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## Need e-Help?

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**You Can Help Metro Make the Time Change** In order to help Metro make the shift to Daylight Saving Time, shut down your computer when you leave work today. If you work a shift on Saturday, Feb. 17, shut down your computer at the end of your shift. Daylight Saving Time will affect 128 to 145 Metro computer applications, including FIS, HASTAS, TOPS and Transit Safe.

## Daylight Saving Time Springs Early This Year

- Time synchronization on all Metro computers will be affected
- Shift could affect up to 145 Metro computer applications

By NED RACINE

(Feb. 16, 2007) Metro employees will be springing forward a little earlier this year and Information Technology Services (ITS) will be working to ensure the agency's computers will spring with them.

The old trick of remembering how to reset clocks for Daylight Saving Time—*Spring forward and Fall back*—will be needed earlier this year because of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, changing the beginning and end dates of Daylight Saving Time for the first time since 1987.

Sunday, March 11, marks the beginning of Daylight Saving Time this year, in contrast with April 2 last year. The end date will be Sunday, Nov. 4, compared with Oct. 29 last year. The new dates will extend Daylight Saving Time by one month compared with 2006.

For Metro, the new Daylight Saving Time schedule means the time synchronization on all computers will be affected. Also affected, according to Steven Timberman, director of Information Management, are 128 to 145 computer applications such as, FIS, HASTAS, TOPS and Transit Safe.

ITS already has begun the process so that "March 11 would be a non-event," said Chief Information Officer Elizabeth Bennett. ITS will apply the second series of system updates on Saturday.

For the system changes to take effect, computer users will need to shut down their machines when they leave work, today, or at the end of their Saturday, Feb. 17, shift.

## Ol' Ben thought of it first

Benjamin Franklin first suggested the idea of Daylight Saving Time in an essay published in Paris in 1784.

Since 1966, most of the United States has observed Daylight Saving Time from 2 a.m. on the first Sunday of April to 2 a.m. on the last

Sunday of October.

The hour of 2 a.m. was originally selected as the changeover time because most people would be at home, the fewest trains were running then and the continental United States would make the changeover by daylight.

American Samoa, Arizona (except the Navajo Indian Reservation), Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands do not observe Daylight Saving Time.

On its website ([www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov)), the California Energy Commission cites U.S. Department of Transportation studies from the 1970s that showed United States electricity usage was reduced 1 percent for each day of Daylight Saving Time.