CLALLAM COUNTY PUD #1™

Bringing Energy To Life™

HOTLINE

News From Your Public Power Utility • Spring 2012

Photos clockwise from top left:

Paul Wikel, Meter Reader, working his route.

Janet Sundby and Linda King on the PUD's Monthly KONP Radio Appearance – Tune in to KONP Radio at 1:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

Larry Morris demonstrating electrical safety at an elementary school.

PUD Headquarters on a sunny day.

Josh Bunch, PUD Treasurer/ Controller, speaking at a local Rotary.

Jenean Keate, Michael Currie, and Arne Traceski working the 2012 NPBA Sequim Expo

INSIDE:

Clallam County PUD
PO Box 1090
Port Angeles, WA 98362

Postal Customer

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Olympic Mailing Services
ECRWSS

PUD Mission: Providing reliable, efficient, safe and low-cost utility services in a financially and environmentally responsible manner.

Dear PUD Customers,

May is National Electrical Safety Month, so what better opportunity to emphasize the importance of safety than in this edition of *HotLine*. Safety is a priority at the PUD and is something all of our employees are committed to both at work and home. It is part of our culture and we hope it's part of yours.

NASS

In the United States, home electrical failures or malfunctions cause more than 50,000 fires each year, resulting in 450 deaths, nearly 1,500 injuries, and over $1.5 billion in property damage, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). To help prevent electrical fires and incidents, it is vital that consumers know the ins and outs of their electrical system and understand the safety concerns associated with the latest residential technologies before bringing them into their homes.

Each year the PUD works to promote its public safety message through our publications like this, newspaper advertisements, radio spots, public presentations, and our high voltage safety demonstration at schools.

Whether it's the "Call Before You Dig" (811) message, the "Look Up and Live" message, or another safety message I hope you have heard these many times and will hear them many times in the future. I encourage you to visit our web site, www.clallampud.net, and review the important safety information offered there.

We are fully committed to safety as one of our core values, and we hope you will do the same.

Wishing you a safe summer,

PUD General Manager

Contact PUD

PO Box 1090
Port Angeles, WA 98362
360-452-9771
Toll-free: (800) 542-7859
info@clallampud.net
www.clallampud.net

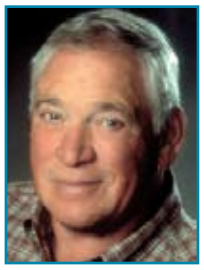
Fuel Mix

Your PUD's electricity comes from the following fuel mix:

Hydroelectric:	76.55%
Biomass:	0.22%
Coal:	7.62%
Landfill Gases:	0.02%
Natural Gas:	2.82%
Nuclear:	12.54%
Petroleum:	0.07%
Waste:	0.14%
Other:	0.02%

Commissioners

Clallam County Public Utility District #1 is directed by a three-member board of commissioners elected by the citizens of the county. Our Board holds public meetings most Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at our Port Angeles office, 2431 East Highway 101. Call (360) 565-3231 or (800) 542-7859, or visit www.clallampud.net, for more information.

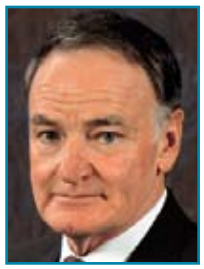


Ted Simpson

President, District #3

Ted Simpson was elected in 1985. He represents the 3rd District, which is the West part of the County. Commissioner Simpson is a proponent for safe, reliable, and affordable utility service for all PUD customers. "Our current challenge will be to integrate new renewable (Green) resources into our system at an affordable cost, while complying with State and Federal Laws".

teds@clallampud.net • (360) 565-3525



Will Purser

Vice President, District #1

Will Purser has served as District 1 PUD Commissioner since appointment in April 2001. He represents the 1st District, which is the Eastern part of the County. Commissioner Purser recognizes that the issues of energy, water, and waste disposal are critical to the quality of life of Clallam County residents now and in the future. He also serves on the Energy Northwest Board of Directors' Executive Board. Energy Northwest is a Joint Operating Agency of 28 public utilities operating nuclear, hydroelectric, wind, and solar projects.

