



Skamania County PUD's

News From the Wire

**Feb—Mar 2016
Edition**

Published Bi-Monthly

**PUD #1 of
Skamania County**

**PO Box 500
1492 Wind River
Hwy.
Carson WA 98610**

Office Hours:

8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

www.skamaniapud.com

Phone: 509-427-5126

Toll Free: 800-922-5329

Fax: 509-427-8416

**Board of
Commissioners**

Meeting Schedule

9 a.m.

Monday 2/01/16

Tuesday 2/15/16

Monday 3/07/16

Monday 3/21/16

Monday 4/04/16

Monday 4/18/16

Remodeling? Building a new home or purchasing a manufactured home? Replacing appliances or lighting? If your answer is yes to any of these questions, are you aware that there are likely energy efficiency rebates available to you through the PUD?

The Source: The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) funds an energy efficiency (EE) program where they establish a bi-annual budget for each of their customers to accomplish approved energy efficiency projects. BPA's EE program is funded by the rates they collect from their wholesale electric customers. The PUD Board of Commissioners has elected to pass all of the PUD's EE Incentive budget on to you, our customers. Since the PUD is predominantly a residential service provider, the Board has allocated 85% of the budget for residential EE projects and 15% for commercial and industrial EE projects. The PUD utilizes the expertise of Efficiency Services Group (ESG) to administer the local EE program.

What qualifies for EE rebates?

- Insulation – attic, floor and wall
- Exterior window and door replacement
- Ducted and ductless heat pumps
- Duct sealing
- LED lamps and fixtures
- Clothes washer
- Heat pump water heaters
- New manufactured homes

How do I take advantage of the program? Before you start your project or make your purchase, it is important to be sure your project qualifies for an EE rebate. For some items, that is as simple as comparing the product specifications to the PUD rebate schedule to verify the minimum EE requirements are met for that product. Following your purchase, complete and submit the appropriate rebate form. Other projects like insulation replacement or upgrade will require a project pre-audit to determine the available rebate. When the work is complete, a post-inspection is done to verify the project scope was accomplished. ESG completes these project audits and inspections at no cost to you.

Want more information? You can find more information on the Conservation tab of the PUD website, at <http://www.skamaniapud.com/conservation/>. There you will find answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ), the rebate schedule specifying all available rebates, and contact information so you can get your specific questions answered.

Please take advantage of the PUD's Energy Efficiency program. You can reduce the cost of your project, reduce your PUD power bill, and conserve the natural resources used to generate the electricity you use.

Brent Bischoff
General Manager

What to Do When the Power Goes Out

If an outage occurs:

- Check your breakers. If your power is still off, then...
- Call the PUD at 509-427-5126 or 800-922-5329. Be prepared to give your name, physical address and phone number where you can be reached.
- Turn off your lights and electric heaters. Leave one light on to see when power is restored and a porch light, if possible, so that our crews can easily see when your power is restored. Reducing system load aids in reenergization.

Here are some other helpful tips:

- Protect your electronic equipment with quality surge suppressors
- Keep laptop computers fully charged
- Have at least one working cellular phone, or “corded” phone in the house since cordless phones do not work during power outages
- Keep a written list of important contact information, phone numbers etc.

If you use a generator, please be sure it is installed properly to ensure your safety and the safety of our line workers. Never plug a backup power generator into an outlet. Use it to power individual appliances only. Permanently installed generators require a transfer switch to isolate them from the PUD power system. If you don't take these precautions, the power from the generator can flow backwards into our system, jeopardizing the safety of repair crews working on the lines.

NEW!!

Pay by e-check! Call the office for details!



Yearly Reminder: Check Your Water Heater Settings

Pursuant to Chapter 19.27A.060 RCW, it is recommended that water heaters be set no higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit to prevent severe burns and to reduce excessive energy consumption. If the minimum setting on a water heater is greater than 120 degrees Fahrenheit, it is recommended to set the water heater at the minimum setting.



Equal Pay Plan

If you are currently on the Equal Pay Plan, now is the time to make sure your actual account balance is \$250 or less. We will begin recalculating the monthly payment amounts for the current year in April & May.

If you would like to be added to the Equal Pay Plan for the current year, please contact our office.

See the enclosed flyer for more information.

News From the Wire

is an informational newsletter published by
Skamania County PUD for our customers.
Reader comments are welcome.

PUD Commissioners:

District 1..... Dennis Gale, Vice President
360-837-3862
District 2..... Curt Esch, President
509-427-8591
District 3..... Liz Green, Secretary
509-538-2568

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