

Save Big with Increased Allowances



Great news! Clearwater Gas System has increased its residential Energy Conservation Allowances (ECA). Effective, April 1, the average new residential customer will save up to \$2,275 when converting electric appliances to natural gas energy:

GAS APPLICATION	ALLOWANCES WHEN SWITCHING FROM ELECTRIC TO GAS	ALLOWANCES WHEN REPLACING GAS WITH GAS
Tank Water Heater*	\$525	\$350
Tankless Water Heater*	\$675	\$550
Home Heating	\$725	N/A
Range	\$200	N/A
Dryer	\$150	N/A

*Must purchase water heater at Clearwater Gas System. Certain restrictions apply.

With Clearwater Gas System's allowance increase plus the 2011 Federal Tax Credit, now is the best time to replace your tank-type water heater and go tankless.

While the standard tank-type water heater keeps water hot all day, every day, a gas tankless water heater does just the opposite by only providing heated water as you use it. This "on-demand" gas heating system is one of the most efficient options available. The gas tankless water heater is controlled by the flow of water, so when you turn on the faucet the water is heated as it passes through the unit, giving you on-demand hot water with very little consumed energy. This means faster recovery, lower operating costs and greater energy savings.

In addition to lowering your operating costs, and increasing your energy savings, Clearwater Gas System also offers customers a dedicated team of gas service and repair specialists to perform routine service and maintenance on all types of gas equipment. To learn more about gas tankless technology, visit www.clearwatergas.com or call (727) 562-4980, for complete allowance details.

Coming Soon, Near You

Convinced that compressed natural gas (CNG) is the motor fuel of the future, Clearwater Gas System and the City of Clearwater's Solid Waste General Services Department are teaming up to build one of Tampa Bay's first Compressed Natural Gas filling stations on an acre of land transferred from the City's Airpark.

Clearwater Gas System's unmanned CNG filling station will be located at the Clearwater Airpark, 1000 N. Hercules Avenue, Clearwater.



Contrary to popular belief, the use of CNG in vehicles is not a new concept. Over the years, many have tried to show the benefits of converting existing vehicles from gasoline to CNG, but the overall concept suffers from a "chicken and egg" theory. It's a catch 22: drivers won't convert their vehicles to CNG until there are service stations, and companies won't build the service stations until there are drivers with CNG vehicles. Therefore, the likely users of CNG facilities are primarily fleet operators, for starters.

On the CNG forefront are several House bill proposals that will directly address tax credits for the use of 1) CNG for fleet operations, 2) transit authorities to purchase natural gas buses; and 3) to encourage the development of natural gas fueling stations. Nationally, this level of CNG publicity makes compressed natural gas a guaranteed leader in today's energy markets.

Now that the timing is right, the City of Clearwater is planning to convert its fleet of solid waste trucks to CNG once the facility is up and running (late summer). The truck conversion will save the city \$15,000 per truck in fuel costs per year. Multiply that by 900 total city vehicles and the savings is more than \$13 million.

The public will also be welcome to fill their dedicated CNG vehicles at the new station. The unmanned station, which will be video-monitored from the City's Emergency Services facility, will have two islands with two dispensers per island. Each dispenser will have two refueling hoses, allowing eight vehicles to be fueled simultaneously. Unlike "time-fill" CNG units sold to motorists who fuel their vehicles at home, the station will have "quick-fill" connectors that allow the same filling speed as conventional fuel nozzles.

With the unveiling of Clearwater Gas System's first CNG facility, the City hopes to help solve the "chicken and egg" problem for the Tampa Bay area. Once the station is built, vehicles will come.

Great Deals from Clearwater Gas System!

Commercial Customers

GET \$50 OFF

any *commercial* gas service and equipment repair
Call (727) 562-4900, x7419 to schedule an appointment.

Expires 7/29/11
Certain Restrictions Apply.

Residential Customers

GET \$25 OFF

any *residential* gas service and equipment repair
Call (727) 562-4900, x7419 to schedule an appointment.

Expires 7/29/11
Certain Restrictions Apply.

Restaurant Spotlight

Everything Hooters

Meet the pioneers of the casual dining experience, aka the Original Hooters in Clearwater. Founded by a group of six Clearwater businessmen (with absolutely no restaurant experience), Hooters, Inc. began with their very first restaurant in Clearwater. The current Gulf-to-Bay location was built on the site of a former shoddy and rundown nightclub that had been purchased at a very low price. With little restaurant experience and a novel concept, Hooters opened its doors to the public on October 4, 1983, during an era when no other restaurants were offering a wing-themed menu. As noted by Ed Droste, restaurant co-founder, "I remember we had to call someone on opening night to light the gas fryers for us," and the rest is history.

