

October 2016 Newsletter



Find Hidden Energy Waste with a Free Evaluation

Our Energy Experts recently discovered a leaking water heater while conducting a free home energy evaluation for Blaine in St. Helens.

"We are very grateful for CRPUD's energy evaluation," Blaine said. "A water leak could have caused thousands of dollars worth of damage."

We offer free energy evaluations to PUD customers with electric heat. Recent evaluations have found leaking heat pumps, disconnected ductwork, and floors and attics lacking insulation. Addressing these issues has helped customers cut waste and lower their monthly energy bills.

To schedule your appointment for a free evaluation, call (503) 366-5470, or email experts@crpud.org. The evaluation takes about 90 minutes and you must be present.



Photo by Tammy Long

Pick Your Favorite Photos in the 2017 PUD Calendar Photo Contest

Would you like to help select the photos that will appear in our 2017 calendar? You may vote online at www.crpud.net/calendar, or stop by our office in October between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Learn About Low-Income Assistance

- **The GLOW Fund** provides emergency payment assistance to low-income customers.
- **The Special Waiver** provides an \$8 discount on the monthly customer charge to qualified customers.
- **The Low-Income Senior Discount** provides an \$8 discount on the monthly customer charge and a 10% discount on energy charges.
- **Community Action Team (CAT)** distributes federal funds from the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program locally. To request an application packet, call CAT at (503) 397-3511.

For details on these programs and other assistance options, visit www.crpud.net/assistance.

Be Prepared: What to Put in a Home Emergency Kit

If the power goes out, are you equipped? Most people have the necessities to make it through a short outage – candles, puzzles, snacks – but might not be ready if a major storm or other disaster causes an extended outage. You and your family will be safer and more comfortable if you make a home emergency kit including the following items:

Water - Three gallons per person

Food - A three-day supply of nonperishable food

Candles & Matches

First Aid Kit & Dust Mask

Money - Extra cash and coins

Extra Blankets & Clothing

Personal Hygiene Items

Pet Supplies - Food and water

Emergency Contact List

Paper & Pencil

Duct Tape & Plastic Sheeting

Crescent Wrench - For water utility shutoffs

Radio, Flashlight & Extra Batteries

Cell Phone Charger - A portable power pack or a spare to use in a temporary location

Map of Local Area

Other Important Items - A three-day supply of prescription medication, extra eyeglasses, copies of important documents (marriage & birth certificates, insurance policies, passports), and toys or books.

To learn more about preparing for disasters, visit www.ready.gov.



How You Can Lower Your Bill this Winter

It's time to winterize your home.

Keep a few extra dollars in your bank account this winter with these tips:

Lower the temperature on your thermostat when you're sleeping or not at home.

Keep windows and doors closed to keep the heat in. This includes doors to garages and unheated basements.

Clean or replace your furnace filters monthly to help your furnace run more efficiently.

If you have zonal heat, only heat the rooms you are using. Close the door to rooms you aren't using or heating.

If you have a furnace, use a space heater in the room you occupy most instead of heating the whole house.

Be sure your house is adequately insulated. Proper insulation means your house will require less heat.

Choose tight-fitting, insulated window covers to more effectively keep heat in and cold air out.

Inspect chimneys and heating equipment annually.

Visit www.crpud.net/tips for additional efficiency advice.



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