

Skamania County PUD's

News From the Wire

**Feb.--March
2012
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.

Tuesday 2/21/12

Monday 03/05/12
Monday 03/19/12

Monday 04/02/12
Monday 04/16/12

What to Do When the Power Goes Out

The PUD crews work hard to maintain the continuity of your power. However, sometimes cases of extreme weather such as ice, snow, high winds, lightning and other natural phenomena subject our line equipment to more than it can handle. In these instances, it is prudent to have a "power outage safety kit" prepared. Here are some items that may be helpful:

- Hand-crank flashlight or one with fresh batteries
- Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- Three-day supply of drinking water (1 gallon per person per day)
- Non-perishable, easy-to-prepare food and a manual can opener
- Blankets
- A first aid kit
- Wood, if you have a fire place or wood stove
- Board and card games for your entertainment

Once you've assembled your emergency outage kit, let everyone in the family know where it is stored. The American Red Cross (www.redcross.org) has more detailed information on what should be included in a 72-hour emergency kit.

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 all appliances and lights. 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.

Continued on pg.2



A Skamania PUD lineman works to restore the power during the mid-January 2012 outages.

What to Do When the Power Goes Out, cont'd...

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.

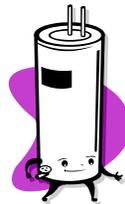
If you use a generator, please be sure it is installed properly to ensure your safety and the safety of our line workers. Never plug a backup power generator into an outlet. Use it to power individual appliances only. If you don't take precautions, the power from the generator can flow backwards into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

Robert Gentry, Interim Manager

Insert Power Poles Here...

Yearly Reminder: Check Your Water Heater Settings

1. It is recommended that water heaters be set at no higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit or the minimum setting on a water heater which cannot be set as low as 120 degrees to prevent severe burns and to reduce excessive energy consumption; and
2. The thermostat of an individual water heater furnished in a residential unit leased or rented in this State to new tenants shall be no higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit or the minimum setting on a water heater that cannot be set as low as 120 degrees, pursuant to Chapter 19.27A.060 RCW.



Downed Power Line? Don't Touch it!

Severe winter weather and wind storms can knock down power lines. If you see any type of downed line, don't touch it. Stay away, keep others away, **call 911** and then call us to report the problem.

If you're driving and see repair crews working on lines, be sure to slow down. We want you and our crews to stay safe. Thanks!

Employees Happy to Show Identification

Occasionally, a PUD employee may come to your door regarding meter reading or other services. Employees drive marked vehicles and carry identification cards. Feel free to ask for ID or to call the utility at 1-800-922-5329 to verify employment. Protect yourself and your family.

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, President
360-837-3862
District 3..... Clyde Leach, Vice President
509-493-3380
District 2..... Curt Esch, Secretary
509-427-8591

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