

# Currents



*Always There for You!*

## ELECTRIC CAR GUEST DRIVE

ONE PLACE. ONE DAY. MANY ELECTRIC CARS. NO SALES PITCH.

Saturday, October 28, 2017 | Rose Bowl Stadium | Pasadena, CA

RSVP at [ElectricCarGuestDrive.com](http://ElectricCarGuestDrive.com)



### SPONSORED BY



# WHERE DOES MY ELECTRICITY COME FROM?

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I FLIP A SWITCH?

It may seem like magic, but that electricity has traveled a long way to get to your house. Let's go on a field trip behind the wires.



## CAN I MAKE MY OWN POWER? THAT WOULD BE COOL.

You can make your own power with a small wind turbine or rooftop solar panels. Rooftop solar is popular, especially in a sunny place like Southern California, but the sun doesn't always shine and wind does not always blow. That's no problem — BWP will remain 'Always there for you!'



## 1. POWER IS PRODUCED & FED INTO THE POWER GRID

Power plants are like large factories where your electricity is made. These generators get energy from many sources — sun, wind, biomethane, natural gas, coal, water, nuclear energy — and convert it into electricity. The power runs through a step-up transformer, is changed to a higher voltage, and fed into a power grid of high voltage transmission lines.

## 2. POWER MOVES THROUGH TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS

Electricity coming from out-of-state power plants travels through high voltage transmission systems until it finally arrives at BWP substations in Burbank. Burbank also gets power from our local power plants. At our substations, the voltage of the electricity is reduced.

## 3. POWER IS DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT BURBANK

The electricity leaves BWP substations, traveling on our local distribution lines on its way to your home. Before entering your home, the voltage of the electricity is reduced once more, by transformers typically located on top of power poles. These local lines bring the power directly to your home. BWP's distribution lines, pole transformers, substations and much more are all part of Burbank's exceptionally reliable electricity system!

### DID YOU KNOW?

Unlike manufactured goods, power isn't easy to pack, ship and store. It's more like use it or lose it. Power travels from the generators through transmission lines to local lines to your house very quickly, in seconds.

### DID YOU KNOW?

BWP is a public power utility which means that you and your neighbors own the utility. BWP works hard to provide you with reliable, sustainable and affordable power. Today, 33% of the power BWP provides for Burbank comes from renewable resources. And, we're on our way to 50%.

#PublicPower

Credit: American Public Power Association ([www.PublicPower.org](http://www.PublicPower.org))  
Illustrations by Ellen Byrne (APPA) and Tracie Neiswonger (BWP)



## ONEBurbank Supports Creative Vision at Quantum Creation FX



ONEBurbank is a suite of BWP fiber optic services offered to Burbank businesses looking for exceptionally fast and reliable bandwidth. Visit **ONEBurbank** at **ONEBurbank.com**



*Quantum Creation FX is committed to being the leader in cutting edge costume and makeup effects at affordable prices. Founded in 2005, the Burbank company creates high-end, individually crafted specialty costumes and state-of-the-art, lifelike prosthetic and makeup effects.*

Every project receives dedication, innovation and attention from a team of award-winning artists. Quantum's costumes are custom-made works of art, featured in films like *TRON: Legacy*, *Hunger Games*, *Snow White and the Huntsman*, and *Star Trek (2009)*. For extreme realism, the company's specialized makeups and prosthetics can produce human-like creatures.

Using advanced technologies, Quantum pioneered the development of 3D rendering to craft specialty costumes for *TRON: Legacy*. For *Sucker Punch*, Quantum combined animatronics, makeup and prosthetics to produce a sophisticated biomechanical makeup. Quantum's imaginative design innovations create unforgettable TV and film characters.

**Christian Beckman, the President, Owner and Project Producer for Quantum Creation FX, talks about BWP's ONEBurbank fiber service:**

We strive for a high degree of excellence in all areas of our business and we work hard to help our clients realize their artistic vision on film.

Living up to high standards means it's a necessity to have the most efficient internet service possible. We found BWP's ONEBurbank through an informational mailer, and we were impressed by the other companies who also use it. ONEBurbank is dedicated to good customer service more than other providers, which is extremely important to us.

We're very happy with ONEBurbank. We appreciate the faster upload and download speeds and the reliability and efficiency of our internet service. ONEBurbank enhances our working environment and allows our team to focus on what they do best: offering an exceptional product that achieves our clients' creative vision at an economical cost.

