

The Seattle Times

Friday, July 17, 2009 - Page updated at 04:42 PM

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Free light bulbs for PSE customers

Katherine Long

Puget Sound Energy, the Eastside's power company, is on a big campaign this summer and fall to try to get you to change your incandescent light bulbs for compact fluorescent bulbs, which use a lot less energy. Not only is the company giving away nearly a half-million free light bulbs, they've also launched a hide-and-seek game -- winners who spot the well-hidden golden bulbs first will collect a \$250 certificate to Lowe's or Ace Hardware.

PSE is calling it the "Rock the Bulb" tour, and they'll be distributing 400,000 energy-saving CFL bulbs to PSE customers through 16 weekend bulb exchange events at local hardware stores, through a door-to-door outreach with nonprofit partner Project Porchlight, and at community events in neighborhoods in the utility's electric service area.

And then there's the "Be an Energy Rock Star" contest, where customers can earn points for a chance to win part of \$45,000 in prizes.

The company says 400,000 compact fluorescents will result in overall savings of more than \$17 million in energy costs and a reduction of more than 101 million pounds of greenhouse gas emissions -- the equivalent of taking more than 8,000 cars off the road each year.

Customers can exchange up to 10 incandescent bulbs for the same number of CFL bulbs, choosing from among six different styles, at the bulb exchanges. The first one will be this Saturday and Sunday, July 18 and 19, at Lowe's in Bellevue, 11959 Northup Way. Get the full calendar, or learn more about the energy makeovers and the hide-and-seek game, at the [PSE Web site](#).

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Rebekah Anderson/PSE
Bellevue Mayor Grant Degginger is quite illuminating about the importance of compact fluorescents at the kickoff of PSE's "Rock the Bulb" campaign.