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# NEWS

## **Minnesota Power offers Appliance Recycling and Instant Rebate Event**

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DULUTH, Minn.— Minnesota Power will conduct a three-day appliance recycling and instant rebate event June 9-11 at three Duluth hardware stores. The goal of the project, now in its second year, is to reduce the energy consumption of dehumidifiers and room air conditioners, two widely used summer appliances. Project “Cool Change” is an energy conservation initiative sponsored by Minnesota Power, the city of Duluth/Cities for Climate Protection and the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD) and is part of Minnesota Power’s Conservation Improvement Program, a customer-funded state initiative.

During the “Cool Change” event, Minnesota Power customers will receive a \$40 instant rebate toward the purchase of an efficient ENERGY STAR® qualified room air conditioner or dehumidifier. When a customer purchases a new ENERGY STAR model and turns in an old one the recycling is free, a \$14 savings.

“Minnesota Power promotes energy conservation through many programs,” said Sue Thompson, Minnesota Power customer service director. “The Cool Change event is a great way for customers to have a direct role in energy conservation.”

The event will take place at the following Duluth locations: Daugherty Hardware and Appliances, 517 E. Fourth St.; Johnson Mertz Appliance 1735 Miller Trunk Highway; and Ace Hardware Downtown, 212 West Superior St.

“This is a great event for our community,” said Kurt N.W. Soderberg, WLSSD executive director. “WLSSD is happy to partner with these businesses who are concerned about the environment – both in energy efficiency and in proper disposal. WLSSD wants to ensure that the old or broken units are properly disposed of as they are phased out. These items contain hazardous materials and need to be recycled.”

By replacing an old dehumidifier or window air conditioner, a Minnesota Power customer can save as much as \$175 in electric energy costs over the life of the new unit. Besides using less energy with a higher-efficiency unit, additional energy is saved through the recycling of the steel content of the appliance turned in.

ENERGY STAR is a government/industry partnership that offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions. The Western Lake Superior Sanitary District provides regional solid waste services for northeastern Minnesota and operates its wastewater treatment plant in Lincoln Park-Duluth.



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