We welcome *Quantum Creation FX* as another satisfied ONEBurbank customer! Visit their website at [quantumcreationfx.com](http://quantumcreationfx.com) for more information.



**Above:** The unique lobby displays a collection of costumes created by Quantum Creation FX.  
**Inset:** Christian Beckman, President, Owner, and Project Producer.

# Last Call to Round Up Your Old Refrigerator!



Have an old fridge in your garage just keeping some beer and sodas cold? It might be costing you more than you think in electricity expenses. If you are ready to let it go, BWP will haul away that old refrigerator and give you a \$50 billing credit through our **Refrigerator Round-Up Program**. But, time is running out on this program. **Effective next July, Round-Up goes away.**

**Interested? Here's the fine print on program participation:**

- Secondary refrigerator only
- Must be operable
- Regular sized: no mini refrigerators, wine coolers, dorm units or commercial sized refrigerators
- Active BWP electrical account required

**If you checked all the boxes, call (888) 333-3938 to schedule your appointment!**



# Free Shade Trees!

Did you know that BWP provides free shade trees to residents (up to 3 trees) and businesses (up to 20 trees)? Planting trees that will grow and provide shade to your home or business saves energy by reducing your central air conditioning needs. **Interested?** Call BWP's Shade Tree Program arborist at **(818) 636-4917** to schedule an appointment. Our Arborist will meet you at your property to discuss best planting locations and help select the right trees for you.

Descanso Gardens Presents

# Wet & Wonderful

## Celebrating Our Precious Water

Saturday, September 23, 2017 | 9am - 3pm  
 at Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Dr., La Cañada, CA 91101

### Featured Speakers



**Charley Wilson**  
 Southern California  
 Water Committee



**Cassy Ayogi**  
 FormLA  
 Landscaping



**Dallas Raines**  
 ABC7 News

Limited Amount of FREE tickets to Descanso Gardens available by calling (818) 949-4200.

R.S.V.P. online at [bit.ly/2s3CMLZ](http://bit.ly/2s3CMLZ)



Get inspired to plan your water-wise garden at this day of fun and educational family programming! Activities include:

- Musical performances by Shows that Teach and Abe Lagrimos Jr.
- Special discounts on Rain Barrels (for pre-orders visit: [RainBarrelsIntl.com](http://RainBarrelsIntl.com))
- Local water agency booths, native plant displays, and festival food by Patina Restaurant Group

### Want a Rain Barrel or Two?

1. Go to [RainBarrelsIntl.com](http://RainBarrelsIntl.com), click on the "EVENTS" tab and select "DESCANSO GARDENS" to order your rain barrel. Discounted price is \$65 + tax.
2. Pick up your pre-ordered rain barrels at the September 23 event.
3. Apply for a rain barrel rebate (\$35 per barrel, limit of 2 rebates) at [SoCalWaterSmart.com](http://SoCalWaterSmart.com). For more information on rebates and rain barrels, e-mail [Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com](mailto:Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com).

Co-Sponsors:



## Generous EV Rebates Available

Today, Burbank residents own or lease about 700 electric vehicles (EVs.) That number is projected to triple within five years! BWP is helping provide the infrastructure needed to support EVs. We've already installed **28 public EV charging stations** and provide **large rebates** for both residents and businesses installing Level 2 chargers.

Single-family residents can get up to \$500 in rebates and multi-family accounts are eligible for EV rebates of up to \$1,000! For both residential types, this includes not just the cost of the charger but installation costs as well. And, BWP just doubled the rebate Burbank businesses can receive — up to \$2,000 per charger that is publicly accessible!

For more information or to apply for an EV charger rebate, please go to [BurbankWaterAndPower.com](http://BurbankWaterAndPower.com).



### Free Audit and Installation Program for Burbank Businesses

If your company has been in Burbank for at least a few years, odds are good that you have already taken advantage of BWP's **Business Bucks Program**. If you haven't, you'll definitely want to read on and find out about this great opportunity to reduce your ongoing operating costs.

