MAY 2021

Please Keep Your Electric & Water Meter Accessible

RECHTORNELING

FOCUS KWh

PEND OREILLE CO.

PUD #1

27 409 810

UTILIT

With the arrival of spring, be sure your electric meter is visible and accessible, clear of vegetation and debris, and free of other obstacles, such as stacked firewood, bicycles or toys. Often forgotten is your water meter; please also remember to keep your water meter lid and box accessible so our staff can quickly read and access your meter when needed. Additionally, a clear box makes it easy to ensure that the lid fits properly, is safe and can be quickly turned off in an emergency.

Please make sure that no objects cover or block access to the meter or meter box. Common items found blocking water meters include cars, trailers, garbage cans, landscape bark or gravel. It is important to trim bushes, trees, and grass that block the way or cover the meter. During the growing season, plants can cover a water meter box very quickly. Lastly, if your meter is located behind a gate that is normally kept locked, please contact us to arrange access.

NATIONAL DAM SAFETY AWARENESS DAY

May 31st is National Dam Safety Awareness Day which was created to encourage and promote individual and community responsibility and best practices for dam safety. There are a huge number of things that can go wrong near dams, so it is always best to avoid them and stay a safe distance away both upstream and downstream. Remember - keep your distance, keep your life. If you choose to go out on a waterway for recreational purposes, make sure you follow these tips:

- <u>Know the area</u>: Check maps or speak with locals to get information about hazards on that waterway.
- <u>Read the signs</u>: Obey any and all posted signage and barriers in the area, including flood warnings, restricted access signs, portage signs, or other posted signs.
- Dress for danger: Wear a personal floatation device and safety whistle if you are boating, fishing, swimming, or otherwise recreating in or around a waterway.
- <u>Tell someone your plans</u>: Let someone know, such as a friend or family member, when and to where you are heading out, and let them know when you return so they know you are safe.
- If you see someone in trouble, do not enter: Never enter the water yourself to try and help someone. Instead, call 911 and use a remote assistive device, such as a rope or throw bag, to try and pull them back to safety.

In recognition of National Dam Safety Awareness Day, we will have safety whistles available to customers in June while supplies last – look for details May 31st on Facebook.

The PUD's 2020 Annual **Report is now available!**

The report can be viewed by utilizing this link: 2020 Annual Report.

A limited number of reports in hardcopy format are available at the Newport Administration Building drive-through window or lobby.

PUD WATER SYSTEMS

The PUD operates 9 individual water distribution systems serving approximately 600 customers throughout the county and works diligently to procure funding for the maintenance and improvement of these systems. The town of Metaline Falls and the PUD received a Community Development Block Grant, in the amount of \$735,000 for replacing approximately 5,600' of distribution main. The project is planned to begin in 2022.

PUD Water Systems supplied over 27 million gallons of water in 2020.

The 2020 Consumer Confidence Reports are now available for Riverview, Metaline Falls, Riverbend, Sandy Shores, and Sunvale Acres online here: 2020 CC Reports



CONNECT WITH US!

Main Line: 509.447.3137 • North County: 509.446.3137 South County: 509.242.3137 • TDD: 800.833.6388

Commissioners:

Curt Knapp: cknapp@popud.org 509.671.1111 509.442.3777 Ric Larson: rlarson@popud.org 509.671.1312 Joe Onley: jonley@popud.org Website: www.popud.org



APRIL WINDSTORM BRINGS DOWN TREES & POWERLINES

CONNECT

The April 18th windstorm caused widespread damage across our area and we thank you for your patience as our line, tree, and fiber crews restored services. Our tree crews addressed nearly two-dozen trees that had fallen across powerlines at Marshall Lake following the storm with restoration efforts taking three days. Every major storm is a good reminder to stay clear of downed power lines



and never attempt to remove a tree from fallen lines or electrical equipment. Even if you think the line is de-energized, it is not safe until isolated, tested, and grounded by the PUD. ALWAYS CONSIDER ALL DOWNED LINES LIVE AND **DANGEROUS!**

Photo of PUD tree trimmers, Chris