wepurser@clallampud.net • 360-565-3512

Hugh Haffner

Secretary, District 2

Hugh Haffner has been Commissioner since 1994, when he was appointed to a two year term. He represents the 2nd District, which encompasses areas surrounding the City of Port Angeles. Commissioner Haffner has been working with municipal, state and federal officials to bring fiber optic backbone to the county and researching and developing strategies for a county-wide fiber optic network. With real-time, two-way connections to our power stations and our customers we can regulate power flow and provide better, more economical service.

hughh@clallampud.net • 360-565-3521

"GREEN" ENERGY

DISCUSSION OF PROS & CONS

Energy Northwest's Columbia Generating Station – A Nuclear Power Plant near the Tri Cities, WA

By Commissioner Will Purser

Recently I had the opportunity to appear on a national web radio program and discuss issues in the electric utility industry. Beyond providing a general overview of public power and the industry in general, we spent significant time discussing so-called "green energy." While most would agree we need to do what we can to help the environment it's also important to understand the costs associated with green energy; that there are environmental impacts even with green energy, and this green energy needs to be "firmed up" with more reliable energy sources.

I also spent some time talking about nuclear energy and my position on the Executive Board of Energy Northwest. In addition to talking about how nuclear energy works and some of the broader issues associated with the industry, I discussed some of the pros of it, like it does not produce greenhouse gases, as well as some of the challenges, like storage issues related to nuclear waste.

The experience on this web radio program, overall, was positive. I embrace the opportunity to engage in a dialogue on these important energy issues, and yes, these broad issues are the same issues we regularly deal with at the PUD.

If you're interested in hearing the interview, we have posted it on the PUD web site – just click the PUD radio icon on the home page at www.clallampud.net.

The PUD needs your help!

We need open and easy access to your electric and water meters to quickly find equipment if there's a leak, or the power goes out – and to read meters efficiently.

Things That Cause Problems:

Overgrown shrubs and grass, tree branches, landscaping and fresh bark (covering water meters), debris at the meter site, changes to structures which enclose meters, and other plants that block access.

And Other Problems:

Aggressive dogs and locked gates can pose a safety issue for personnel and keep us from reading your meter on a regular basis.

What You Can Do:

Leave at least a three foot clearance around both water and electric meters. Keep gates unlocked, dogs restricted, pathways clear, shrubs trimmed and obstructions removed. Don't paint equipment or remove any decals.

With over 36,000 meters to read monthly, these obstructions can cause delays in the meter reader's progress. If you are unaware of the locations of your water or electric meters, please contact the PUD at 360-452-9771.

Thank you for your cooperation as we strive to be as safe, efficient and cost effective as possible, while still providing you with excellent customer service.

CLALLAM COUNTY PUD™ #1
Bringing Energy To Life™

May is National Electrical Safety Month, and Clallam County PUD is joining with the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) to raise awareness about potential home electrical hazards and the importance of electrical safety. This year's campaign educates the public about emerging technologies and the electrical hazards associated with them.

Safety first

The importance of electrical safety

In the United States, home electrical failures or malfunctions cause more than 50,000 fires each year, resulting in 450 deaths, nearly 1,500 injuries, and over $1.5 billion in property damage, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). To help prevent electrical fires and incidents, it is vital that consumers know the ins and outs of their electrical system and understand the safety concerns associated with the latest residential technologies before bringing them into their homes.

"We are inundated with news about the increasing prevalence of new technologies and renewable energy sources, but there is not a lot of information readily available to educate consumers about the potential electrical safety hazards," explains Larry Morris, PUD Safety Manager. "Consumers need to be well educated about these new technologies and be sure to have an electrical system evaluation performed before adding new components to their home electrical system."