We know that smaller businesses in particular may not have the expertise to most effectively manage their facility's energy use. That's where the Business Bucks Program comes in. Make an appointment with BWP's energy advisors and we'll review your energy-using equipment: lighting, refrigeration, motors, etc. **No cost to you for this service.** We'll give you a report listing recommended energy efficiency upgrades. **No cost to you for this service.** But, here's the kicker: **BWP will give you a budget of up to \$5,000 to install the measures you want!**

Any Burbank business using up to 250,000 kilowatt-hours annually that hasn't already participated in this program is eligible. Call us at **877-290-2590** to make your appointment!

### Reminder to Businesses: Manage Summer On-Peak Hours to Cool Your Energy Costs!

All Burbank businesses are now on a Time-of-Use (TOU) electric rate design. Like everything else, energy costs vary by supply and demand. For instance, it costs BWP more to procure energy on hot summer days when demand soars versus during winter evenings. TOU rates are designed to encourage electricity use when demand is lower and avoid usage when demand is high.

Burbank has three TOU periods: off-peak, mid-peak and on-peak. **For businesses, on-peak hours are weekdays from 4pm-7pm, June through October.** While less than 9% of all hours, managing your company's on-peak energy use may be the biggest opportunity to reduce your energy bill.

### Savings Tips:

- If you can, run equipment before 4pm or after 7pm.
- Try pre-cooling your facility. Set your thermostat lower in the hours before 4pm. Then at 4pm, move the thermostat up and coast on the cooled air for as long as possible.



# grass-cy-cling

*/ˈgras,sɪklɪŋ/*  
noun

**1. the leaving of chopped grass clippings on a mowed lawn as a fertilizer.**

*“grasscycling is the easiest, most environmentally beneficial method of dealing with grass clippings”*



There are great reasons to grasscycle: Mowing is faster since you don't have to stop to dump clippings into the green waste bin. The clippings essentially act as mulch, holding in moisture and adding nitrogen to the soil. This can reduce your fertilizer needs by 25% - 50%. And, grasscycling saves space in landfills. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that 18% of what goes into landfills comes from yard waste, jumping to as much as 50% at the height of the growing season. No wonder our landfills are filling up so quickly!

## Did you know?

**1,000 square feet of lawn can produce 200 to 500 pounds of clippings yearly.**

**The average lawn size in Burbank is over 2,000 square feet.**

**Burbank hauls away thousands of tons of landscape clippings each year, incurring fuel costs and causing air pollution.**

**During the drought, most homes cut back on irrigation and many also removed turf. These actions save nearly 4,000 tons annually in grass clippings hauled out of Burbank.**

**Burbank's city parks, golf course and public schools all practice grasscycling!**

## Sounds good! How do I grasscycle?

- **Keep the mower blade sharp.** Dull blades tear rather than cut grass. This leads to obvious brown scars at the leaf tip and makes the grass more susceptible to disease.
- **Cut the grass when it's dry.**
- **Cut one third or less of the blade length.** This is healthier for your turf and creates small grass pieces that can easily decompose. If the grass gets too high, simply cut once, then mow over the clippings to chop and scatter them.
- **Any mower will do** but if you're using a non-mulching mower, remove the grass catcher and insert a safety plug. Some mowers can be converted to a mulching mower. If it's time for a new mower, consider a mulching model.
- **Let grass clippings settle naturally.** It may take hours, or overnight, but the clippings left on top of your lawn will eventually settle to the soil where they'll decompose. Longer clippings tend to ride more on top of the grass rather than settling.

# The Wire

News You Can Use!

Burbank Water and Power's Online Newsletter  
for Burbank Businesses.



Hey, Burbank businesses! Email BWP's Alfred Antoun at [AAntoun@BurbankCA.gov](mailto:AAntoun@BurbankCA.gov) and he will happily add you to the distribution list of **The Wire**, our monthly online newsletter specifically catered to businesses.

**The Wire** features technical and business issues important to businesses looking for insights on optimal operations. But, all work and no play can be boring, so each issue also contains some fun, off-the-wall content! Sure, watching a 2-minute video on "Best Energy-Saving Opportunities for Motors" is a good investment of your time, but so is learning how a curveball is thrown (something called the "Magnus Effect" is involved).

**Let us sign you up. Email Alfred today. And, read on to find out about the Magnus Effect.**

### 1. Getting a grip

Throwing a curveball starts with the grip. While there are variations, the standard curveball grip involves placing the middle and index finger along the top seam of the ball and the thumb along the bottom.



### 2. Spin control

During the throwing motion, the palm of the hand faces inward toward the ear. As the ball is released, a snap of the wrist toward home plate creates a forward spinning motion.

