# **Currents** Published monthly for the customer-owners of Clark Public Utilities

**FEBRUARY 2019** 



# HEAT YOUR HOME WITHOUT BREAKING THE BANK

The weather is chilly, but you don't have to be! There are plenty of ways to heat your home in an efficient and cost-effective way. Typically, heating the home makes up half or more of the annual electric costs of electrically heated homes. Here are a few ways you can keep your home at a comfortable temperature without wasting energy.

- Weatherstrip and caulk around all doors and windows to keep warm air inside your home. Also, check spots where cables or vents come in and seal around those openings.
- Make sure the flue is closed when your fireplace is not in use. Install glass doors to help decrease drafts.
- Consider installing a programmable or smart thermostat.
- Insulate walls, ceilings, water pipes, ductwork and flooring over crawl spaces. Upgrading insulation is one of the most costeffective energy conservation measures and yields immediate and lasting benefits.
- Replace single pane windows or cover them with heavy curtains.
- Consider replacing an outdated heating system with a heat pump to heat and cool your home more efficiently.

Clark Public Utilities offers rebates for many of these energy efficiency measures for electrically heated homes. To learn more, visit our website or contact an energy counselor directly at 360-992-3355 or ecod@clarkpud.com.

## LIGHT LINES

## Free LEDs for Burned Out CFLs!

An easy way to cut energy waste and make your home more efficient is to swap old incandescent bulbs or even compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) for light-emitting diodes (LEDs). While both CFLs and LEDs are more efficient than traditional bulbs in terms of energy usage, LEDs take the lead and last up to 25,000 hours. Look for the Simple Steps sign with our utility logo at local stores to receive an instant rebate on select LED bulbs.

CFLs contain small amounts of mercury so recycling them properly is important for safety and the environment. Customers can bring in burned out screw-in CFLs to any utility location for recycling and receive two free LEDs per household per day in exchange.



### CONTACT US

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## **MyAccount Makes it Easy**



Signing up for MyAccount makes it easy for you to view your bill online, make a one-time payment, or set up monthly automatic payments. Unlike some third party online payment systems, MyAccount is free. Using MyAccount, you can also quickly enroll in these convenient payment options:

#### **EqualPay**

Make your monthly bill more predictable! With EqualPay, we estimate your annual bill based on past energy use, and divide that amount into equal monthly payments for easier budgeting throughout the year. The amount is reviewed and adjusted twice a year.

#### AutoPay

AutoPay automatically deducts your bill on a monthly basis. Pair with EqualPay for predictable and convenient payments.

#### **Paperless Billing**

Cut down on clutter and choose to receive your monthly bill by email. View the same paper bill, pay online and save a stamp!



# **Call an Energy Counselor**

If you're curious about ways to lower your energy bill, we can help! Clark Public Utilities has a team of energy counselors trained to help make sure your home isn't using more energy than necessary. If you're interested in weatherization or heating information, or simply want to make sure your home is as energy efficient as possible, we're here to help.

The utility's energy counselors provide objective recommendations and can help prioritize which energy-saving measures can (and those that probably won't) lower your bill based on the specifics of your home.

Energy counselors can help you in the following ways:

- Analyze home energy use and recommend steps to lower your electric bill.
- Provide tips on how to weatherize your home.
- Provide information about utility programs and new energy-efficient technologies.

For tips or advice, call 360-992-3355 and one of our energy counselors can talk with you between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If your questions can't be answered with a phone call, we can schedule a free visit to your home.



#### "Highest in Customer Satisfaction among Midsize Utilities in the West, 11 Years in a Row"

Clark Public Utilities received the highest score in the West Midsize segment of the J.D. Power 2008-2018 Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Studies of customers' satisfaction nationally among electric residential customers. Visit jdpower.com/awards