

Currents

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HELP US CELEBRATE EARTH DAY 2022

Earth Day Fest, an annual community tradition, is back this month as an interactive, virtual event hosted by the Clark Public Utilities StreamTeam.

Building on the success of last year's virtual celebration, the online 2022 Earth Day Fest will be held the morning of Saturday, April 23.

Whether you're interested in attracting birds to your backyard, listening to Earth Day stories with the family or flexing your environmental knowledge, we have the event for you beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing on the hour through noon.

Compete with other Earth-smart trivia buffs for a chance to win generous prizes donated by local partners. Visit StreamTeam.net for information and updates!

SPRING IS IDEAL FOR A HEATING OR COOLING SYSTEM INSPECTION

Like vehicles, heat pumps and furnaces require regular inspections and maintenance to perform optimally. While a system may seem like it's running well, underlying issues could be hampering its performance, reducing comfort and increasing energy costs.

This season's mild weather makes it a great time to have your home heating or cooling system serviced.

Some things, such as replacing the air filters on a central air system, can be easy enough to do yourself. And with allergy season underway, replacing a dirty air filter will help protect indoor air quality in addition to improving system performance.

Beyond basic maintenance, it's best to call a professional who will be able to identify and correct any underlying issues and offer guidance to ensure your system runs efficiently, which will help you live comfortably and save energy.

LIGHT LINES

POWERING DOWN YOUR ELECTRONICS

Many electronics don't shut off completely when the power button is pressed. Instead, these devices enter a "rest" or "sleep mode" that still draw a low amount of power. One device alone won't use much energy, but the amount used by a household's worth of televisions, sound bars, computers, kitchen appliances and more can add up.

Reduce energy waste and trim energy bills by completely powering down devices when not using them, instead of allowing them to enter rest mode. For convenience and control over several devices at once, connect them to a power strip and use it to power them on and off together.



CONTACT US

PHONE360-992-3000

QUICK PAY360-992-3400

REPORT POWER OUTAGES

.....360-992-8000

EMAIL mailbox@clarkpud.com

WEBSITE... clarkpublicutilities.com



KEEP KIDS SAFE AROUND ELECTRICITY



We're so reliant on electricity to power our homes, jobs and personal lives that it's sometimes easy to forget its dangers. Safety risks are even greater in homes with children who may not understand the consequences of mishandling electronic equipment.

You can help your household stay safe by reducing electrocution risks around the home and teaching age-appropriate lessons about the dangers of electricity.

Protect young children by using electrical outlet plug covers, blocking outlets with furniture and keeping electrical cords out of reach or away from doors and walkways.

As kids get older, teach them about the dangers of damaged cords, the hazards of electronics near water, and the risks of climbing trees or flying kites near power lines. Children and teens old enough to use electronic devices should also be taught the dangers of overloading electric circuits and using the wrong-sized cords to power devices.

Whether they're learning to crawl or learning to drive, kids are curious about everything. While trying new things is a natural way to learn about the world, the dangers of electricity make its lessons better explained rather than experienced.

MYLAR BALLOONS AND POWER LINES ARE A DANGEROUS COMBINATION

After months of rainy weather and chilly days, many Clark County residents are looking forward to dusting off the barbecue, stocking the cooler and heading outdoors for special celebrations and family fun.

The right decorations can elevate the festivities, but the wrong ones can really spoil a day, especially Mylar balloons. Mylar balloons are popular at birthday parties and other special occasions because the highly versatile material can be cut, printed and inflated to create everything from superheroes to graduation hats. But the metallic film that makes Mylar so versatile also makes it very dangerous around power lines.

Mylar balloons filled with helium can float high and far and they can easily get tangled in overhead equipment like cables, transformers and substations. Contacting electrical infrastructure with Mylar balloons can cause surprisingly large explosions that damage the equipment and can cause neighborhood blackouts.

Play it safe this season by keeping the Mylar balloons indoors and anchored. If it's important to have them outside, make sure to tie them securely to something heavy and keep them out of the reach of children who may be tempted to set them free.



"Highest in Customer Satisfaction with Residential Electric Service in the West among Midsize Utilities, 14 years in a row."

Clark Public Utilities received the highest score in the West Midsize segment of the J.D. Power 2008-2021 Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Studies of customers' satisfaction with electric utility residential services. Visit jdpower.com/awards for more details.

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