ESFI is also reminding consumers that there are simple improvements that can be made to any home to increase electrical safety without undertaking a major renovation. This includes the installation of arc fault circuit interrupters that prevent fires by detecting hazardous arcing conditions, ground fault circuit interrupters that prevent shocks, and tamper resistant receptacles that replace standard wall outlets to protect children from shocks and burns.

Electrical safety awareness and education among consumers, families, employees, and communities will prevent electrical fires, injuries, and fatalities. Learn more about home electrical safety by visiting the PUD's web site at www.clallampud.net or ESFI's Virtual Home at http://virtualhome.esfi.org.

KILL-A-WATT ENERGY DETECTOR TOOLKIT

CLALLAM COUNTY PUD™ Bringing Energy To Life™

NOLS NORTH OLYMPIC LIBRARY SYSTEM www.nols.org

Clallam County PUD and the North Olympic Library System (NOLS) are partnering to offer residents a way to measure energy use in their homes. Residents are now able to check out a Kill-a-Watt™ Energy Detector Toolkit at any NOLS library for up to a week at a time.

The Kill-A-Watt™ device measures the amount of electricity various household appliances use. It calculates how much money or energy is being spent on an hourly, daily, monthly or yearly basis, allowing you more control over your energy usage!

Clallam Public Utility District and the North Olympic Library System - your partners in conservation!

www.clallampud.net www.nols.org

811 Know what's below. Call before you dig.

Before digging, excavating, setting a mailbox, fence post or planting trees and shrubs, remember to call 8-1-1 for a locate of underground utilities.

Clallam County PUD and ESFI are reminding consumers about the importance of home safety devices that provide safety enhancements without requiring major renovations. These devices include arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs), ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs), and tamper resistant receptacles (TRRs).

Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters (AFCIs)

■ An arc fault is a dangerous electrical problem caused by damaged, overheated, or stressed electrical wiring or devices.

■ Arcing faults are one of the major causes of the more than 50,000 home electrical fires that occur each year in the United States.

■ AFCIs replace standard circuit breakers in the home's electrical service panel and provide a higher level of electrical fire protection by detecting hazardous arcing conditions and shutting down the electricity before a fire can start.

■ While AFCIs were originally only required to protect bedroom circuits, the 2011 National Electrical Code (NEC) requires that this technology be installed in additional areas of the home, including dining rooms and living rooms.

■ Although the new safety requirements apply to newly constructed homes, older homes with aging wiring systems can also benefit from the added protection provided by AFCIs.

■ AFCIs should only be installed or replaced by a licensed, qualified electrician.

■ AFCIs must be tested monthly to ensure they are working properly.

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs)

■ A GFCI is a device designed to protect people from shock and electrocution.

■ GFCIs constantly monitor electricity flowing in a circuit, and quickly switch off power if they sense any loss of current.

■ GFCIs could prevent over two-thirds of home electrocutions that occur each year according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

■ GFCIs can be installed at the main service panel, in place of standard electrical outlets, or can be used as a portable device.

■ Typically, GFCIs are installed in areas where water and electricity are in close proximity, such as the bathroom, garage, kitchen, and basement.

■ GFCIs should be tested monthly, as they can be damaged as a result of voltage surges from lightning, utility switching or normal usage.

■ While GFCIs should be installed by a licensed electrician, portable GFCIs require no tools to install.

Tamper Resistant Receptacles (TRRs)

■ TRRs look just like ordinary outlets, but are designed with spring-loaded receptacle cover plates that close off the receptacle openings, or slots.

■ When equal pressure is simultaneously applied to both sides, the receptacle cover plates open to allow the standard plug to make contact with the receptacle contact points.

■ Without simultaneous pressure, the cover plates remain closed, preventing insertion of foreign objects and protecting your children from painful, traumatic electrical injuries.

■ Every year in the United States, more than 2,400 children under ten years old are treated in hospital emergency rooms for electric shock or burns caused by tampering with a wall outlet, which could be prevented by installing TRRs in the home.

