

April 2016 Newsletter

## Please Drive Carefully in Work Zones



When driving in work zones, please slow down, obey flaggers, and stay alert to keep you & our workers safe.

## Congratulations to our 2015 Employee of the Year: John Nguyen

Interim General Manager John Nguyen was selected as the PUD's 2015 Employee of the Year.

Any employee may nominate a co-worker for Employee of the Year recognition. The PUD's



Special Recognition Team reviewed six nominations before making their selection. John was selected for his outstanding leadership, for cutting unnecessary spending and developing the PUD's first balanced budget in several years, and for his outstanding commitment to customer service.



## Local Loan Programs for Home Energy Efficiency Improvements

Two local credit unions offer loans for PUD customers who want to make home energy efficiency improvements, upgrade heating systems, or purchase new appliances:

### St. Helens Community Federal Credit Union

With an **Energy Saver Loan** you can weatherize your home, buy energy-efficient appliances, or upgrade your heating and cooling system. Visit [www.shcu.org/personal/personal-loans/custom-cash/](http://www.shcu.org/personal/personal-loans/custom-cash/) or call (800) 275-6434 to learn more.

### Wauna Federal Credit Union

The **Energy Smart Loan Program** will help you save money when making weatherization improvements or purchasing ENERGY STAR qualified appliances. To learn more, call (800) 773-3236 or visit [www.waunafcu.org/loans/weatherization-energy-smart-loans/](http://www.waunafcu.org/loans/weatherization-energy-smart-loans/).

## Start with a free home energy evaluation

If you aren't sure which upgrades would be best for your home and you have electric heat, ask our Energy Experts for a free home energy evaluation. Call (503) 366-5470 or email [experts@crpud.org](mailto:experts@crpud.org) for details.



## Same Hot Water, 67% More Efficient

The GE GeoSpring heat pump water heater is up to **67% more efficient than a conventional electric water heater, saving you up to an additional \$200 per year on water heating costs.** And, now through April 30, you can instantly save \$300 at participating retailers in addition to receiving the PUD rebate of up to \$500. Providing the same hot water you're used to, the GE GeoSpring electric water heater is backed by numbers you can count on.

For product details and participating store locations, visit [www.geospring.com](http://www.geospring.com).

## Planning any Spring Yard Projects? Please Call Before You Dig

**After months of dreary weather spring is here and folks are once again working to beautify their yards.** Are you planning a yard or patio project? Planting a tree? Installing a fence? Replacing your mailbox? Installing a pond or fountain? Please WAIT! There's an important phone call that you should make first: 811.

Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart digging means calling 811 before each job, to avoid accidentally digging into buried underground lines that you might not even know are there. The depth of utility lines often varies, and digging without calling can disrupt electricity, phone, gas, cable, water or sewer service to an entire neighborhood, or seriously injure or kill the person doing the digging. Calling 811 before every digging job gets your underground utility lines marked for free and helps prevent digging accidents.

If you have questions about the 811 service please visit their website at [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com) or call the Oregon Utility Notification Center at 811.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

[www.facebook.com/crpud](http://www.facebook.com/crpud) • [www.crpud.net](http://www.crpud.net) • (503) 397-1844

Office Location: 64001 Columbia River Hwy, Deer Island, OR 97054

Mailing Address: PO Box 1193, St. Helens, OR 97051



## Please Don't Attach Anything to Our Poles

**Garage sale signs, lost pet posters, basketball hoops and bird houses: these are just some of the many things that get hung on power poles.** We know it's a common practice, but there are good reasons why you shouldn't attach anything to a power pole:

- 1. Attachments endanger our employees who climb poles.** Even a tiny puncture in a worker's gloves can expose him to electric shock, causing serious injury or death.
  - 2. Attachments damage poles.** When the sealed outer layers of a pole are pierced, moisture and insects creep in and cause damage that shortens the life of the pole, increasing maintenance costs.
  - 3. We risk fines.** The National Electric Safety Code prohibits all unauthorized pole attachments. We risk fines from the Oregon Public Utility Commission when items are attached to our poles.
- Thank you for helping us to maintain a safe, reliable system.

**COLUMBIA RIVER**  
**PUD**  
A COMMUNITY-OWNED UTILITY