

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1: What is the Candlelight Dinner?

A: The [Candlelight Dinner](#) is a one-night event where restaurants volunteer to turn down their lights and offer dinner by candlelight to raise awareness about energy conservation. By turning down their lights, restaurants are demonstrating in a fun and unique way how simple actions – like flicking a switch – can add up to make a big difference when it comes to saving energy.

The Candlelight Dinner will take place on **Wednesday, October 22** in select communities across BC in partnership with various Community Partner organizations. A complete list of participating restaurants and our Community Partners can be found at powersmart.ca/candlelight in October.

Q2: What is the purpose of this event?

A: The Candlelight Dinner is a fun and unique opportunity to remind people about the simple actions we can all take to make a big difference when it comes to conservation and will take place on Wednesday, October 22.

This event is meant to remind us that wasting energy is just as ridiculous as excessive water use or not recycling and a candlelight dinner demonstrates that incorporating simple, energy-efficient actions – like turning off some lights – is a great way to help with the conservation effort.

Q3: When is the one-night event?

A: October 22, 2014, Wednesday evening

Q4: How will this event be promoted?

BC Hydro will communicate to customers about the Candlelight Dinner through our [website](#), eNewsletters, the news media, face-to-face and social media channels.

Our goal is to drive business (diners) to participating restaurants on the night of the event and create awareness around the event's conservation message.

BC Hydro Social Media Channels:

Candlelight Dinner Hashtag:	#pscandlelight
Twitter:	@PowerSmartBC
Facebook:	BC Hydro Facebook page

Community Partners and restaurants will also promote the Candlelight Dinner through their own promotional channels.

Q5: Which communities will be involved?

- A:**
- Dawson Creek
 - Nanaimo
 - Vancouver
 - Fort St. John
 - Prince George
 - Victoria
 - Lake Country
 - Quesnel
 - West Shore (Colwood, Langford, Sooke)

Q6: Which restaurants are participating in the Candlelight Dinner?

A: In October a complete list of participating restaurants will be listed on powersmart.ca/candlelight. Restaurants are recruited for this event by Community Partner organizations in select cities across the province.

A full list of our partners can also be found at powersmart.ca/candlelight

Q7: How many restaurants are participating?

A: Last year, over 75 restaurants took part in select communities across the province. This year, we hope to have even more restaurants dimming the lights in the name of energy conservation.

Q8: Do I need to make a reservation?

A: We advise contacting individual restaurants to inquire whether they recommend a reservation for the evening of October 22.

Q9: What special offers are available?

A: Special offers* will vary by restaurant, such as: free appetizer with purchase of an entrée, free dessert with purchase of an entrée, 15% off (exclusive of gratuities, alcohol & tax), 2 for 1 entrée and other great deals.

For a complete list of participating restaurants and their offers, check out powersmart.ca/candlelight in October.

*Offers valid October 22, 2014 only at the customer's mention of the Candlelight Dinner. Additional restrictions are up to the discretion of individual restaurants. This promotion is funded by the participating restaurant.

Q10: How do I redeem the special offers?

A: First, check powersmart.ca/candlelight to see what offers are available at each restaurant. On the night of the event, visit the restaurant of your choice and mention the Candlelight Dinner offer to your server prior to ordering.

Q11: I'm a restaurant owner / employee – how can my restaurant take part?

A: This year registration was exclusive to members of our Community Partners. For a list of partner associations, please visit powersmart.ca/candlelight

Q12: Will restaurants be expected to turn off all their lights?

A: Restaurants will only be asked to dim their lights to a level that is still comfortable and safe for their customers and staff. The right balance of electric lighting versus candles is at the discretion of each restaurant.

Q13: Will energy savings be measured for this event?

A: Energy savings will be relatively small and difficult to measure for this event. The Candlelight Dinner is a symbolic action that helps restaurants and diners show their support for reducing our energy needs in a fun and unique way.

Restaurants will be encouraged to continue their conservation efforts after the event and will receive support from BC Hydro where possible to help them achieve ongoing and significant energy conservation.

Power Smart programs offer businesses the tools, resources and financial incentives needed to enjoy all the benefits of a greener and more energy-efficient operation. Customers can learn more at bchydro.com/powersmart

Q14: Are candles an energy efficient alternative?

A: We're not suggesting the use of candles as an energy-saving alternative to efficient lighting. This event is promoting behaviours that eliminate wasteful energy use, not the use of candles.

Since many restaurants typically use candles as part of their regular dinner service, by turning off or turning down the lights – they will be consuming less electricity than on a typical night.

For tips on energy-efficient lighting options, check out bchydro.com/powersmart

If restaurants plan on burning candles, it's recommended to use 100% beeswax candles or soy candles, which are gentler on our planet - smoke free, non-toxic and non-allergenic. Candles should never be left unattended and should be kept away from flammable liquids and combustible materials such as paper, curtains and clothing.

Q15: How much can you save if you did turn off a light in the evening?

A: Turning off lights is free. Breaking old lighting habits is the challenge.

The moment a light is turned off, it stops using energy, so your savings add up by the minute. If every household in B.C. turned off a 100-watt incandescent light for four hours each day, each bulb could save about 3.3 cents a day. It would also save the province 227 GWh, which could power Whistler for 12 years.