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

**JUNE 2019** 



## PLAY IT COOL THIS SUMMER

High summer temperatures are fast approaching, but cooling your home doesn't have to break the bank! There are plenty of low-cost ways to keep your home cool and reduce energy waste at the same time.

#### HOME COOLING APPLIANCES

Before temperatures peak, make sure your heat pump or central air conditioning system is in tip-top shape. Clean filters are essential to an efficient system, make sure yours are clear and remember to check them monthly. To keep costs down, set your cooling temperature around 76 degrees or even higher. The higher the cooling setting, the more energy saved.

If you're in the market for a portable or window air conditioner, consider an Energy Star® model. It will use at least 10 percent less energy than other models. Alternatively, install an Energy Star-rated ceiling fan. Set the fan to blow air down and you'll feel cooler and save even more.

#### LOW COST, NO COST COOLING

During the hottest part of the day, keep curtains drawn to block out the sun, and doors and windows closed to keep cooler air in. Open them all during morning and evening hours to take advantage of cooler outdoor temperatures. However, be sure to keep the safety of all those in your household in mind and block access to open windows if there's a chance someone might fall through them. Screens are not strong enough to prevent a fall.

#### SEAL IT UP AND INSULATE!

Having a weatherized home isn't just beneficial in the winter. Sealing cracks around windows and doors will also prevent warm air from getting in the house in summer, which will help keep your home cooler and your energy bill down.

We offer various weatherization rebates and incentives to help with energy efficiency upgrades. Visit our website or call us at 360-992-3355 to learn more.

## LIGHT LINES

Recycle Your Refrigerator for Free!



Before selling your old refrigerator or moving it to the garage, consider recycling it! If that seems like a hassle, don't worry! We will arrange for a recycler to come pick up old, though still functional refrigerators and freezers at no cost to you, for safe recycling. Give us a call at 360-992-3000 and we will note the account and have the recycler call to arrange a pick up time.



#### **CONTACT US**

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### **Water Wisely**



As temperatures rise, water consumption tends to follow suit. If you want to keep your yard looking lush, we've got some tips on how to do it in a cost-effective and energy-efficient way.

Save a few dollars with these water conservation reminders:

- Use a sprinkler with a low application rate that doesn't flood your lawn. Most lawns only require an inch of water per week. Water lawns and gardens in the early morning or evening when it's cool to avoid evaporation.
- Avoid allowing water to spray on sidewalks or driveways.
- If the forecast calls for rain, turn off automatic timers on sprinkler systems. Watering lawns and gardens on rainy days not only runs up your water bill unnecessarily, it can over-saturate the soil.
- Add compost to flower beds. It will help the soil retain moisture and minimize the need to water as often.
- Use native plants in your landscaping. They require less care, and many don't require supplemental watering once they are established.

For more water conservation tips, please visit our website or call our water utility at 360-992-8022.

## Come See us at Summer Events



Employee volunteers will be out in the community at events all summer long, including the Independence Day celebration at Fort Vancouver, Camas Days, La Center Our Days, the Clark County Fair, concerts in the park at Esther Short and Columbia Tech Center and more. Look for the Clark Public Utilities tent to talk with our employees about current programs and to enjoy free, fun and educational activities for the whole family.

**FUEL MIX** 

We have a diversified power supply to meet your needs.



Clark Public Utilities' 2017 Energy Resources

Hydro		•								.62.8%
<b>Natural Gas</b>		•								28.7%
Coal		•								. 2.1%
Nuclear		•								. 5.9%
Other *		•								. 0.5 %
* "Other" includes	; bi	io	m	as	s	ot	he	rı	10	n-biogenic

and petroleum.



**Planning work in the yard or garden?** Remember to call 811 three business days before digging. Local utilities will visit your property and mark underground lines for safety – it's the law!