

# WATTS UP



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*GET  
SOME  
COOL  
CASH*



Did you know you can get a cool \$85.00 for your old, but still working refrigerator? Okanogan PUD has a decommissioning, recycling program for eligible refrigerators and freezers. Many people buy new refrigerators and freezers and keep their old ones. These inefficient units usually end up in a garage where they become storage for just a few items—a waste of energy and money. Units must be taken to the Okanogan Co Landfill for proper decommissioning. Please call the Energy Services Department for further program details at (509) 422-8427 or 422-8428.



**REALLY - IT'S NOT A SECRET!**

So get started now and you can begin saving energy this winter.

Our Conservation Loan Program is designed to reduce energy use and improve the comfort in your home. Installed improvement measures could qualify for a \$10,000.00 residential or a \$25,000.00 commercial loan. Qualifying measures include: insulation, heat pumps, ductwork, windows, doors, and others. For these and other energy improvements to your home or business, call (509) 422-8427 or 422-8428.

## FUN FACTS ABOUT ELECTRICITY

- A spark of static electricity can measure up to 3,000 volts.
- A bolt of lightning can measure up to 3,000,000 volts—and it lasts less than 1 second!
- Electricity can be made from water, sun, wind and bio-fuels.
- If you traveled as fast as electricity (about 300,000 kilometers per second—the speed of light), you could go around the world 8 times in the time it takes to turn on a light switch.



## Amps, Volts, and Watts .....

Electricity is measured in terms of amperage, voltage, and wattage.

Amperage (amps for short) is a measure of the amount of electricity used. Voltage (volts) measures the pressure, or force, of electricity. The amps multiplied by the volts gives you the wattage (watts), a measure of the work that electricity does per second. Think of it like this: Electricity flowing through a wire is like water flowing through a hose. The amount of water that can fit through the hose depends on the diameter of the hose (amps). The force of the water depends on how far open the faucet is (volts). The work that can be done (watts) depends on both the amount and the pressure of the water or (volts x amps = watts).

## YOUR ENERGY BILL:

### WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Did you know that the typical U.S. family spends on average \$1,900 a year on their annual energy bill, according to the U.S. department of Energy. But those bills don't come with a tidy receipt showing you which appliances and systems use the most energy.

Here is a look at where the average home uses the most energy:

Space Heating:.....	35.2%
Water Heating:.....	13.1%
Space Cooling:.....	10.8%
Lighting:.....	9.7%
Refrigeration:.....	6.6%
Electronics:.....	6.5%
Cooking:.....	4.5%
Clothes Dryers and Dishwashers:.....	4.3%
Computers:.....	1%
Other:.....	8.4%
Total:	100%

## PUD TREE TRIMMING

Asplundh Tree Expert Company is contracted with the Okanogan PUD for tree trimming and power line right-of-way clearance on our electrical distribution system. This summer, crews will be trimming in PUD service areas including the Chiliwist, Tonasket, Monse and surrounding area, and the Brewster Flat area. Once completed, crews will begin trimming and clearing lines in the cities of Brewster and Pateros, and select areas in Aeneas Valley. Notices for tree trimming have been sent or will be arriving soon with your billing statements. Removing vegetation and trimming trees near overhead primary conductors is required by law and is necessary to provide our ratepayers the highest level of safety and reliability of electric service. If you have questions regarding power line tree trimming and right-of-way clearance, please contact Right of Way Superintendent, Roy Schwilke at (509) 422-8473, or [roys@okpud.org](mailto:roys@okpud.org).

## DO YOU HAVE A DYSFUNCTIONAL HOUSE OR BUILDING?

Simply, it's a house or building that's not functioning as intended and as a result is wasting energy, wasting money, and not providing the desired level of comfort.

How can you identify a house or building as dysfunctional? Well, it can be difficult and sometimes requires professional help, but sometimes there are telltale signs such as high utility bills,

leaky air ducts, uncomfortable drafts, lack of insulation, bad lighting, condensation on windows, or growth of mold or mildew. If you are experiencing any of these, we may be able to help diagnose problem areas.

Okanogan PUD offers free home or building energy audits. Plus, when it comes to energy conservation, you may think you've done everything you can to improve efficiency, but in many homes or buildings that's just not the case. If you feel you need some help in identifying problem areas or suggestions for remedies, please contact the PUD Energy Services Department at 422-8427 or 422-8428.

