

Special Point of Interest:

SAFETY MESSAGE

LET'S GO FLY
A KITE.....

but let's do it
safely!

Fly kites in open fields away from power lines. If your kite should somehow drift near or into a line, do not touch the kite or string. Leave it alone! Call the PUD for help. Use only string to fly kites. Never use wire. Human bodies are good conductors of electricity since they are made mostly of water (70%) and water is a conductor. Another good reason you don't ever want to be in the path of electricity!

WATTS UP

Issue 08-2



OKANOGAN COUNTY PUD

"LOOK UP AND LIVE"

IRRIGATION PIPE AND YARD WORK

If changing irrigation pipe or spring cleaning and yard work are on your to-do list, remember to **look up and live**. Stay away from power lines when working with ladders, TV antennas, pruning equipment, etc. If any of these items touch a power line, the electric shock could kill or seriously injure you. Remember to carry tall items parallel to the ground so they don't touch the power lines.

MAY IS NATIONAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

Each year many Americans are injured in and around their homes. Unsafe conditions such as overloaded circuits and damaged insulation as well as the misuse of extension cords and electrical products create fire hazards and may result in electrocutions. Take a few minutes to look for and correct electrical safety hazards in your home. At Okanogan County PUD, employee and public safety is a year-round concern; not just in the month of May.

A COMMON MISCONCEPTION....

"I'm only digging a few inches in the ground so I don't need to worry about underground power lines".

Unfortunately this thought could cause you serious injury or death. So whether you are planning to build a fence, plant some perennials, dig out an old stump or do a major construction project, stay clear of underground utilities.

Call your underground utility locator service before you move earth in any way.

Don't wait until work is under way. Call well in advance to get information you need to do the job safely.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

1-800-424-5555.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

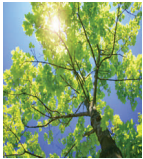
MAKE IT YOUR "CURRENT" CONCERN.



We're on the Web!
www.okanoganpud.org

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PO Box 912
Okanogan, WA 98840-0912
Phone: 509-422-3310

Landscaping is a natural and beautiful way to keep your home cool in the summer and reduce your energy bills. A well-placed tree, shrub, or vine can deliver effective shade, act as a windbreak, and reduce overall energy bills. *However,*



Your PUD offers a **Tree Replacement Program**. Customers may be eligible to receive a “utility friendly” tree as replacement for trees removed under the program. Tree replacement will be decided on a case-by-case basis. Generally, no tree will be removed without the landowner’s permission, but in some cases the PUD must remove a tree to protect utility infrastructure. The main goal is to eliminate interference with overhead wires and reduce hazardous conditions. If you are interested in the Tree Replacement Program, contact our Right of Way Superintendent at (509) 422-8473 or visit our website.

SPRING CLEANING CLEAR A PATH FOR METER READERS

Have you inspected the area around your electric meter recently? Is it difficult to get to? Is the path hidden by tall grass or covered with wet leaves? Is the path obstructed by fallen branches or debris? Is the meter hidden by bushes? Does the cement or decking on the way to the meter become slick when wet? Is the area flooded or muddy during wet times of the year? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please take the time to correct these problems and make the pathway safe for your meter reader. It is important that our meters be accessible for monthly reading, periodic maintenance and for emergencies.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR HELP!

SAVINGS MAKES CENTS

WAYS TO \$AVE

“We consider you a very important person.”

FROM ENERGY EFFICIENT PROGRAMS AND REBATES, TO IMPROVEMENTS TO HELP YOU SAVE ENERGY, MONEY AND IMPROVE THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME.

You may be eligible for an energy conservation loan if your home or building is electrically heated and needs more insulation, energy efficient windows, weathertight doors, and energy efficient heating and cooling system or duct repair. Rebates are available for the purchase of certain energy efficient appliances. Got an old but still working refrigerator or freezer? Well, take it to the Okanogan Co Recycling Center, pay the initial recycling fee, then bring your receipt along with a completed rebate form and receive an \$85.00 rebate. While at you local PUD office check out the compact fluorescent light bulbs at our great prices. We have rebates for upgrading insulation. How about a home or building energy audit? It’s a free program your utility offers; just give us a call for an appointment. If you have recently purchased an Energy Star Manufactured Home you are eligible for a rebate. A short inspection of the home is required. We also have several commercial or industrial programs available including upgrading lighting and custom proposed projects. For those customers interested in renewables, we have our Sustainable Natural Alternative Power (SNAP) program. For these and other energy improvements to your home or business, or to find out the specifics of the programs listed above, please call you Energy Service Office at (509) 422-8427, 422-8428 or 1-800-922-7011.