net](http://www.sces.net)  
or call Lucas Harkleroad (865)774-6264

## News from Vegetation Management

### Vegetation Management Update

- 593 miles of distribution power line rights-of-way to be cleared for 2016.
- 2016 marks Year 3 of Trim Cycle 2 in our VM program.
- Contractors clearing rights-of-way for 2016:  
Townsend Tree Service  
Wolf Tree

Questions about trimming or Vegetation Management?  
Call (865) 774-6274 or  
email [trees@sces.net](mailto:trees@sces.net)

### Tips to plant the right tree in the right place:

- Note the expected mature height of the tree you are planting. Then plant the tree at least that distance from the power line.  
Ex: Mature height = 60'; plant 60' away from lines.

Do not plant any trees within any power line rights-of-way. Limit landscaping options to shrubs and other low-growing plant species under power lines. By maintaining a 10' minimum clearance buffer, trees and other vegetation are safe, and the right-of-way is better accessible for SCES for maintenance and power restoration.

### Ask Vegetation Management



- Q:** Do the herbicides that SCES utilizes in rights-of-way application affect pollinator species or harm wildlife?
- A:** SCES utilizes a combination of two products—glyphosate and imazapyr to treat woody brush species located in rights-of-way floors. Neither product is classified as a Neonicotinoid and are not considered a threat to pollinators and other wildlife based on research by many entities and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Through proper and timely application, rights-of-way floors are being converted to and maintained as an early successional habitat (meadows) for stable and non-conflicting plant communities as well as providing habitat for pollinators and wildlife that are found within these regions.

If you have a question that you would like to see answered in *The Powerline*, email [trees@sces.net](mailto:trees@sces.net)