The Original Hooters features a "Midwest meets the beach" theme. A recent visit to their infamous test kitchen revealed a few secrets behind their success. As one can imagine, the test kitchen is the tasting ground for all new menu additions. It is an exact replica of the restaurant's layout, complete with a Vulcan gas fryer and a training/test center for Hooters management team and staff.

For the past 27 years, Hooters has proven successful in the wing market, among a few other signature trademarks. Hooters, system-wide, generates and averages 68 percent of its sales from food, 4 percent from merchandise, and 28 percent from beer, wine and spirits.

In addition, Hooters has branched out into the hospitality industry (Hooters Casino) and into several major grocery store chains showcasing their spices and sauces. Now in 48 states and 28 countries, Hooters is ranked 45 in Restaurants and Institutions Magazine's top 400 restaurant chain concepts in America (2009 sales).

Since it started, the Hooters concept has undergone very little change. The current logo, uniform, menu and ambience are all very similar to what existed in the original days. On occasion, Ed Droste still wears the original chicken costume to drum up a little extra business.

If you go: 2800 Gulf to Bay Boulevard, Clearwater, Florida. Menu specialties include: seafood, sandwiches, salads and chicken wings. Phone: (727) 797-4008.



Chuck Riley, Vice-President/Director of Purchasing cooks up a batch of wings in the Hooters test Kitchen.

It's a Free Call



Homeowners and contractors are required to call 8-1-1 at least two business days prior to digging, as required by law - if you are a planning an excavation project. Doing so allows Clearwater Gas System and other utilities to mark their underground facilities in the area of the excavation.

Even doing typical home improvement projects like planting trees and shrubs may cause damage to buried utility lines. By calling 8-1-1 before you dig, you can help Clearwater Gas System prevent injuries and damage to underground facilities. Failure to comply may result in costly legal penalties. Call 8-1-1, it's a free call and it's the law.

Offices Will be Closed:

- Monday, May 30 – Memorial Day
- Monday, July 4 – Independence Day
- Monday, September 5 – Labor Day
- Friday, November 11 – Veterans' Day
- Thursday, November 24 – Thanksgiving Day
- Friday, November 25 – Day After Thanksgiving
- Monday, December 26 – Christmas Day Observed



Find us on
Facebook

Visit us online at myclearwater.com

Contact Us:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| (727) 562-4980 | Gas Sales Center |
| (727) 562-4900 | Gas Administration |
| (727) 562-4900 x7419 | Service and Repair |
| (727) 562-4900 x7444 | Warehouse |
| (727) 562-4600 | Customer Service |
| (727) 462-6633 | 24-Hour Emergency Line |

For email inquiries, please visit www.clearwatergas.com

Call 8-1-1 Before You Dig, It's The Law!

Gas Industry News Update

News, trends and current events affecting the gas industry nationwide

TAMPA INT'L AIRPORT TO IMPLEMENT CNG FUEL FACILITY

Tampa International Airport recently announced their partnership with Clean Energy granting Tampa Airport the right to develop, design, construct, operate and maintain a turnkey Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fuel facility at the airport for a term of 20 years. The CNG project represents one of many partnerships the Airport is developing to further green community initiatives. *Source: Newswire*

DEVELOPMENT OF PROPANE GOLF-COURSE CAR

The Propane Education & Research Council has set aside \$650,000 to help develop a utility vehicle suitable for use in the golf and resort markets. Georgia-based Club Car will produce a propane-powered version of its utility vehicle, which is used for cargo and transportation purposes by resorts and golf club facilities. *Source: LP Magazine*

NOVEL CENTRIFUGE PAVES WAY TO RECOVER TONS OF WASTE COAL FOR ENERGY USE

A novel technology that could help release some of the currently unusable energy in an estimated two billion tons of U.S. coal waste has been successfully demonstrated by the Office of Fossil Energy's (FE) National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) and the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. The full-scale test of the advanced hyperbaric centrifuge technology at a coal-cleaning plant in Alabama resulted in the successful reduction of moisture from ultrafine coal waste. The test builds on an eight-year cooperative patented process that will effectively remove water from very fine coal "slurries," or mixture of waste coal "fines" and water. *Source: Department of Energy*

For additional gas energy information, visit
www.clearwatergas.com or contact Clearwater Gas Sales
at (727) 562-4980

Executive Editor
Chuck Warrington

Managing Editor
Kristi Cheatham

Editor
Lisa Brown

PRSTD STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #2052
ST. PETERSBURG, FL

Clearwater Gas System
PO Box 4748
Clearwater, FL 33755-4748

