

Currents

Published monthly for the customer-owners of Clark Public Utilities

MAY 2018



PLAY IT SAFE THIS SUMMER

May is national electrical safety month! It serves as a good reminder to play it safe around electricity when spending time outdoors. Be sure your family takes the necessary precautions when playing or working around electrical equipment and have a fun and safe summer!

- Be aware of power lines. Even though we can't see the electricity running through them, it's a good idea to always assume all lines are energized and dangerous.
- Look up! Be aware of your surroundings when working on outdoor projects and avoid touching overhead power lines with ladders, pool cleaners or garden tools.
- Use only ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) outlets outdoors and close the cover on the outlets when not in use. Do not leave outdoor electrical tools unattended.
- When using plug-in equipment outdoors, only use extension cords that have been designed for outdoor use. Keep them dry and do not operate electric tools around water.
- Stay away from substations. The high-voltage equipment in our power substations is very dangerous. Remind children to never climb a utility pole or play on or around electrical equipment, or go into a substation for any reason. If a toy ends up in a substation, do not try to retrieve it. Call and let us know and we'll be happy to send someone who has proper training and safety equipment to get it for you.
- Be careful when trimming or climbing trees! Always look for power lines before climbing. Once in the tree it may be difficult to spot lines as they tend to blend in with the colors of the tree.

Remember to always play it safe around electricity! If you have questions about our equipment, give us a call and we will come check things out for you.

LIGHT LINES



Reduce Your
Carbon
Footprint

If you're looking to reduce the carbon footprint of your home, our Green Lights program is a great place to start. For as little as \$1 a month you can support the development of clean renewable energy sources here in the Pacific Northwest. This is a low cost way to offset the environmental impact of your energy use. To learn more about Green Lights, or to sign up, visit our website or give us a call.



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Volunteers Make Earth Day Fest a Success



Last month's Earth Day Fest was a success with more than 300 volunteers planting trees, pulling non-native garlic mustard, and picking up trash along Salmon Creek to improve salmon habitat.

More than 1,200 people also enjoyed the free Earth Day Fest activities, which featured games, interactive nature demonstrations, and hands-on activities for kids provided by local community organizations. Attendees also released wild fish into Salmon Creek.

The utility's StreamTeam relies on community volunteers, and there's still a lot of work to do. If you're interested in joining the effort, visit our website or give us a call at 360-992-8585. It is all part of our year-round effort to bring salmon back to Salmon Creek.

PROGRAM SAVINGS AT THE THERMOSTAT



You can easily save energy when it's chilly by setting your thermostat lower while you're asleep or away from home, or setting it higher when it's hot and you're cooling your home. Programmable thermostats can do this for you automatically, based on your family's schedule, and they're relatively inexpensive and easy to install. Smart thermostats go one step further, actually learning your activity patterns over time and adjusting automatically. Whatever your approach, the thermostat is an easy place to improve energy efficiency and small changes add up! Not sure where to start? Call an energy counselor at 360-992-3355 for free advice based on your home type, heating source and past energy usage.

FREE ONLINE TOOLS HELP FIND AND WIPE OUT ENERGY WASTE



Visit clarkpublicutilities.com to start your calculations now.

If you're looking for ways to reduce your energy waste, you first have to know where that energy is going! Our free online energy calculators can help you find out. These calculators will ask you a series of basic questions about your home to show you a breakdown of your energy use. This includes lighting, appliances, heating and more.

Once you know where your energy dollars are going, you can begin making changes around your home that will help you reduce wasted energy and lower your bill.



"Highest in Customer Satisfaction among Midsize Utilities in the West, Ten Years in a Row"

Clark Public Utilities received the highest numerical score among 14 West Midsize brands in the J.D. Power 2008-2017 Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study. 2017 study based on 99,145 total responses, measuring customer experiences and perceptions with their residential electric utility company, surveyed July 2016-May 2017. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com.