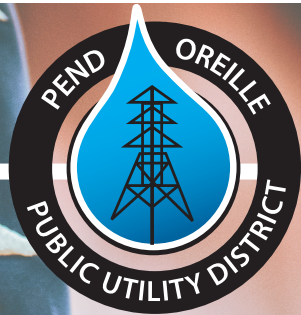


CONNECT

NOVEMBER 2023



Honoring Veterans Day

The PUD has been recognized by the Employment Security Department's (ESD) YesVets Program for hiring U.S. military veterans into its workforce for the fourth year in a row.

YesVets is a Veteran Hiring Campaign that began in 2016 and encourages and recognizes employers who show their commitment to veteran employment. The PUD received the YesVets Employer of the Year Award in 2020 and has been nominated for the award again this year. Over ten percent (10%) of the PUD's workforce is comprised of veterans from all branches of the military.

The PUD will be closed Friday, November 10th in observance of Veterans Day.

We thank all veterans as we honor the day to recall the sacrifices and hard fights that led to today's freedom.

Did you know we offer an Income Qualifying Senior Discount?

Qualified Pend Oreille PUD customers, based on their total annual household income and the age of the applicant, may receive a \$5 monthly discount on their utility bill. An application, age verification and income verification are required to receive the monthly discount. Customers will be required to re-verify eligibility upon request. The application along with qualifying criteria can be viewed here: [Senior Discount](#).

Are you looking for other Energy Assistance options?

If so, there are a number of possibilities, please visit the Community & Resources section of our website or click here for details: [Support](#).

Our offices will be closed for Thanksgiving November 23rd & 24th. See below for convenient payment options. Thank you.

- Pay by Phone: 1-855-875-7209
- Online with SmartHub Acct or App: [SmartHub](#)
- Auto-Pay through SmartHub
- Pay Now (SmartHub acct not needed): [Pay Now](#)
- Drive-up Drop Box at the Newport Admin Building
- Payment Kiosk at Box Canyon Visitor's Center



CONNECT



GENERATOR SAFETY

USE BACKUP POWER SAFELY

When used properly, portable and standby generators are a great option to provide backup power during brownouts or blackouts.

Learn how to use generators safely with the following tips:

GENERATORS

Location



Always keep generators at least **20 feet** away from your home



Never operate a generator in an **enclosed space**



Make sure the generator has **3-4 feet** of clear space above and on all sides for proper ventilation



Keep generators **away** from doors, windows, and vents



Always **direct exhaust** away from your home

Use



Always use **grounded cords** and inspect cords for damage prior to use



Use the **proper cord** for the wattage being used



Always use **GFCI protection**



Make sure to start / stop generators when **no electrical loads** are connected



Keep generators dry, **do not operate when wet**, and refuel when cool

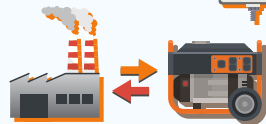


Do not overload generators



Do not plug a generator directly into your home, connect items being powered **directly to the generator**

TRANSFER SWITCHES



Transfer switches, whether manual or automatic, allow you to choose between **utility power** or **backup generator power**



Transfer switches are the only way to **safely power** your home's electrical system



Using a transfer switch **prevents backfeeding**. This occurs when your generator becomes a power source for the **surrounding area** and can damage your home, your neighbor's homes, and injure workers trying to restore power

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) POISONING PREVENTION



Improper use and installation of generators could **cause CO poisoning**



Make sure your home has **carbon monoxide alarms** outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home



CO can kill in as little as **5 minutes**

Symptoms of CO poisoning



Dizziness



Headaches



Nausea



Tiredness



If you experience CO poisoning symptoms, **get fresh air, do not reenter areas, and call 911.**

DO YOU HAVE OR ARE YOU CONSIDERING A GENERATOR?

Portable generators are an important tool for many Pend Oreille County residents when the power goes out, but if not used right, they pose an extreme danger for your family, your neighbors, and our PUD line crews.

Generators can keep critical parts of your home going during a power outage and can be helpful during storm season, especially in rural areas where power outages can last longer.

Please refer to the safety guidelines outlined here and if you are installing a new generator, please consult a licensed electrician and be sure and follow permit and Washington State Labor and Industries guidelines.

*****If you'd like the PUD to come out and verify that your generator is installed correctly, please give us a call at 509-447-3137 and we will schedule a serviceman to come on site and take a look.*****

2023 Annual Community Water Meetings

Annual Water Meetings for each of our 9 Community Water Systems are taking place this month. For details, please see your October bill or click here for all the detail, dates, and times: [Water Meetings](#)



CONNECT WITH US!

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Please share this free resource to save lives



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