### 3. Going against the flow

Once the ball leaves the pitcher's hand, physics take over. As the ball travels toward home plate, it pushes against air flowing in the opposite direction.

Because of the rotation, the seams and the ball itself are dragging air along with it. The bottom of the ball moves with the air, but the top is moving in the opposite direction.

This slows down the air at the top of the ball, because it's moving into the wind and speeds it up at the bottom, creating a pressure difference.

**This acts as a force, pushing the air downward from higher to lower air pressure. This force is known as the 'Magnus Effect'.**

Different grips and releases make the ball move in different ways, bringing pitches such as sliders, sinkers and change-ups into play.



# Track Your Water Usage Online

This summer, the last paper issue of Home Water Reports was mailed to single-family households. Now, all information is online — and available to Burbank businesses as well as residents!

Just go to **BWP.watersmart.com**. You can view your hourly water usage, get insights into how your home or business consumes water, compare your usage to similar homes, and get water-saving tips.



# Did You Know?

BWP has an entire gardening website located within our main website. At the click of your mouse, **Burbank Water-Wise Gardening** provides you with a dizzying amount of information and images about gardens and plants, along with resources on garden design, maintenance and irrigation. The site is broken down by categories including: trees, shrubs, ground covers, California native plants, plants that attract butterflies or hummingbirds, plants best suited for containers, fast-growing plants, and ones for small spaces.



Check it out! Just go to **BurbankWaterAndPower.com** and search for 'Water-Wise Gardening'.

# "We Never Know the Worth of Water 'Til the Well is Dry" - Thomas Fuller

We've all breathed a collective sigh of relief for finally being out of an epic, multi-year drought. Many of us will likely go back to old water use habits...and that can make us lose sight of how valuable water really is. So, we thought we'd share some water stats to remind us about the value of water.

- **Water is heavy.** A gallon of water weighs 8.34 pounds.
- **On your bill, water is sold in units of 100 cubic feet or HCF.** 1 HCF equals 748 gallons and weighs over 6,000 pounds.
- **BWP's water rates remain the lowest in the region.** BWP charges residents about \$3.03 per HCF, for the first 15 HCF (or 11,220 gallons). If your household uses more than 15 HCF per month, the HCF price goes up about 30 cents.
- **If your home used 10 HCF...**You'd pay about \$30 for 31 tons of water.
- **Much of the water we use in Burbank travels hundreds of miles to get to us.** Southern California relies on water imported from northern California and the Colorado River. We also get water from local groundwater sources, but Burbank doesn't own the rights to that water — we pay for it.
- **On average, a family of four uses about 165,000 gallons annually.** That's enough water to fill about half the length of a football field, one foot deep!
- **Delivered safe and pressured to your taps.** BWP provides you and your family with treated water that is safe to drink and pressurized so that it flows out of your taps on demand.
- **Bottled water can cost 2,000 times as much as tap water.** You're paying a lot for the convenience of water pre-bottled for you. (And, don't even get us started on the environmental cost of all that plastic ending up in our oceans and landfills.)
- **A scarcity of clean drinking water is the sobering reality for much of the planet.** According to recent research out of the Netherlands, over half of the world's population suffers from severe water scarcity.

**We're fortunate to live in a place where all the safe drinking water we need is delivered directly to our homes at an affordable cost.**

For information on Burbank's water quality, rates and conservation programs, please visit us at **BurbankWaterAndPower.com**

## Burbank's Watering Schedule

**3 DAYS PER WEEK**  
TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY  
Up to 15 minutes/irrigation station, before 9 a.m or after 6 p.m.

Hand watering is allowed any day at any time.





*Always There for You!*

**Please  
use  
water  
and  
energy  
wisely.**

**Postal Customer**

PRSRSTD  
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Permit No. 72

ECRWSS



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Scan the barcode with your smartphone to go directly to our Twitter page.



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## How to Contact Us.

Customer Service: (818) 238-3700

Water Services: (818) 238-3500

Electric Services: (818) 238-3575

Conservation Services: (818) 238-3730

Street Light Outages: (818) 238-3575

After-hours Emergency: (818) 238-3778

ONEBurbank: (818) 238-3113

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Visit us online at:  
[BurbankWaterAndPower.com](http://BurbankWaterAndPower.com)

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