

November 2013 Newsletter



Commissioners Corner

Linda Oosterman District 1

Over the last couple of months, the Commissioners of PUD No. 1 of Thurston County held a series of Public Hearings to provide our customers and members of the public the opportunity to comment on proposed options for the 2014 Budget and Rates. At the public meeting of October 7, 2013, the Commissioners voted to adopt the 2014 Budget with rates to go into effect January 2014 resulting in a 4.15% increase for all customers. The increase has been applied to both the base rate and to all usage blocks equally. Customers using 1,000 cubic feet of water can expect to see an increase of \$2.13 monthly. You can obtain a copy of the adopted 2014 Budget and Rates at our website, www.thurstonpud.org.

In November and December of this year, the PUD is launching its new Low Income Assistance Program called Project Help. Project Help is a program to help low income household property owners who have problems paying their water bill and are facing disconnection. The program is funded by gifts from Thurston PUD's customers and other generous individuals. With your water bill, we have inserted a flier that gives more information about the program and how you can become involved by making a donation. You can add a small reoccurring contribution to your monthly bill or make a onetime donation to the program. No matter how small or big your donation, you will be assisting families in the communities we serve keep their water on.

75th Anniversary Open House

Please join us in celebrating our 75th Anniversary at our Open House on Tuesday, November 19th from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. The Open House will be held at our location at 921 Lakeridge Way SW, Suite 201, Olympia, WA (this is on the second floor of our building).



Featured Employee: Emily Banks



Emily is the newest member of the Thurston PUD staff. She is the Technical Assistant in Operations. She was born and raised in the Puyallup area and graduated from Emerald Ridge High School in 2003. In her off time, she enjoys spending time out of doors with her husband and 5 year old daughter camping, backpacking, hunting, fishing, hiking, dirt biking, gold panning, shooting, teaching firearms safety, and generally appreciating all the natural beauty Washington State has to offer.



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NEW PROGRAM!

Below is a copy of the bill stuffer you will find in your billing statement in November and December. If you receive your bill via email, please call us and we can mail you the bill stuffer if you are interested in participating.

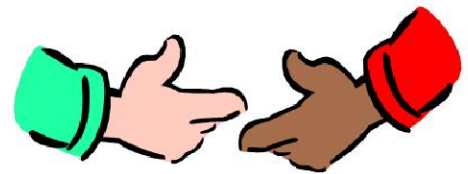
Project Help

is an assistance program to help low-income families with their water bill.



Help us offer this great program by donating today!

Your generous contribution will help to keep the water on in homes throughout our service area. No matter how big or small your donation, you are making a difference in the lives of families throughout the area.



Fall Is Here!

With the weather changing and temperatures getting colder, we just wanted to remind you that if the power goes out, you may be without water until power can be restored.

- ◆ **Store at least one gallon of water per person, per day in a cool, dark place.**

The average individual must drink at least two quarts of water every day. Children, nursing mothers, the elderly and people in warmer climates need more. Additional water should be reserved for personal hygiene and food preparation. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security encourages individuals to store enough water to last a minimum of three days - bearing in mind that water is needed for drinking as well as for personal hygiene.

- ◆ **Choose appropriate containers for water storage; disinfect before use.**

Clear food-grade plastic containers, such as soft drink bottles, are ideal. Other options include fiberglass or enamel-lined metal containers. Never use a container that has previously held toxic substances. Containers for water should be rinsed with a diluted chlorine bleach solution (one part bleach to ten parts water) before use.

- ◆ **Identify additional sources of water.**

If you don't have bottled water, boil your water for one minute to make it safe to drink. If you can't boil water, add 1/8 teaspoon (or 8 drops) of regular unscented bleach for each gallon of water and let it stand for 30 minutes before you use it. In addition to stored water, other sources include melted ice cubes, water drained from the water heater faucet (if the water heater has not been damaged), water dipped from the flush tanks (not the bowls) of home toilets, and liquids from canned goods such as fruit and vegetable juices. Unsafe water sources include radiators, hot water boilers, waterbeds, and swimming pools and spas.