

## CHAPTER

## 1

## Introduction

This handbook is a guide to Clark Public Utilities' requirements for new or altered electric service to permanent single-family residential structures. The following chapters will provide answers to frequently asked questions such as:

- ▶ What are the requirements for installing an underground electric service?
- ▶ How are existing underground utilities located?
- ▶ What is the required depth of an electric service trench?
- ▶ What wire type and **conduit** are required?
- ▶ Where and how is the **meter base** installed?

For information on the installation of commercial and multifamily services, call our Construction Services department at (360) 992-8558, or visit our website [www.clarkpublicutilities.com](http://www.clarkpublicutilities.com) to view our *Commercial Electric Service Handbook*.

### ***Glossary of terms used in this handbook***

Glossary words appear in bold italics throughout the text the first time they occur (e.g., **conduit** and **meter base**). The glossary of terms is located in the appendix at the back of this handbook.

### **Codes, permits and inspections**

This handbook should be used only as a guide. It should not be interpreted to conflict with regulations of the State of Washington or other regulatory bodies having jurisdiction.

It is the customer's responsibility to ensure the project complies with all federal, state and local codes that may apply. All codes, permits and inspections related to a project should be addressed before construction begins.

### **Electrical service equipment inspection for new service**

Prior to Clark Public Utilities connecting the service, the newly installed service equipment requires an electrical inspection from the Department of Labor and Industries or the city with jurisdiction. It is the customer's responsibility to request this inspection with the appropriate agency.

Local inspecting agencies can be contacted at the following numbers:

- ▶ Washington State Department of Labor and Industries ..... (360) 896-2350
- ▶ City of Vancouver (within Vancouver city limits) ..... (360) 619-1200

## **How to contact Clark Public Utilities**

Located inside the front cover of the handbook is a listing of Clark Public Utilities' contact phone numbers. This list also includes phone numbers for other construction related contacts.

To initiate a request for new service or to ask a question about an existing construction project, call our Construction Services department at (360) 992-8558.

Jobs are scheduled for connection once the project has been inspected and the customer has completed backfilling the trench. Contact the Operations department at (360) 992-8839 for current construction scheduling.

Online applications for service, a copy of this publication, and additional information can be found on the Clark Public Utilities website:  
**[www.clarkpublicutilities.com](http://www.clarkpublicutilities.com)**.

For general billing questions regarding existing electric or water service accounts, please call our 24-hour customer service line at (360) 992-3000.