

August 2017 Newsletter



Photo by Josh Riggs

Enter Our Calendar Photo Contest

Have a great shot of Columbia County? Send it to us! We are taking entries for our 2018 Calendar Photo Contest until September 8.

Anyone may enter the contest, but we may give preference to photos taken by our customers. You may submit up to 10 photos each year. They should be color photos taken in Columbia County. Our calendar depicts the scenic beauty of our county.

The calendar prints in landscape format. Please submit high-resolution images suitable to print at 12.25" wide by 9.25" tall.

You may enter the contest by emailing photos to kbo@crpud.org. We also accept 8"x10" prints or images on CDs. For more information or to download a contest entry form, visit www.crpud.net/calendar.

These Tips will Keep You Cool and Save You Money this Summer

Our Energy Experts have some tips to share for staying cool and keeping your energy bills low this summer.

- 1. Keep the heat out:** Keep your windows closed during the day to keep heat out. Open them at night to let cool air in. Close drapes to block the sun.
- 2. Air conditioning:** Air conditioners use a lot of power. The higher you set your thermostat, the more you can save. We recommend 78 degrees for summer cooling.
- 3. Use a fan:** The breeze from a fan will cool you down with a lot less energy than an air conditioner. Because a fan cools you, not the air, be sure to turn it off when you leave a room.
- 4. Stay hydrated:** Drink plenty of cold liquids throughout the day.
- 5. Cool off your kitchen:** Cook outside on a grill whenever possible. Keeping the stove and oven off will keep you and your kitchen cooler. If you cook inside, be sure to use a vent fan.
- 6. Find relief from the heat:** If you can't keep cool at home, visit a library, senior center, or movie theater with A/C.



See a video explaining these tips at www.crpud.net/rebates, or call our Energy Experts at **(503) 366-5470** for more information.

Call Us Before Adding Electric Load

If you are adding electric load to your home or business, please call us first. This may include building a shop or greenhouse, adding a heat pump, or adding other equipment.

When you add load to an existing electric service, you risk overloading our equipment. This can damage our equipment and cause outages or other problems for you and your neighbors. If you add load without contacting us, you are responsible for repair time and costs.

Please contact our Engineering Department before adding load. You can reach them at **(503) 397-0760** or engineering@crpud.org.

Thank You for the High Marks!

Thank you to everyone who took our recent customer satisfaction survey. We're thrilled to know that you approve of our work.

We received an overall performance score of 9.23 on a scale of 1-10.

This was our highest score ever. We also received our highest-ever rating for outage response, with an average score of 8.99. To learn more, visit www.crpud.net/survey2017.



The 2017 My Fair Lady Court includes, from left, Princess Margaret Brady, Princess Alta Lynch, Tina Brewington representing Princess Penny Dean, Princess Claudia Eagle, and Queen Ruth Donaldson.

2017 My Fair Lady Queen Named

Congratulations to Ruth Donaldson of Clatskanie, the 2017 My Fair Lady Queen.

Ruth was joined on the court by Princess Margaret Brady of Rainier, Princess Alta Lynch of Scappoose, Princess Penny Dean of Vernonia (represented by her daughter, Tina), and Princess Claudia Eagle of St. Helens.

The My Fair Lady Pageant honors senior women for their volunteer service. This was the 29th year the PUD has sponsored the pageant. It is held on Senior Day at the Columbia County Fair.



My Fair Lady Queen Ruth Donaldson with her husband, Mike.



This drone got stuck in the power lines in Columbia City. Our Serviceman retrieved it. Photo by Chuck Long

Keep Drones Away from Power Lines

Be careful flying drones. Keep them away from power lines. Getting too close could affect or disable your drone's signal. Landing on lines could cause a power outage or damage your machine.

Avoid flying your drone in dark & windy conditions, when it can be difficult to see power lines.

If you are operating a drone that contacts a power line, call us right away at **(503) 397-1844**. Do not try removing the drone yourself.

Find more tips for staying safe around electricity at www.crpud.net/safety.

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

Mailing: PO Box 1193, St. Helens, OR 97051 • (503) 397-1844

Digital: www.crpud.net • [facebook.com/crpud](https://www.facebook.com/crpud) • twitter.com/crpudUtility

COLUMBIA RIVER
PUD
A COMMUNITY-OWNED UTILITY