

# CONNECT



October 2018

## Winter is coming

The cold and snow aren't far away and winter bills will come into play. Help your community members by donating to our energy assistance program, Neighbors in Need. This program provides emergency energy assistance grants to households in our county. The grants go to individuals and families to help them get back on their feet following unexpected emergencies or hardships. You can help keep families warm this winter by participating in Neighbors in Need. How can you participate? It's simple. One hundred percent of every dollar donated is forwarded to Rural Resources for distribution to those who qualify. Donations are tax deductible, and you will be sent a summary of your yearly contributions on your January and February statements.

-Round up your bill: If you chose this path, each month the PUD "rounds up" your electric bill to the next highest dollar. For example, a customer's bill of \$52.73 would

### Operation Round Up

to help



be rounded up to \$53.00 and the 27 cents would go into the Neighbors in Need Fund.

-Pledge: If you wish to contribute the same amount every month, pledging is the way to go. Simply pick the amount you would like to donate monthly and we will include it on your monthly PUD statement.

-Add to your bill: You can contribute by adding a donation to your bill whenever you would like to. Simply tell us how much you would like to donate when you come in to pay your bill, or write it on your statement when you mail it.



Electric Bill

\$52.73

+



Your Donation

\$0.27

=



Your Total Bill

\$53.00

## Pole top rescue

Two of our linemen, Tanner and Brandon, competed in the 43rd Annual State Pole Top Rescue Competition on September 25. Teams of linemen from the electrical industry all got their shot at rescuing a victim from a utility pole in a mock industrial accident. You can watch the full video of their rescue on our Facebook page.



## Public Power Proud

Poles and wires, pipes and pumps, all look pretty much the same, regardless of the electric company. Why is public power different? Pend Oreille PUD is one of the nation's more than 2,000 community-owned, not-for-profit electric utilities. Public power means reliable, affordable, environmentally responsible electricity that helps build strong communities like ours.



Did you know that the average residential bill in Pend Oreille is on average 28 percent less than neighboring utilities?

During Public Power Week (October 8-12) we offer refreshments, games, fun for the family and more information about the public power difference. Please stop in to learn more

about your electric utility and the benefits of public power. After all, you are part of what makes this PUD different, and better.

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## Safety day



Paul Kiss, Safety Coordinator, and Rick Larson, Commissioner, spent the day at Selkirk School District participating in their Safety Day activities. Paul and Rick demonstrated electrical risks using our power town model to discuss what you do when your bus hits a power pole or if your kite gets tangled in the power lines.



## Frogs in the Pond

The third grade class of Selkirk Elementary joined Scott Jungblom, Natural Resources Manager, at our annual Frogs in the Pond Field Trip. The students visit Campbell Pond to learn all about the common and unnoticed species in our area.

## Reporting Outages Made Easy

No matter how well maintained and reliable our electric service normally is, harsh weather conditions can cause outages. Take these steps to report an outage:

1. Check to see if your neighbors have electricity. If they do, check your service panel or breaker box.
2. Check the website, [www.popud.org/power-outage](http://www.popud.org/power-outage) to see if we have already been notified of an outage in your area.
3. Call the PUD to report the outage at 447-3137, 446-3137 or 242-3137. Sometimes during an outage our phones are really busy. If that is the case, skip the line and leave us a voicemail with your address, and we will record it in our outage system.

## SAVING TIPS FOR THE COLDER MONTHS



**ACCORDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, WATER HEATING IS THE SECOND LARGEST ENERGY EXPENSE IN YOUR HOME. TO SAVE ON YOUR WINTER BILLS, MAKE SURE TO CHECK LEAKS AND MOST IMPORTANTLY TURN YOUR WATER HEATER DOWN TO 120°F. EACH 10°F REDUCTION CAN SAVE YOU THREE TO FIVE PERCENT ON YOUR ELECTRIC BILL.**

## TALK TO US!

Main Line: (509)-447-3137  
North County: (509)-446-3137  
South County: (509)-242-3137  
TDD: (800)-833-6388  
[www.popud.org](http://www.popud.org)

Commissioners:  
Dan Peterson: 509-671-0289  
[dpeterson@popud.org](mailto:dpeterson@popud.org)  
Rick Larson: 509-442-3777  
[rlarson@popud.org](mailto:rlarson@popud.org)  
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