■ Tamper resistant receptacles have proven to be so effective that the 2011 National Electrical Code (NEC) requires installation of TRRs in all new homes.

Did you know?

Your PUD offers free presentations for your organization? If you're in need of a speaker, perhaps a High Voltage Safety Demonstration is just the thing to get your groups' juice flowing!

CLALLAM COUNTY PUD
Bringing Energy To Life™

Much of the information on these pages is courtesy of The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI). ESFI sponsors National Electrical Safety Month each May to increase public awareness of the electrical hazards around us at home, work, school, and play. ESFI is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to promoting electrical safety. For more information about ESFI and electrical safety, visit www.electrical-safety.org.

Appliances and home electronics

By Mattias Jarvegren
Utility Services Advisor II

If you live in a typical U.S. home, your appliances and home electronics are responsible for about 20% of your electrical bill. To effectively do something about that energy use, it's important to understand how your appliances use electricity.

In most homes the refrigerator and freezer are the largest energy-using appliances. With most appliances you save energy by using them less, but you can't very well do that with your fridge and freezer. The main way to save money with your fridge and freezer combo is to use an efficient model. New refrigerators and freezers aren't just a little more efficient, they're incredibly more efficient.

If your fridge was made before 2001, then yes, you should almost certainly considering trading it in. Older fridges are wildly inefficient. The best modern models use less than half of what 1993-2000 fridges used and for older fridges the benefit can be even more striking.

Your laundry energy cost is the appliance energy cost that is the easiest to control. In a clothes washer 90% of the energy used goes to heat the water. That is why you can save a bundle just making sure you wash your laundry in cold water, and only use the hot water setting when you absolutely need it.

Along with your clothes washer comes the clothes dryer, accounting for a whopping 12% of electricity use in a typical household. Unfortunately, there's not much you can do about saving energy drying your clothes. In our climate it's simply impractical to hang-dry clothes, even if you wanted to, and there are no energy efficient dryers.

Just like a clothes washer, most of the energy used by a dishwasher goes to heating the water. But, unlike a clothes washer, a dishwasher doesn't have a cool water setting because the hot water is needed to also sanitize the dishes. If you do have an old model, national efficiency standards require that new models use less than half the water that old models used (made before 1994).

Water heating in most homes account for the second largest energy use, after space heating. But since all electric water heaters are essentially 100% efficient at heating the water, there is little by way of improvement. What sets an energy efficient water heater apart from an older unit is the tank insulation, since most water heaters sit unused most of the day, full of hot water.

Over the past three decades, the share of residential electricity used by appliances and electronics in U.S. homes has nearly doubled from 17% to 31%. While most home appliances have become more efficient over the past 30 years, the average U.S. household uses many more consumer electronics — in particular, personal computers, televisions and related devices.

Back in 1978, personal computers were expensive and not typically used by U.S. households. Today, 76% of U.S. homes have at least one computer, eight percentage points more than just four years prior, and 35% have multiple computers.

When it comes to shopping for and comparing energy-efficient appliances and home electronics, look for the ENERGY STAR® and EnergyGuide labels.

The ENERGY STAR® labels appear on appliances and home electronics that meet strict energy efficiency criteria established by the U.S. Department of Energy and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The ENERGY STAR® labeling program includes most home electronics and appliances except for stove ranges and ovens.

Also, The Federal Trade Commission requires EnergyGuide labels on most home appliances (except for stove ranges and ovens), but not home electronics, such as computers, televisions, and home audio equipment. EnergyGuide labels provide an estimate of the product's energy consumption or energy efficiency. They also show the highest and lowest energy consumption or efficiency estimates of similar appliance models.

Before you purchase a new major appliance contact us at Clallam County PUD. We have rebates for energy-efficient water heaters, clothes washers, refrigerators and freezers. Most importantly, we want all of Clallam County PUD's customers: residential, commercial and industrial alike, to know that we are here to help you with conservation planning and questions. Please go to our website, www.clallampud.net or call us — (360) 565-3249 or (800) 542-7859 x249.

