

electric flyer

December 2011

Ready to respond - day or night

Grant PUD has a reputation for providing reliable electrical service to its more than 45,000 customers, but circumstances beyond our control can result in disruption to electrical service. This time of year, we are particularly mindful of stormy winter weather that increases the likelihood that our customers may experience power outages due to wind and snow storms.

Grant PUD linemen are ready to respond to power outages anytime – day or night. During these emergencies our crews work around the clock to restore power as quickly and safely as possible.

Being prepared for outages and electrical emergencies is key to a quick response for our crews, including well-maintained vehicles, stocked repair parts and trained support staff.

We understand the important role that electricity plays in everyday life and work hard to maintain the reliability of our electrical system.

Please take time to review our “What-to-do-List” in case your lights do go out, and “like us” on facebook (Grant County PUD) and follow us on twitter (@GrantPUD) to receive instant information on large-impact power outages.



WHAT-TO-DO-LIST

- Check the fuses and breakers in your electrical service panel and check to see if your neighbors are without power.
- Call 800-216-5226 to report the outage.
- If you see downed power lines, keep everyone away. Immediately report the downed line to the PUD or call 911.
- Never use candles for lighting. Only use flashlights for emergency lighting.
- Do not use a barbeque, gas stove or generator inside a home or basement. Always keep these fuel-burning devices outdoors.
- Turn off and unplug all sensitive electrical equipment.
- Avoid opening the refrigerator or freezer.
- Turn off the furnace, appliances and all but one light. Wait at least 10 minutes after power is restored before turning these things back on.
- For details on an extended area outage, have a portable radio with spare batteries available to receive local updates and emergency advice.



COLD WEATHER TIPS TO KEEP YOUR HOME COMFORTABLE AND SAVE ENERGY

Set your home's thermostat at 68 degrees or a temperature that's comfortable.

Check the weather stripping on exterior doors and windows. Adjust or replace if you see light around the door.

If you've had problems with freezing pipes in the past, consider letting a cold water faucet drip continuously and open cupboard doors when outside temperatures are coldest.

Make sure all unnecessary lights are off, particularly outdoor lighting during the day.

Close drapes in the evening and on overcast days to help retain heat. Make sure drapes don't obstruct heat registers.

Make sure your foundation vents are closed. If your vents do not close, taping a piece of plastic on the outside will help considerably. This will keep your home warmer and help protect against frozen water pipes.



SHARE THE WARMTH DONATIONS HELP

With the cold winter months upon us, many families in your community will need extra help with winter electric bills. You can help by donating to Grant PUD's Share The Warmth program.

Include a little extra with your monthly payment, enroll in our Share the Warmth Pledge Contribution Program or select it as an option when paying online.

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES

A reminder that our local offices are closed for these upcoming winter holidays: December 26, January 2 and Martin Luther King Day.

WEATHER INFO

The following temperatures represent the monthly average for temperatures taken in Ephrata.

11/2011	37.5*	11/2010	34.4
10/2011	51.3	10/2010	52.8
09/2011	68.7	09/2010	62.9

* As of November 15, 2011

Note: Temperatures may not match your specific billing period.

Grant PUD's fuel source mix

The majority of our power is generated from our own hydropower resources – Wanapum and Priest Rapids dams located on the Columbia River just down river from Vantage. We also purchase power from the Bonneville Power Administration and the open energy market. These energy purchases may include power from resources other than hydropower.

Each year the Washington State Department of Commerce publishes fuel mix generation categories and percentage calculations based on data from regional power suppliers. The power generation categories for Grant PUD's 2011 report are listed here.

Type	Percentage
Hydro	74.24%
Coal	14.19%
Nuclear	5.73%
Natural Gas	5.10%
Biomass	0.32%
Waste	0.24%
Petroleum	0.12%
Landfill Gases	0.04%
Other	0.04%

FIBER OPTIC NETWORK EXPANDED



Two additional Moses Lake areas now have access to Grant PUD's fiber optic network with the completion of construction in Dune Lakes and along both sides of Nelson Road east of State Highway 17 to Road L N.E., including the commercial development located at Road L and Wheeler Road.

Grant PUD's fiber optic network brings access to high-speed Internet, television, telephone and wireless services. Visit www.gcpud.org to check for fiber availability and links to retail services providers.

In our communities

- **El Caballo: The Horse in Mexican Folk Art** -- Jan. 6 - Mar 9, MAC Gallery, Moses Lake (new location 401 S. Balsam Street). More info www.mlrec.com/museum.htm
- **Matt Woo** -- Jan. 6 - Mar 9, MAC Gallery, Moses Lake. More info www.mlrec.com/museum.htm
- **Free Family Saturday: Folk Art!** -- Jan. 7. More info www.mlrec.com/museum.htm
- **Coffee House @ George** -- Jan. 17. More info www.georgecoffeehouse.com

Be prepared for an emergency

It's a good idea to have a family emergency preparedness kit ready in case of an extended power outage or other emergency or disaster. Emergency management experts recommend that you plan to be self sufficient for up to three days.

In Grant County, you can obtain a Disaster Preparation Handbook for planning your response to a natural or man-made disaster. Contact Grant County Department of Emergency Management at 509-762-1462.