



➔ Be ready: Winter's on the way

Who knows what Mother Nature will send us next? These simple steps can help you cope, no matter the challenge:

Make a plan for your family to follow if there is an emergency. Decide where to meet if you're separated and who to contact to let others know you're safe. There's great information online at www.redcross.org/

Make a kit with essentials to last your family up to three days. Find lists for what to pack at redcross.org, "Get a survival kit," and on the state Emergency Management Department site under "72-hour comfort kits." Remember supplies for your pets, too.

Stay safe by assuming any downed power line is "live" and keep your distance until PUD crews arrive.

➔ Stay in touch

Get the latest information on power outages and PUD happenings by following us on Twitter @Chelan-PUD and find us on Facebook.com/ChelanPUD.

Get texts from Twitter when there are PUD updates by clicking on the "gear" icon on Chelan PUD's page and choosing "Turn on mobile notifications."



Pre-packed emergency kits are available to purchase online, or make your own using a list from redcross.org or www.emd.wa.gov/Preparedness.

➔ Go LED, get festive, save energy

LED holiday lights can save 90 percent or more energy when compared to incandescent lights.

They're made in the same shapes and varieties as standard lights, stay cool to the touch, and last longer – roughly 20,000 hours.

The Department of Energy estimates that if American households and businesses switched to LED holiday lights, it would save close to the output of a large (1,000 megawatt) electric power plant, or the annual electrical consumption of 500,000 U.S. households.

➔ Safety first

- Don't overload outlets
- Keep holiday greenery fresh; water frequently
- Check cords for wear and damage
- Turn off lights and blow out candles before leaving the house and/or going to bed

➔ Save time for more ho, ho, ho-ing

Chelan PUD's email billing service means no worries about losing a paper bill in the crush of holiday mail.

Sign up for PowerpaySM at chelanpud.org by clicking on the button in the upper left-hand corner of the home page, or call us at 661-8002 to sign up over the phone.

We also offer automatic payment options to ease the worry and stress of missing a payment during the busy holidays.

You'll save time and help your Chelan PUD save money on billing costs.

➔ Hello: I'm a ductless heat pump

Drop in and get acquainted with me at Chelan PUD's Wenatchee Headquarters. I'm one of the most efficient ways to heat and cool your home. If it's a good match, then seal the deal with a \$750 rebate.



Over

GM Steve Wright No putting it off



Steve Wright

This is the time of year when plans turn into action.

Budget decisions are being made for 2015. PUD commissioners set the annual spending plan while basing these decisions

in context for the next five to 15 years.

We have been going through a combined top-down and bottom-up review to develop these budgets. By that, I mean top down by thinking strategically about changes in the market and industry and bottom up in terms of understanding the state of the PUD's physical and human resources.

We are fortunate to be in a position of financial strength due to hard decisions that were made in the past. We now have the opportunity to build for the future.

We are seeking to identify and take advantage of opportunities to make investments in our assets; physical and people, that lead to enhanced revenue and less financial risk for you, our customer-owners. Commission and public review will test our thinking on what provides best value for you.

I hope you will let us know your thoughts. You can take a look at the 2015 budget information at chelanpud.org and send your comments to us at 2015budget@chelanpud.org.



CHELAN COUNTY

Let's talk: We want to hear from you. Talk to us on Facebook.com/ChelanPUD

Find us on Twitter @ChelanPUD • Email us at contactus@chelanpud.org

Give us a ring at (509) 663-8121 or toll-free, (888) 663-8121.



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Great ideas = popular playground



We're thrilled with the enthusiastic welcome from kids – and parents – for the new playground at Chelan PUD's Walla Walla Point Park.

Children were waiting as the construction fencing came down last month. They're still flocking to the new gear, even as the weather turns chilly.

Thank you to the more than 150 customer-owners who sent in ideas for the playground.

We Want Your Opinion!

Our strategic plan is entering the final stages. Soon you will receive in the mail a description of the various options from the six topic teams and you will be asked to give us your opinion. For more information on what is being discussed, visit

www.ourpublicpower.org.