2431 E. Highway 101 • PO Box 1090 • Port Angeles, WA 98362
360-452-9771 • www.clallampud.net

CLALLAM COUNTY PUD
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Saving money on your water bill

By Mike Kitz, Water and Wastewater Systems Superintendent

A significant issue facing the PUD Water Department is the identification and repair of leaks. Finding water leaks can save you water, which means saving money on your water bill. Follow these easy steps to determine if you have a leak in a home or irrigation system.

Step 1.

First, locate your meter box. It is generally located near the road right-of-way in front of your home. It's important to make sure the meter box lid is visible at all times. If you have trouble locating your water meter, inquire at any PUD office.

Step 2.

Turn all water-using appliances off so that no water is being used. This means turning off all water inside and outside the house including showers, sinks, washing machines, ice makers and any appliance that uses water. If you have an automatic irrigation system, turn off the controller.

• Carefully remove the meter box lid by using a tool such as a large screwdriver.

• The meter uses a straight-reading dial which is read similar to a car's odometer. The meter measures water use in cubic feet of water. There are 7.48 gallons in every cubic foot of water.

• The small pointer or dial near the center of the meter is the flow indicator and should not move if you are not using any water inside or outside the home. If the flow indicator is moving, you may have a leak.

Step 3.

• If there is no indicator and the actual meter dial hand is moving, water is running somewhere in your system and you have a leak – go to step 4.

• If the hand is not moving, note the position of the hand and dial. Wait 60 minutes. Check the meter again, if the hand or dial has moved, you have a slow leak - go to step 4.

• If no movement is recorded, you probably don't have a leak.

Step 4.

To isolate the leak, turn the water off to your house. Your home's valve is usually located under the outside faucet near the front of the house. With all water turned off in the house, there should be no movement of the small pointer or any of the dials on the meter.

Step 5.

If the leak indicator or dial hand is still moving, water is flowing between the meter and the shut-off valve. That means you could have a leak between the meter and the valve where water enters your home. This is called the "service line."

Step 6.

Check your irrigation system. If you have leaks in your irrigation system, they may not be noticeable unless your system is running. Turn your controller on manually and walk your property looking for broken sprinkler heads, missing emitters (which will produce small streams of water) or breaks in irrigation piping or tubing. Check for leaks inside the house including toilets, washing machines, faucets, etc.

Step 7.

To check a toilet for a leak: Add 2 or 3 drops of food coloring to the water in the reservoir or tank. Wait 15-30 minutes. If the water in the bowl changes colors, the rubber flapper needs to be replaced.

Step 8.

Congratulate yourself! You've just completed a leak-detection investigation.

If you have questions, need help or suspect there may be a water leak on the District's side of your water meter, please call our Water Department at 360-452-9771.

Here are a few Outdoor Water Conservation tips from our partner at "Water Use It Wisely"

Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.

Use drip irrigation for shrubs and trees to apply water directly to the roots where it's needed.

Next time you add or replace a flower or shrub, choose a low water use plant for year-round landscape color and save up to 550 gallons each year.

Don't water your lawn on windy days. After all, sidewalks and driveways don't need water.

Adjust your watering schedule each month to match seasonal weather conditions and landscape requirements.

For more water conservation tips, visit www.wateruseitwisely.com.

WATER USE IT WISELY

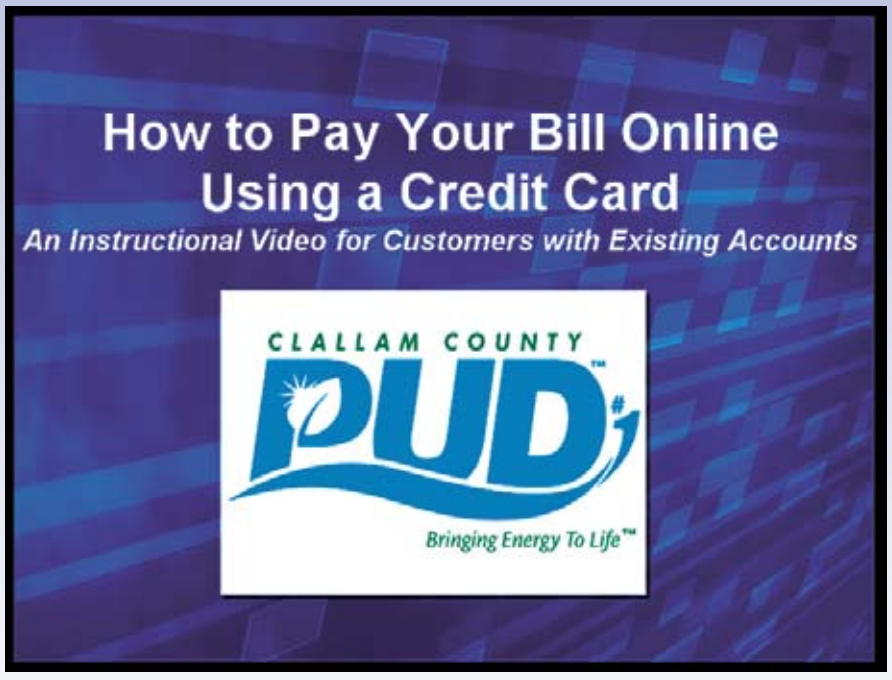
Weekly Conservation Tips on Facebook

One of the things the PUD uses its Facebook page for is to share weekly conservation tips. These tips cover the gamut, from electric to water, and from no cost to those that do cost.

Here's a sample of what you might see by "Liking" us on Facebook:

- Check the seal around your fridge and freezer doors to ensure a tight fit.
- Examine and adjust, if necessary, weather stripping, door sweeps, and thresholds.
- Maximize your home's lighting potential by moving floor lamps into the corners of your rooms.
- Install a low-flow showerhead.
- Install foam gaskets behind outlet & switch-plate covers.
- Insulate floors over unheated spaces to R-19.
- When replacing your appliances, buy ENERGY STAR® certified appliances.

Be sure to LIKE the PUD on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ClallamPUD



Did you know you can pay your bill online? We even have an easy to follow video tutorial available to assist you. Simply visit www.clallampud.net and look for the blue eServices Center box on the right hand side of the home page.

Win a Free "Kill-A-Watt" detector!

"Like" us on Facebook *www.facebook.com/ClallamPUD* for conservation tips, PUD-related photos, links to videos, information about PUD employees in the community, news and more.

Visit our page during the month of June for contest details!

Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Donate to the Neighborly Assistance Program

By donating a few dollars a month, you can help keep the lights on for a growing number of needy families and seniors. Through our Neighborly Assistance Program, you can bring light and warmth to your Clallam County neighbors through one-time or recurring donations to any or all of the following agencies: Sequim Community Aid, Sequim St. Vincent de Paul, and Olympic Community Action Programs. It's simple! Just complete the form below, enclose it with your bill payment and/or drop it off at a PUD office. The form is also available online:

www.clallampud.net/customer_service/NeighborlyAssistance.pdf

Neighborly Assistance Program

Name:_____ Acct. No.:_____

Address:_____ Phone No.:_____

My choices for participation in the Neighborly Assistance Program are indicated below. This replaces any previous pledges.

☐ I prefer to be billed, beginning with my next statement, as follows:

☐ Please bill $_____ for _____ months.

☐ Please bill $_____ every month until I contact the PUD to cancel.

☐ I prefer a one-time contribution of $_____

I want my one-time or monthly contribution of: $_____ to Sequim Community Aid

$_____ to Sequim St. Vincent de Paul

$_____ to go to Olympic Community Action Programs

Signature:_____ Date:_____